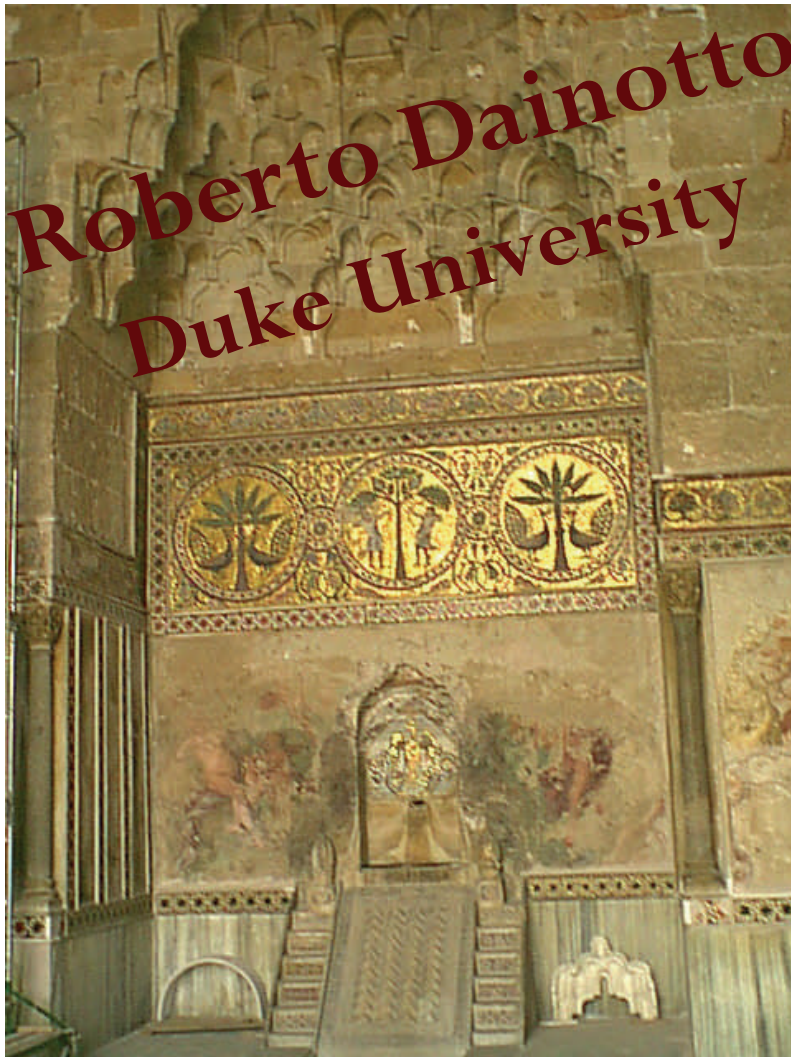


ORIENTALISM, MEDITERRANEAN STYLE:  
MICHELE AMARI AND THE LIMITS OF HISTORY



Thursday

September 22, 2005

304 Harrison Hall

4:00pm

Reception to follow

The Fountain Hall in La Zisa This early medieval hunting castle is located just outside the old city centre of Palermo, Sicily. It is built in the Arab Norman style.

Amari, the founder of Islamic studies in Italy, spent 30 years researching and writing Sicily's history during the island's two-plus centuries under Muslim rule (9th-11th centuries). His *Storia dei Musulmani di Sicilia* was a work of the highest scholarship, but it had a political purpose too: Amari wanted to prove that Sicilians didn't need tutoring about democracy and freedom from northern Europeans, because they had lived for over two hundred years under Islamic law.

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