



"There will be blood": art and propaganda in Nicetas Choniates' "Historia" [

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text (article)

Analítica

The topic of this essay is the lost fresco of the church of Forty Martyrs in Constantinople. According to Nicetas Choniates' Historia this fresco depicted a man holding a sickle around the neck of a young noble man. Interpreting the scene, we find a connection to the archetypal representation of the arrest of Jesus on the Mount of Olives where apostle Peter cut off the ear of the servant Malchos with his knife. Probably the Emperor Andronicos I Komnenos wanted to propagandize his image as the dynamic protector of justice and truth

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