Contents

Acknowledgements IX List of Illustrations X Notes on Contributors XI

PART 1 Scholarly Constructions

- Constructing Late Antiquity and Byzantium: Introducing Trends and Turning Points 3 Matthew Kinloch
- Constructing the Past through the Present: The Eurasian View of Byzantium in the Pages of Seminarium Kondakovianum 14 Francesco Lovino

PART 2 Literary Trends

- 3 The Power of the Cross: The Role of the *Helper* in Kassia's Hymns' Narratological Structure and Its Doctrinal Implications 31 *Laura Borghetti*
- 4 Tzetzes, Eustathius, and the 'City-Sacker' Epeius: Trends and Turning Points in the 12th-century Reception of Homer 47 Valeria Flavia Lovato
- 5 Greek Explicating Greek: A Study of Metaphrase Language and Style 66 *Nikolas Churik*
- 6 Doing and Telling Administration and Diplomacy: Speech Acts in the 13th-Century Balkans 83 *Milan Vukašinović*

 Laughing up the Sleeve: The Image of the Emperor and Ironic Discourse in George Pachymeres' *Historia* 98 Maria Rukavichnikova

PART 3 Constructing Politics

- 8 The Roman Revolution: Leo 1, Theodosius 11 and the Contest for Power in the 5th Century 115 David Barritt
- 9 The Reinvention of the Soldier-Emperor under Heraclius 133 Theresia Raum
- 10 Omens of Expansionism? Revisiting the Caucasian Chapters of De Administrando Imperio 148 Kosuke Nakada
- The Madara Horseman and Triumphal Inscriptions in Krum's Early Medieval Bulgaria (c.803-14) 166 Mirela Ivanova
- 12 The Emperor is for Turning: Alexios Komnenos, John the Oxite and the Persecution of Heretics 185 Jonas Nilsson

PART 4 Turning Points in Religious Landscapes

- Eight Hundred Years of the Cult of the Archangels at Aphrodisias/ Stauropolis: Modern and Ancient Narratives 205 Hugh Jeffery
- 14 Crosses as Water Purification Devices in Byzantine Palestine 229 Stephen Humphreys

- Byzantium's Ashes and the Bones of St Nicholas: Two Translations as Turning Points, 1087–1100 247 Alasdair C. Grant
- Changing Profiles of Monastic Founders in Constantinople, From the Komnenoi to the Palaiologoi: The Case of the Theotokos Pammakaristos Monastery in Context 266 Elif Demirtiken

Bibliography 287 Index 321