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## Late Breaking Website News! Updated March 28, 2013



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Check here for important announcements and other Shroud of Turin Website news. This page will be updated whenever new page additions, articles and other resources are added to the site. Each item carries a posting date indicating when it first went online. The most recent update appears at the top of the page. As you scroll down through the page, you can review the items that were added this year in chronological order. You should find this an excellent way to sample the evolving content of this website.

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## BREAKING NEWS! New Shroud Book Sparks Immediate Controversy



Il Mistero  
(The Mystery)

I am always thrilled to see positive news about the Shroud. Yet the past few days have been mixed with positive stories! Not only is the Shroud to be publicly exhibited on television this coming Saturday, March 30, 2013, but the event will be introduced by Pope Francis himself. You can find details on the exhibition in the articles we first posted on February 27, 2013, below.

The latest news is about a new Italian language book (released today) titled, **Il Mistero della Sindone (The Mystery of the Shroud)**, and co-authored by our friend **Giulio Fanti** and Italian journalist **Saverio Gaeta** and published by **Rizzoli**, an important Italian publisher. Click on the image link above to read about the book on the publisher's website (in Italian). Here is an English auto-translation of the book's description from their website:

"A mystery of the cross and light," that unexplained and irreproducible body image imprinted on the cloth is testimony to the passion and death of Jesus, but also of his resurrection. The words spoken by Pope Benedict XVI returned to the Shroud whole truth that scientific research had tried to resize. In 1988, in fact, with the C14 dating, scientists determined that the Shroud dates back to the Middle Ages. Today, thanks to a multidisciplinary work promoted by the University of Padua and lasting fifteen years, the team led by Giulio Fanti shows that the radiocarbon dating has been distorted by environmental contamination, and goes right back to the early death of Jesus that traces of dust, pollen and spores from the Middle East to direct, that the body has been depicted on the linen, violence told in the Gospels of the Passion, and the image was produced by the exceptional radiation developed at the time of the resurrection. This book, co-written by Fanti and Saverio Gaeta, is the exciting account of a discovery and the story of the extraordinary historical events of the most precious and revered relic of Christianity.

So why all the controversy? The book apparently documents the recent Shroud testing done by Fanti and his research team at the University of Padua and reports the results of some chemical and mechanical tests they performed which they claim "confirms that the Shroud dates back to the 1st century." A pretty powerful statement for sure, but that is not the major problem. You can find a more detailed report about their research on the [Vatican Insider](#) website (in English). Here is an excerpt from their article:

"The research includes three new tests, two chemical ones and one mechanical one. The first two were carried out with an FT-IR system, one using infra-red light and the other using Raman spectroscopy. The third was a multi-parametric mechanical test based on five different mechanical parameters linked to the voltage of the wire. The machine used to examine the Shroud's fibres and test traction, allowed researchers to examine tiny fibres alongside about twenty samples of cloth dated between 3000 BC and 2000 AD.

"Final results show that the Shroud fibres examined produced the following dates, all of which are 95% certain and centuries away from the medieval dating obtained with Carbon-14 testing in 1988: the dates given to the Shroud after FT-IR testing, is 300 BC  $\pm$  400, 200 BC  $\pm$  500 after Raman testing and 400 AD  $\pm$  400 after multi-parametric mechanical testing. The average of all three dates is 33 BC  $\pm$  250 years.

"The tests were carried out using tiny fibres of material extracted from the Shroud by micro-analyst Giovanni Riggi di Numana who passed away in 2008 but had participated in the 1988 research project and gave the material to Fanti through the cultural institute Fondazione 3M."

That last paragraph goes to the core of the controversy. In a separate [Vatican Insider](#) article (in Italian - use Google or Bing to translate the page) was the following statement from **Mgr. Cesare Nosiglia**, the Archbishop of Turin (via auto translation with some additional corrections):

"Yesterday, a note from the Turin International Centre for Sindonology and the Archbishop of Turin, Mgr. Cesare Nosiglia, put stakes in the work of Fanti. No serious 'value' of the results can be attributed to any of the research on the Shroud reported in the book, said the Papal Custodian of the Shroud of Turin, Archbishop Cesare Nosiglia. "Since there is no degree of safety on the authenticity of the materials on which these experiments were carried out to the Shroud cloth - reads a note of Monsignor Nosiglia - the owners and custodians cannot recognize any serious value to the results of these alleged experiments.""

The article goes on to include Fanti's reply to the allegations that the samples he used were invalid. In part, he states (with some additional corrections):

"In short, there were samples taken of Shroud material in both 1978 and in 1988. In both cases, they were approved by the Custodian of the Shroud, Archbishop (later Cardinal) Anastasio Ballestrero, with the consent of the owner, Umberto II of Savoy in 1978, and Pope John Paul II in 1988. Involved with the Shroud for a long time, prof. Fanti received some fibers taken from the Shroud in 1978 by prof. Ray Rogers, one of the American scientists of the STURP team.

"But in 1988, Giovanni Riggi di Numana, the expert who cut the Shroud samples for examination by C14, and with the agreement of Cardinal Ballestrero, kept some of the fibers of the Shroud and collected fragments of aspirated blood and dust samples in between the linen and the Holland cloth. The conditional is a must, as no record was drawn up of the levy for the C14, let alone a semi-official collection like that. But it is very likely that after the death of Riggi, in 2008, a part of the material held by a dedicated foundation has come to Fanti. After the death of Ballestrero, card. Saldarini issued a statement, asking that any Shroud materials be returned. But it seems that no one has complied with the request.

"All of this to conclude: prof. Fanti's research was carried out on the Shroud and of course the material was authentic, even if it was outside the control of the International Centre of Sindonology. And besides, 25 years after the C14 examination, whose own credibility Fanti's work further crumbles, perhaps one might begin to assume that a continuation should be considered of the research program created by STURP, the Shroud of Turin Research Project, an international group of scientists who produced a wealth of incredible scientific results after testing the Shroud in 1978.

So the biggest issue so far seems to be the validity of Fanti's samples and I guess we will all have to wait and see how this plays out. Remember that even if the samples are absolutely authentic, if they were not formally authorized for such testing, the results will never be recognized by the authorities. However, there is still the other issue (which I alluded to above) that must be considered. Fanti's claims are based on the use of accepted scientific techniques, but those techniques have never before been applied to the dating of an archaeological sample nor established as a valid dating mechanism in their own right. For this dating technique (and Fanti's dramatic claims) to be taken seriously by the scientific community, it is essential that his research be submitted for evaluation by a qualified, scientific peer review committee and published in a *credible* scientific journal. As far as I can see from the available information, that has not yet occurred. Unfortunately, it is far more typical to submit your work to a journal first, have it reviewed and ultimately published in the literature to establish its scientific validity, and then write a commercial book to explain it to the layman. Many quality journals will simply not accept papers that have been previously published in the popular media.

During the STURP years (1977-1981), the team was frequently criticized for being too secretive. However, STURP had a written agreement with the Turin authorities not to release any data prematurely (before the completion of their final report and its appearance in the scientific literature). STURP also understood that many of the important journals they hoped to publish their work in would NEVER accept a paper that had first appeared in the popular media.

I am thrilled that Giulio's new tests shed a positive light on very glad the news broke just before Easter, but I sincerely only be considered anecdotal at best.

carbon dating results, and I am journal soon. Otherwise, it can

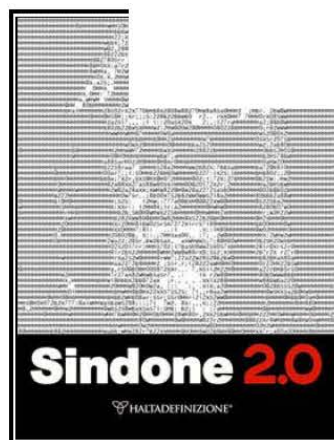
More links on this topic: English language article titled [Tur](#) (quoted on the Drudge Report today) and another article ab where you can [purchase the book online](#) from Amazon.it.

from The Telegraph in the U.K. a Italian) and finally, a link to

Posted March 28, 2013

## First Shroud App, 'S

available



Sindone 2.0  
(Shroud 2.0)



The Shroud is now officially in the 21st century with the announcement of the first official Shroud of Turin app for the iPhone®. Named "Sindone 2.0" (Shroud 2.0), the app was produced by **HaltaDefinizione®** in Italy upon authorization of the Turin Archdiocese and in collaboration with the Diocesan Commission for the Holy Shroud and the Holy Shroud Museum.. Here is a link to an English language article from the **Vatican Insider** titled, [The Holy Shroud is on iPad and becomes 2.0](#) with all the details. Included below is a brief quote from the article:

"In the technology era also the Holy Shroud becomes "2.0": as of Holy Friday 2013, the coming 29th of March, on the online Apple store it will be possible to download - in a double multilingual version, free and with fee - the first official App dedicated to the Holy Linen, created in conjunction with the special television Exposition which is scheduled on Rai Uno at Easter Eve." The app allows users to "...explore the Shroud in detail, through access to an excellent high definition photograph that offers features that are almost invisible to the naked eye, elements that not even the traditional Expositions have ever allowed to observe."

You can get a free preview (in Italian) of the app in operation by viewing the video clip available on the [OGGI.it website](#).

Here is the complete text of an English language article titled, **The Shroud of Turin Goes Mobile**, published today by the [Zenit.org](#) News Service in Rome:

The Shroud of Turin Goes Mobile  
Shroud 2.0 iPad App Gives Users Detailed Look into Famed Relic  
By Junno Arocho Esteves

ROME, March 28, 2013 ([Zenit.org](#)) - The Shroud of Turin, the linen cloth believed to be the burial shroud of Christ, has now gone mobile. A new app available for the Apple iPad, Shroud 2.0, allows users to view the Shroud in High Definition as well as obtain information on the different aspects of the relic.

The Shroud, one of the most well-known and debated symbols of Christianity, bears the image of a man who has suffered scourging and crucifixion, and is believed to be the burial linen used to wrap the body of Christ. Although there is no definitive or conclusive evidence, the Shroud is venerated as a reminder of the suffering Christ endured for all mankind.

In his 1988 visit to the Cathedral of Turin, where the Shroud is currently kept, Blessed Pope John Paul II reflected on the symbol God's love portrayed in the linen, describing it as "the mirror of the Gospel."

"The Shroud is [...] an image of God's love as well as of human sin. It invites us to rediscover the ultimate reason for Jesus' redeeming death," the late Holy Father said. "In the incomparable suffering that it documents, the love of the One who "so loved the world that he gave his only Son" is made almost tangible and reveals its astonishing dimensions. In its presence believers can only exclaim in all truth: 'Lord, you could not love me more!', and immediately realize that sin is responsible for that suffering: the sins of every human being."

The application, which was designed and produced by the Haltadefinizione company, was created in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Turin, the Diocesan Commission for the Holy Shroud and the Museum of the Holy Shroud. The new app is seen as a tool of evangelization to coincide with the Year of Faith.

Shroud 2.0 allows user to explore areas that are almost invisible to photos of the Shroud were taken by Da Vinci's masterpiece, 'The Last of the shroud into one single 12 bil

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"Digital Exposition of the Shroud most detailed image ever achieved

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Posted March 28, 2013

## National Shrine of the Holy Shroud to Open Soon



From the Richard Orareo Collection

I am pleased to report that the **National Shrine of the Holy Shroud**, founded by STERA, Inc. Board of Directors member **Richard Orareo**, will soon be opening in Wabash, Indiana. I will be visiting Richard and the Shrine in April and plan to include an in depth article and new photographs in our May 2013 update. In the interim, here is a link to a new article in the Fort Wayne, Indiana News-Sentinel titled "[Collector plans area national shrine, museum on Shroud of Turin](#)," that provides many more details. Our warmest congratulations to Richard on this excellent achievement! Here is a brief excerpt from the article that talks about the beautiful building Richard acquired to house the collection:

The building, which was constructed in 1936 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was built as a movie studio by Mark Honeywell, a Wabash native and founder of what is now the Honeywell corporation, Orareo said. Honeywell made movies in the 1930s as a hobby.

redirect to a landing page where the interview will be permanently available on demand. You can access and view the program free of charge by using the 10 day FREE Trial offered on the Gaiam TV website. Schwartz will also appear on the Coast to Coast AM radio program Thursday night at 10:00pm PDT.

Posted March 26, 2013



## Shroud.com Celebrates 17th Anniversary on January 21,

2013



Every January for the past 16 years, I have waited to the last minute to write this introduction, and today is no exception. It is 10:15 p.m. on January 20th as I start writing this with the intention of having the update go online in less than two hours, at midnight. And every time I write this introduction to our anniversary update, it is always with the intention of saying something new and fresh, but it seems that every year I come back to the same participation of all of the researchers, historians, scientists written articles specifically for us and all of our loyal viewers read millions of our pages a year! By being there, you must without you so thank you all for making this possible!

This is a particularly exciting update for us, in that we are arguably the most important journal in the history of Shroud with some important "bonus material," added four new pages included a Special Feature on **The Shroud and the Chinese Bible** material to keep you busy until our next update so let's get t

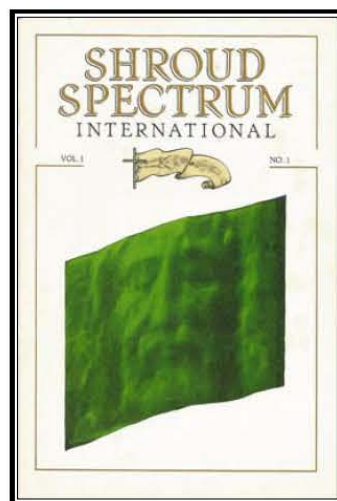
Shroud Spectrum International, the BSTS Newsletter archives Valencia Congress page and we believe there is enough new

Here is the Update Table of Contents:

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Posted January 21, 2013

### Shroud Spectrum International On Shroud.com!



Shroud Spectrum International No. 1

As we proudly announced in our November 2012 update, **Dorothy Crispino**, editor and publisher of [Shroud Spectrum International](#), the first and only peer reviewed journal dedicated solely to the study of the Shroud, recently granted STERA, Inc.

permission to bring this important journal to the internet. **Jones**, BSTS Member living in Western Australia, who recognized and **Ian Wilson**, who provided Stephen with four issues (# 1 through # 4), originally published in 1981 until the complete 42 issue collection is archived in its entirety.

rdinary efforts of **Stephen E.**anning and optical character day's update includes the first e issues in each future update

Since many scholars over the years have used articles from Spectrum as references in their scientific and academic papers, we have retained all the original page numbers and page layouts so the new online versions will remain consistent with the earlier printed references. Also, we have optimized all the photographs and illustrations that accompany the articles and minimized the compression of the pdf files so that the illustrations are the best quality possible. We are sure you will find these truly important journals useful in your studies of the Shroud.

Posted January 21, 2013

## BSTS Newsletter Archive Completed! (with Bonus Material)

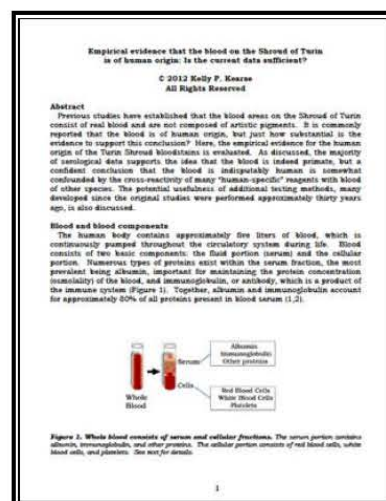


BS

In November 2012 we updated the [British Society for the Turin Shroud](#) complete the archive of **every issue** of the BSTS Newsletter collection, we have added a series of five monograph **Briggs, Lennox Manton and Dr. Michael Clift** (University), that were presented at various BSTS meetings in the 1980's and 1990's. Topics include "Byzantine Frescoes and the Turin Shroud," "The Cappadocian Frescoes and the Turin Shroud" (both with many color illustrations), "St. Bee's Man - and What 14th Century Shrouds Actually Looked Like," "The Shroud In Greece" and "The Patient In The Shroud." Consider them BSTS "Bonus Material." Today's update also includes the latest December 2012 issue (# 76) which, as always, contains a number of interesting and informative articles by **Michel Bergeret, Yannick Clément, Mark Guscini, Sammel Juntunen, Andrew Wille** and **Ian Wilson**. And of course, we will continue to add each new issue in the future. These newsletters provide a wonderful view of the history and evolution of Sindonology over the past thirty years and continue to play an important role in the Shroud world today.

Posted January 21, 2013

## New Papers Added To Website



One of Two New Papers by Kelly Kearse

After a careful review, the STERA, Inc. Editorial Review Committee has selected three papers to publish in this update. Two are new papers and one is a revised and updated version of a paper we originally published in August 2012. As an additional bonus, we recently obtained permission to reprint a very rare and important paper from 1934 by Fr. Peter Rinaldi. The included papers are



divided into two different categories, **Scientific** and **Religion and Philosophy**. Of course, you will also find them permanently archived on the [Scientific Papers & Articles](#) page or the [Religion and Philosophy](#) page and the [Website Library](#) page of the site. Here are the new additions:

#### Scientific Papers & Articles

- [Empirical evidence that the blood on the Shroud of Turin is of human origin: Is the current data sufficient?](#) by Kelly P. Kearse - The response to Kelly's first paper, which we published last year, was overwhelmingly positive. We are happy to welcome him back to the website with not just one but two new blood and DNA related articles. Here is an excerpt from the Abstract of the first paper:

"Previous studies have established that the blood areas on the Shroud of Turin consist of real blood and are not composed of artistic pigments. It is commonly reported that the blood is of human origin, but just how substantial is the evidence to support this conclusion? Here, the empirical evidence for the human origin of the Turin Shroud bloodstains is evaluated.... The potential usefulness of additional testing methods, many developed since the original studies were performed approximately thirty years ago, is also discussed."

- [DNA on the Shroud of Turin: Distinguishing endogenous versus exogenous DNA](#) by Kelly P. Kearse - Here is the full Abstract for this paper:

In the late 1990s it was reported that human DNA existed on the Shroud of Turin, and although in a generally degraded state, certain regions were sufficiently intact to clone and sequence three genes from bloodstained fibers: human betaglobin, amelogenin X and amelogenin Y. An unknown variable in such studies is the extent of contamination by exogenous DNA, transferred to the Shroud by persons or objects that have come in contact with cloth. Indeed, the abovementioned genes are not exclusive to blood cells, but are also found within other cell types, including skin cells. Here, a simple experimental approach is described for distinguishing endogenous versus exogenous DNA, which may help establish that DNA in the blood areas of the Shroud of Turin originated from white blood cells (lymphocytes) present on the cloth.

#### Religion and Philosophy Papers

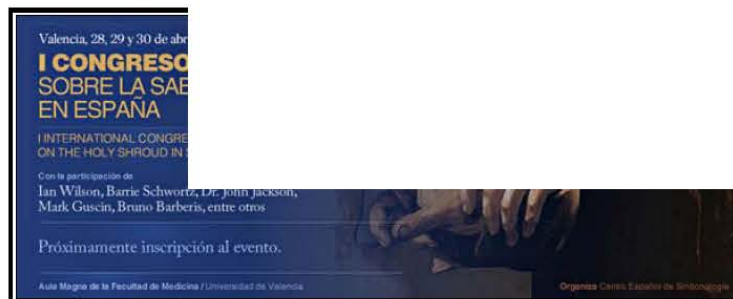
- [The Shroud and the "Historical Jesus": Challenging the Disciplinary Divide](#) by Simon Joseph, Ph.D. - This is an updated and expanded version of a paper that we originally published in August 2012. The author is an Adjunct Professor of Religion at [California Lutheran University](#) and has added additional content and references to his original article. Below is a brief quote from the paper that provides a good overview of the contents.

"The Shroud of Turin is virtually ignored in "Historical Jesus" research. Why? In this paper, I will seek to provide an explanation for this curious lack of interest and examine ways in which "Historical Jesus" research and Sindonology might complement each other. Since the 1988 radiocarbon dating test, there has been a general assumption, particularly within the scientific community, that the Shroud is of medieval origin. The 1988 test results have largely been regarded as "decisive proof that the Turin Shroud is a forgery." Recent studies, however, indicate that those results are in need of reevaluation. This paper identifies a number of distinctive features of the Shroud that have yet to be explained and will correlate these features with Historical Jesus research."

- [The Holy Shroud](#) by Peter M. Rinaldi - The Sign, June 1934, Vol. 13, pp. 685-688 Courtesy University of Scranton Library - Special Collections - We are grateful to [John Klotz](#), New York attorney who is currently researching and writing a new book about the Shroud, for finding this rare and important article by Fr. Rinaldi and obtaining permission for us to publish it on our website. Thanks J

Posted January 21, 2013

#### Valencia Conference Update



Valencia Conference Update

We are pleased to announce that the [Valencia Congress](#) page of this site has been updated to include another of the excellent papers presented at the April 2012 event. The new paper, by CES member **Andrés Brito** from the Canary Islands, was one of my favorites at the congress as it discusses in detail how the media typically deals with the Shroud (the subject of several of my own editorials over the years). Andrés has a Ph.D. in Information Science and cites many specific examples in his excellent paper titled, [Sharing the Shroud - Comunicar la Síndone](#) (En Español).

The **Proceedings of the I International Congress on the Holy Shroud in Spain** are now available. They consist of a 7 DVD package with the entire video recording of all the presentations in Spanish and English as well as their transcriptions in bilingual format. To order, you must contact the CES directly by e-mail at [ces@lnteam.com](mailto:ces@lnteam.com). On orders from abroad, buyers must make an advance deposit to the CES bank account, a deposit worth the price of the DVDs + shipping charges. For U.S.A. addresses, it would be a total amount of 48,15 € (36 € the price of the DVDs + 12,15 € shipping charge). You will also need to check the exchange rates the day you transfer the funds (which must be made in euros). You can easily do this online using the [Universal Currency Converter](#), which will convert any world currencies into euros. If you are interested, please let the CES know by e-mail and send them your full postal address and the notification that you have made the deposit. As soon as the deposit arrives in their bank account, they will send you the package. Their current account number (for deposits from abroad) is: POPUESMM. ES76 0075 0465 4906 0033 1228.

Posted January 21, 2013

## Links To More Information



Pattern Recognition

Over the past few months we accumulated a large number of links to valuable Shroud related materials that appear elsewhere on the internet. Although we cannot link to every Shroud article, website or blog, we try to make available on Shroud.com a representative sampling of the best materials currently available. To keep things more organized, we have divided the links into several categories.. Of course, we have also archived them to our [Scientific Papers & Articles](#), [Religion & Philosophy](#) or [Links To More Information](#) pages. Happy browsing!

### Papers & Articles Links

- [Pattern recognition after image processing of low-contrast images, the case of the Shroud of Turin](#) by Paolo Di Lazzaro, Daniele Murra and Barrie Schwartz - Journal: *Pattern Recognition*, available online December 31, 2012. Editor's Note: ENEA published a [very preliminary version](#) of this paper on their website as part of their ENEA Report. However, it does not include any of the changes, corrections and additions that were required of us by the reviewers at *Pattern Recognition*. B.S.

**Abstract:** We discuss the potentially misleading effect of software techniques for elaborating low-contrast images. In particular, we present the example of the stains embedded into one of the most studied archaeological objects in history, the Shroud of Turin. We show for the first time that image processing of both old and recent photographs of the Shroud may lead some researchers to perceive inscriptions and patterns that do not actually exist, confirming that there is a narrow boundary between image enhancement and manipulation.

- [The Turin Shroud Body Image: The Scorch Hypothesis Revisited](#) by Thibault Heimburger - In recent months, the rather dated Scorch Hypothesis of image formation has found new supporters on the Shroud blogs. This excellent article by noted Shroud researcher Thibault Heimburger presents his newest evidence (including many color photographs) and presents his latest experiments supporting his hypothesis in great detail. It was originally posted on Dan Porter's blog in October 2012. I

The TS image is not a scorch, even a light scorch. It is the body image formation mechanism with some

easy to rule out definitively

- [Raymond N. Rogers' observations and conclusions concerning the Shroud of Turin](#) by Yannick Clément - This extensively researched paper provides a list of the most important quotes concerning publications written during the period 2002-2005. Includes a link to Raymond N. Rogers' official website: [shroudnm.com](#)
- [The Conservation of the Shroud of Turin: Optical Spectroscopy](#) by Daniele Murra, Antonino Santoni, and Enrico Nichelatti - *ENEA Report*.

**Abstract:** The ancient linen cloth of the Shroud of Turin is one of the archaeological objects most studied in history, mainly because of the unexplained nature of its image. We have recently irradiated linen fabrics by excimer laser pulses obtaining a Shroud-like coloration, and have recognized photo-chemical processes that may have played a role in the formation of the image embedded into the Shroud. Our results suggest some actions aimed at a long-term conservation of the Shroud and its image.

- [Shroud-like Coloration of Linen by Nanosecond Laser Pulses in the Vacuum Ultraviolet](#) by P. Di Lazzaro, D. Murra, E. Nichelatti, A. Santoni, G. Baldacchini - *ENEA Report*. A similar paper by the same authors also appeared in the peer reviewed journal *Applied Optics*, Vol. 51, Issue 36, pp. 8567-8578 (2012), titled [Superficial and Shroud-like coloration of linen by short laser pulses in the vacuum ultraviolet](#).

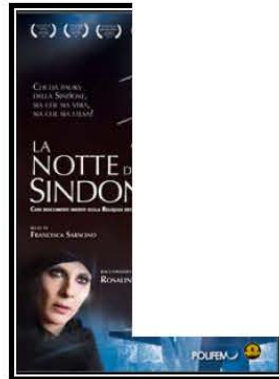
**Abstract:** We present a survey on five-years experiments of excimer laser irradiation of linen fabrics, seeking for a coloration mechanism able to reproduce the microscopic complexity of the body image embedded onto the Shroud of Turin. We achieved a superficial Shroud-like coloration in a narrow range of irradiation parameters. We also obtained latent coloration that appears after artificial or natural aging of linen following laser irradiations that at first did not generate any visible effect. Most importantly, we have recognized distinct photo-chemical processes that account for both coloration and latent coloration. These processes may have played a role in the generation of the body image on the Shroud of Turin.

- [When Flesh Meets Fabric: The Shroud of Turin](#) by Scotty Roberts - March 11, 2012 *Intrepid Magazine* interview with Barrie Schwartz.
- [Fleeing World War II, Armenian massacre survivor built new life in U.S.](#) - August 28, 2012 *Post Independent* (Colorado) article about artist Ariel Agemian, best known to Sindonology for his beautiful and famous painting of Jesus based on the Shroud. The article includes an interview with his daughter, Annig Raley Agemian.
- [Era judío y no pensaba en Dios desde niño, pero la Sábana Santa le condujo a Cristo](#) (En Español) - 17 December 2012 Spanish language article about Shroud.com from [Religionenlibertad.com](#). Our thanks to noted Shroud scholar Rafael de la Piedra in Lima, Peru for bringing this to our attention. And speaking of Rafael, here is a link to his Spanish language blog site, [Razones para creer](#) (Reasons to Believe) (En Español).



- [How Image Enhancement May Explain Past Events](#) Article reprinted from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory's house magazine, "JPL Universe," dated July 5, 1977. Here is an excerpt from the article: "In the "truth is stranger than fiction category" a phone call to NASA's JPL from a member of the Christ Brotherhood in New Mexico, requesting image analysis of a religious relic, has drawn two men from JPL's image processing lab into a fascinating investigation of the famous "Shroud of Turin."

#### Video & Audio Links

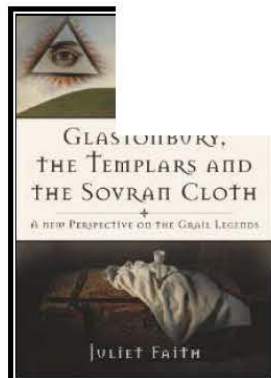


The Night of the Shroud DVD  
(La Notte della Sindone)

- **The Night of the Shroud (La Notte della Sindone)** - I am happy to bring you some updated information on the availability of the long awaited documentary directed by **Francesca Saracino**. On January 18, 2013, Francesca reported that Warner Brothers has obtained distribution rights to the program and will distribute it here in the U.S. Of course, we will keep you posted as soon as any details are available. In the meantime, there are several new "Night of the Shroud" links you should find interesting:
  - [Shroud, A Documentary raises opposition to the C14 tests](#) - **Vatican Insider** article about The Night of the Shroud documentary dated 29 October 2012 (English, translated from Italian). According to Francesca, "...Vatican Insider is one of the most important Catholic newspapers in the world, which is translated into all languages including English and Spanish."
  - [The Night of the Holy Shroud \(La notte della Sindone\) \[ NON-USA FORMAT, PAL, Reg.2 Import - Italy \] \(2012\)](#) - Amazingly, a DVD of the program is available on Amazon.com but only in Region 2 encoding (This DVD will not play on most DVD players sold in the US or Canada [Region 1]. This item requires a region specific or multi-region DVD player and compatible TV). It might be playable on some computers, depending on your drive and software. Our thanks to **Michael Villarreal** for finding this link!
- [REZproject Video: Shroud of Turin](#) - This excellent online video is hosted by 18 year old **Bailey Packard**, who takes us through the story of the Shroud in a very appealing and passionate manner. Bailey appears on camera and her refreshing personality and thoughtful dialogue are a far cry from the typical baritone voice overs we are used to. The result is both interesting and educational. STERA, Inc. was contacted last year by her father, **Derek Packard**, the producer of the program, who asked us to provide some input during the production. Note that the [REZproject](#) was co-founded by Bailey and her father.
- [Ray Downing - Fine Art](#) - Link to the website featuring the fine artwork of **Ray Downing**, producer of the highly regarded Shroud documentary **The Real Face of Jesus** in 2010.
- [Razor Swift - The Shroud of Turin](#) - Live radio program on January 9, 2013 - Includes audio of entire interview with **Barrie Schwartz**.

Posted January 21, 2013

#### New Books Added To Booklist Page



Glastonbury, the Templars and the Sovran Cloth by Juliet Faith

The [Shroud Booklist](#) page has been updated with a number of new books. Our sincere thanks, as always, to **Emanuela Marinelli**, for her consistent and generous contributions in making this the definitive Shroud booklist on the internet. This marks her 64th update to the list since 1996! Here are some of the new books:

- [Glastonbury, the Templars and the Sovran Cloth: A New Perspective on the Grail Legends](#) by **Juliet Faith** - This book



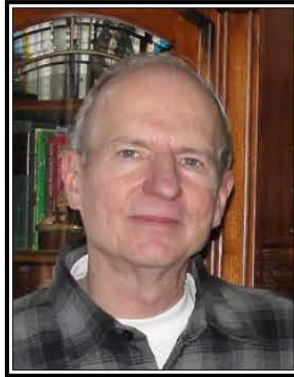
sheds new light on the Grail stories and Glastonbury and the Celtic settlement at O known as 'the Sovran cloth' - secretly hid assisted in the transmission of the Grail st it at Lirey in France in 1356. Finally, recei may have brought the Shroud to England f

rtant links between f great importance - bot of Glastonbury, d and first exhibited lieved the Templars original research.

- **[Ipsa Facto](#)** by **Don Leichel** - New Zealan Bible from a scientific perspective. Chaj scientific analyses, including an explanatic ....., the New Testament as to the existence of the Shroud. Available as an ebook in epub or Kindle formats. More information is available from the [author's website](#).
- **[La corona di spine e le sue reliquie. Un viaggio tra vangeli, storia, tradizioni, leggende](#)** (The crown of thorns and its relics. A journey through the Gospels, history, traditions and legends) by **Antonio Menna**. The author discusses the crowning of thorns in great detail, including the evidence on the Shroud of Turin. Italian language.

Posted January 21, 2013

### Shroud Speakers Directory Updated

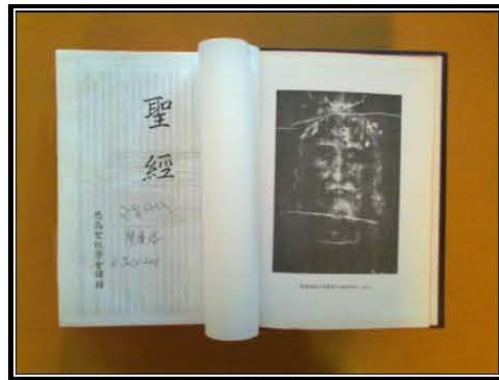


Richard Bernatchez

I am very pleased to announce that **Richard Bernatchez**, founder of Faith Based Communications (FBC), has been added to our [Shroud Speakers Directory](#) page. FBC was established to provide presentations/exhibits to groups of any size on subjects related to Christian Faith and is currently making presentations on the Shroud of Turin. And of course, the page contains another 25 speakers available for Shroud lectures or presentations in different parts of the U.S. and around the world.

Posted January 21, 2013

### The Shroud and the Chinese Bible - Special Feature



The Shroud and the Chinese Bible (Photo courtesy Eric Chan)

In our [August 2012 update](#), we included a Chinese translation of a *Current Anthropology* Article on the Shroud of Turin which was provided to us by noted Shroud scholar and archaeologist **William Meacham** in Hong Kong. Bill felt this might be the only information about the Shroud available anywhere online in Chinese. Shortly afterwards, I received a phone call from **Eric Chan**, a devoted Shroud student who also lives in Hong Kong. He told me the story of the first Chinese bible, translated and published in 1968 by Italian priest **Father Gabriele Allegra**, which included an Enrie Shroud photograph on the first page! Eric, who owns one of the bibles, was kind enough to make some photographs, collect some information and put together an article titled [Turin Shroud included in Catholic Chinese Bible](#) that provides us with some background on Fr. Allegra and his work. Interestingly, he was beatified in September 2012. Eric is now in direct contact with Bill and they are currently planning some future Shroud activities together in the Hong Kong area. Our sincere thanks to Eric for making this truly fascinating information available to us.

Posted January 21, 2013

### News From STERA, Inc.

First, I want to extend a very special "thank you" to all of our friends who made contributions to STERA, Inc. last year. Your

generosity, friendship and continued support are

**STERA, Inc.** held their second annual **Board of**

very brief one and only a few items of business update and the continued growth of the website, fundraising, and once again the board encourage

fundraising is probably the hardest part of this job for me. But I have an obligation to STERA, Inc. to appeal to our viewers for support. Since we have just started a new year, let me remind you that you can safely make contributions online using our [Secure Contribution Form](#). You can also contribute by [Mail](#) or by telephone at 719-689-2217 (between the hours of 12:00 noon to midnight, M.T.). Of course, any purchases made from the [Website Store](#) page of the site also directly support STERA, Inc.

s, the meeting was a

ng 17th anniversary

.. Another topic was

e mentioned before,

As further incentive and to say thank you for your contributions, we offer contributors a number of excellent gifts for their generosity:

Contribution - - - - - Free Gift

\$100.00 - \$299.00 - Set of 2 Shroud Lithographs

\$300.00 - \$599.00 - Shroud Lithographic Poster

\$600.00 - \$999.00 - Both Lithographs and Poster

\$1000.00 (or more) - All the above plus Miniature Shroud Replica on Cotton

Thank you again for your support!

Barrie Schwartz  
President

Posted January 21, 2013

### "Third Encounter of the Two Linens" Conference Rescheduled

As I reported in our last update, a conference titled, "**Third Encounter of the Two Linens**," sponsored by the Pontifical University in Rome, was originally scheduled to be held at the Notre Dame of Jerusalem Center in Israel from November 25 to December 1, 2012. However, due to the political situation at the time, the conference was postponed and is now tentatively rescheduled to take place in June 2013. We will update you as soon as the details and dates are finalized. The conference deals specifically with the Shroud of Turin and the Tilma Cloak of Tepeyac (aka Our Lady of Guadalupe). These are the stated objectives of the event:

To pair off the two cloths (the Shroud of Turin and the tilma cloak of Tepeyac) that have had the greatest impact on the Church throughout history in order to:

1. Appreciate their evangelizing, historical and scientific value.
2. Reflect upon the interplay between these two gifts of God to the world for the evangelization of the XXI century.
3. Determine, in the light of Shroud science, what research should be done on the tilma containing the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The conclusions and proposals will be presented to the Archbishop of Mexico City, **Cardinal Norberto Rivera**.

With many invited speakers from around the world, the Encounter will consist of presentations by experts and round table discussions. Among the invited speakers are **Prof. Adolfo Orozco** and **Dr. Jose Aste Tonsmann** from Mexico, **Prof. Bruno Barberis**, **Piero Savarino**, **Paolo Di Lazzaro**, **Fr. Hector Guerra** and **Fr. Gianfranco Berbenni** from Italy, **Dr. Alfonso Sanchez Hermosilla** from Spain, **Dr. John and Rebecca Jackson** and **Barrie Schwartz** from the USA and **Dr. Petrus Soons** from Panama.

Posted January 21, 2013

### Lecture Schedule for 2013



Barrie Schwartz Lecturing in Warsaw, Poland in April 2012  
Photo ©2012 Janusz Rosikon

Once again, I have a rather busy schedule of lectures starting in March. Viewers often write me asking where and when I might be giving Shroud presentations, so I thought I would publish my upcoming schedule in case I happen to be in your area. If so, please drop by and say hello. Please understand that the times and venues are still subject to change. I will do my best to update them before the events if necessary. (Note: dates below include travel days).

- **March 1 through March 8, 2013** - The **Knights of Columbus** in the Seattle, Washington area are sponsoring a series of lectures at various venues that will serve as a fundraiser for STERA, Inc. The lecture series was organized by long time STERA supporter **John Sickelton**, who has provided us with this preliminary schedule:
  - o Saturday March 2 - **St. Mary of the Valley Church** for Seattle men's conference at 7:00 p.m. - Monroe, WA
  - o Sunday March 3 - **Cammerman Hall, Our Lady Star of the Sea Church** - 9:30 and 12:30 a.m. - Bremerton, WA
  - o Monday March 4 - **St. Mary Magdalen Church** - 7:00 p.m. - Everett, WA
  - o Tuesday March 5 - **Seattle 676 Hall** - Time TBA - Seattle, WA



- o Wednesday March 6 - **Assumption School** in the a.m and **Assumption Church** - 7:00 p.m. - Bellingham, WA
- o Thursday March 7 - **Lynden Christian School** - 9-10:30 a.m. and **Lynden Fairgrounds Rotary Bldg.** - 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. - Lynden, WA
- **March 14 through March 16, 2013** - **Julian Bauer** has organized several speaking events in the Baltimore, Maryland area which are being sponsored in part by the **Charles Carroll Post of the Catholic War Veterans, the Church of the Resurrection, St. Paul's Church and Our Lady of Perpetual Help.** On March 15, 2013 I will give two presentations at the **Church of the Resurrection** - 1:00 p.m. children's lecture, 7:30 p.m. adult lecture - Ellicott City, Maryland
- **April 9 through April 15, 2013** - In December 2011, I was honored to speak in Indianapolis, Indiana at the Marian University and other venues (including the **Monastery of the Poor Clares** in Kokomo, Indiana). One of the attendees at one of my lectures was **Kirk McClure**, who asked if I would be willing to return to the area and speak at his church, the **Shiloh United Methodist Church**, also in Kokomo. Sponsored by Kirk's church and **Dr. Chuck Dietzen** of the **Timmy Foundation**, I will be doing a series of lectures in the area. Most exciting will be the opportunity for all of us to visit **Richard Orareo's** new facility in Wabash, Indiana (about 45 minutes from Kokomo) which we reported on in our [August 26, 2012 update](#). That is the new home for his **Boston Collection of Shroud Art** and his non-profit organization, the **National Shrine of the Holy Shroud (NSHS)**, which will be open to the public by April. In fact, Richard will be bringing some items from his extensive collection for display alongside the lifesize replica and photographs which will be displayed at my final lecture on Sunday, April 14. Although the schedule is not yet finalized, I am including a preliminary version here:
  - o Wednesday April 10 - **Men's Huddle event at YMCA** - Time TBA - Kokomo, IN
  - o Thursday and Friday April 11 and 12 - TBA - Zionsville, IN
  - o Saturday April 13 - **Visit to the National Shrine of the Holy Shroud** - Men's Group Event - Morning - Wabash, IN and **Men's Group dinner** - Evening - Kokomo, IN
  - o Sunday April 14 - **Shiloh United Methodist Church** - Presentations by **Dr. Chuck Dietzen, Dr. Joe Bergeron** and **Barrie** with Open Discussion during Fellowship hour - 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - **Northwestern High School** - Exhibit and presentations - 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- **April 19, 2013** - I am deeply honored to have been asked to speak at the **TEDx ViaDellaConciliazione** conference in **Vatican City** in April. The topic of this independently organized TED event is **Religious Freedom Today** and I will be speaking on the **Experience of Religious Freedom in Scientific Research**. It will take some real discipline however, as each speaker is only allowed 16 minutes for their presentations! Videos of the presentations will eventually be accessible online and we will publish the links as soon as they are available.
- **April 22 through April 25, 2013** - I will again be teaching a course in the Masters of Science and Faith program at the **University of Rome (Ateneo Pontificio Regina Apostolorum)**. This year I have prepared a new course titled, "**The Post-STURP Era of Shroud Research: 1981 to the Present**," which picks up where my last course ended.
- **June 13 through June 15, 2013** - At the kind invitation of my good friend **Des Armstrong**, I am happy to be returning to Southern California, speaking at a **Legatus** meeting on **June 14, 2013** and seeing many of my old friends there. Des is founder and president of the **Rancho Palos Verdes Chapter** of Legatus and typically brings together several Legatus chapters for each of my lectures. This is the fourth time he has graciously invited me to speak and he has asked me back again in September (see below).
- **July 26 through July 28, 2013** - I have been invited to speak about the Shroud at a conference in Colorado Springs being sponsored by **Prophecy in the News**. I have very few details at this moment but will update you once I have more information.
- **September 10 through 12, 2013** - Again, thanks to **Des Armstrong**, I will be back in Southern California, this time sharing the **Legatus** podium with the esteemed **Fr. Robert J. Spitzer**, a Jesuit priest, philosopher, physicist, educator, author, speaker, and retired President of Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington. It will truly be a great honor to meet him! (Look him up)!

Posted January 21, 2013

### Some Interesting Statistics

Just in case you are interested, in calendar year 2012 **Shroud.com** had just under **600,000 visitors** that generated **8.7 million hits**, viewed **7.4 million files**, viewed **1.9 million pages** and generated **249 GB of bandwidth**! We thank each and every one of you for your continued support and participation!

Posted January 21, 2013

### The Next Update

It is rather difficult to determine exactly when the next update will go online as I am still in the last throes of finishing *this* update! However, based on my travel schedule through the spring, it will probably be May or June before the next update is completed. Of course, it will include more issues of **Shroud Spectrum International**, more books, papers and articles, a report on all my travels and a few interesting surprises. So thank you for being there, have a great spring and we'll see you in a few months!

Posted January 21, 2013

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