



Society for Archaeological Masters
Students
Annual Conference II

World Archaeology
New Thoughts and Themes in Archaeology and
Heritage

8-9th May 2014
Institute of Archaeology,
University College London

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museum studies and cultural heritage by Masters students
from universities in London and Oxford.

Keynote Lectures by Sue Hamilton, UCL and Marcos
Martín-Torres, UCL

This conference is **FREE** to attend with complimentary lunch and
refreshments

Wine receptions to follow in the evenings

Funding generously provided by JFIGS

For further information and to RSVP please contact:

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The Society for Archaeological Masters Students (SAMS) is proud to present its Second Annual Conference at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London

SAMS was created in 2012 to assist Masters students in the Institute of Archaeology, UCL by providing events such as lectures, seminars, and socials. Additionally, our society acts as a contact point with the staff body for Masters students via Staff/Student Consultative Committee meetings. SAMS has no membership fee; therefore, if you are a Masters Student at the Institute of Archaeology, UCL, you are already a member!

Please visit our website <http://sams-ucl.weebly.com/> or Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SAMS.201314/>) for more information!

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Conference Chairs: Stephanie Boonstra & Siobhan Shinn

Special Thanks to:

Keynote Lecturers:
Prof. Sue Hamilton of the Institute of Archaeology, UCL
Prof. Marcos Martín-Torres of the Institute of Archaeology, UCL

Judy Medrington of the Institute of Archaeology, UCL
Ian Carroll of the Institute of Archaeology, UCL

And especially to our funding partner **The Faculty Institute of Graduate Studies, UCL**



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY 8 MAY, 2014

- 1:00-1:30 Registration
1:30-2:00 **Keynote Lecture**
Prof. Sue Hamilton *Mastering Global Archaeology*
- 2:00-2:20 Julia Elsey *Pride in the Fight Against Trafficked Antiquities*
2:20-2:40 Anna Funke *A Case Study in Value-Based Conservation: Taxidermy*
2:40-3:00 Porin Šćukanec Reznicek *Frowning upon Human Sacrifice in Ancient Egypt*
3:00-3:20 Kelsey Cornwell *Emergence of Civilization...in the West? An Alternate Perspective of the Social Stratification in the Argaric Culture*
- 3:20-3:50 **Coffee/Tea Break - Leventis Gallery**
- 3:50-4:10 Courtney Bobik *How Did They Eat? Exploring the Diet and Food Culture in the Egyptian Nile Delta During the Ptolemaic and Early Roman Periods*
4:10-4:30 Beatrice Campi *On the Link between Tombs and Ethnicity: the Site of Pazyryk as a Startlingly Successful Example of Inter-Ethnic and Cosmopolitan Relationships*
4:30-4:50 Josephine Mills *From Flint to Footsteps: Exploring Ancient Hominin Behaviour Through Stone Tool Provenancing*
4:50-5:10 Giorgia Amici, Mads Jorgensen, Katherine Jones, Simon Maddison, Lokwalo Thabeng *A New View of Coastlines in Neolithic Orkney*
- 5:15-7:00 **Wine Reception - Leventis Gallery**

FRIDAY 9 MAY, 2014

- 9:00-10:00 Late Registration
- 10:00-10:20 Cristina Ichim *Mycenaeans in the Southern Aegean at the Beginning of the Late Bronze Age*
10:20-10:40 Isobel Reid *Symbolic, Practical or Comfortable? Creating a Theoretical Model to Group the Funerary Equipment of the Ancient Egyptian Dead*
10:40-11:00 Ying Tung Fung *Regional Tradition of 'Civilization' of Liangzhu Culture in Eastern China: Archaeological Evidence and the Influences on Archaeological Research and Cultural Heritage Management*
11:00-11:20 Ben Turkel *Window Glass in the Roman Empire: Manufacturing, Occurrence, and Use*
- 11:20-11:50 **Coffee/Tea Break - Leventis Gallery**
- 11:50-12:10 Florence Smith Nicholls and Rocío Mayol Sánchez *A New Approach to Mediterranean Connectivity: Bronze Age Minoan and Iron Age Phoenician Seals in a Comparative Perspective*

- 12:10-12:30 Sarah Giffin *The Production of a Plain-weave Textile Using a Traditional Andean Backstrap Loom*
- 12:30-12:50 Jessica O'Neill *Life/Death Cycles: The "Ghost Bikes" of London*
- 12:50-2:00 **Lunch - Rm 410**
- 2:00-2:20 Kira Hopkins *An Early History of Naukratis*
- 2:20-2:40 Siobhan Shinn *Impact of Interregional Contact in Fourth Millennium BCE Egypt*
- 2:40-3:00 Jordan Graham *The Aztec Use of Atrial Crosses to Superficially Assimilate during the Spanish Colonial Era while Upholding Prior State Imagery*
- 3:00-3:20 Jan Cutajar *Sustainability, Green Chemistry and Contemporary Conservation Practice*
- 3:20-3:50 **Coffee/Tea Break - Leventis Gallery**
- 3:50-4:10 Rachel Dewan *Revealing an Invisible Spice Market: The Minoan Use and Social Significance of Saffron*
- 4:10-4:30 Stephanie Boonstra *Towards a Total History of Egypt: Merging the History of Politics and Woodworking*
- 4:30-4:50 Mads S. Jørgensen *The Late Classic Period Maya King Chakjal Chih? Chaahk of Namaan: An Epigraphic and Paleographic study of La Florida Stela I*
- 5:00-5:30 **Keynote Lecture**
Marcos Martínón-Torres *Sharing Archaeological Research: Some Concluding Remarks*
- 5:30-7:00 **Wine Reception - Rm 410**

PAPER ABSTRACTS

Giorgia Amici, Mads Jorgensen, Katherine Jones, Simon Maddison, Lokwalo Thabeng
A New View of Coastlines in Neolithic Orkney

Renfrew's 1976 study of Rousay in the Orkney archipelago suggested that Neolithic tombs functioned as discrete central territorial markers, such that the division created approximately equal areas of productive land. Fraser (1988) performed similar analyses of Orkney's famous tombs over all the islands, taking into account the actual tomb sizes, and others have followed suit.

Common for all previous studies are their use of the modern landscape in seeking to explain past human behaviour. This is problematic because there have been changes in sea level over the past 5000 years, which potentially change not only the size of the islands, but also their relationship to one another. This is an observation that can easily be extended to other islandscapes.

Our presentation seeks to demonstrate the importance of modelling past landscapes to take account of such significant changes, using Neolithic Orkney as a case study. We present a detailed methodology using GRASS GIS for reconstructing past coastlines and landscapes at 500 year time intervals between 2000-3500BC. The results show interesting changes in the relationship between the islands with potentially profound implications for future spatial analysis of the Orkney Islands for understanding social and political organisation.

Courtney Bobik *How Did They Eat? Exploring the Diet and Food Culture in the Egyptian Nile Delta During the Ptolemaic and Early Roman Periods*

The manner in which our diet and the culture surrounding what we eat is enveloped in our everyday lives; most people today cannot think about traveling to another country without one of the first thoughts being about the local cuisine. We today comically joke about the American Fast-food culture and its ties to obesity and other health problems as we equally joke about the bland British cuisine and its own relation to poor health. It's a wonder however that not much is known about the diet and food cultures surrounding ancient societies. Were connections between health and diet as prevalent in ancient cultures as to those found in modern cultures?

This paper will examine this question with a focus on the diet and food culture present in the Egyptian Nile Delta during the Ptolemaic and Early Roman periods. Exploring and analyzing several models for food consumption as well as the ethnic and cultural diversity found in Egypt will be explored in this examination. This paper will investigate these models through a particular site in the Nile Delta dating to this time period named Tell Timai, in order to analyze these models and gather more detailed information about the local populations.

Stephanie Boonstra *Towards a Total History of Egypt: Merging the History of Politics and Woodworking*

The tendency for publications on ancient Egypt to focus on the political history of the region is a flawed approach; these histories depict an incomplete picture of life in ancient Egypt by focusing on only the battles, rulers, and elites. The *Annales* School of historical thought proposed a 'total history' approach, a synthesis of the social, economic, material cultural, and political histories, among others, that aims to gain a more accurate representation of a history, rather than just that of the political realm. Is a unified 'total history' beneficial or plausible for ancient Egypt? This paper will attempt to combine the political and technological histories of Egypt by focusing on the history of woodworking, a technology engrained in the lives of Egyptians of every social strata, and will demonstrate the benefits and flaws of this 'total history' approach. Ancient Egypt is renowned for intricate and decorated wooden coffins, furniture, small objects and boats that have preserved remarkably well due to the arid

environment. This paper will tie together the pictorial evidence (tomb wall paintings and tomb models) with the various types of timber (both local and imported) used to piece together a history of woodworking.

Beatrice Campi *On the Link between Tombs and Ethnicity: the Site of Pazyryk as a Startlingly Successful Example of Inter-Ethnic and Cosmopolitan Relationships*

During my research, the tomb-ethnicity link at Pazyryk (c. 5th – 3rd BCE) fascinated me for its openness to inter-ethnic and cosmopolitan relationships. By ethnicity, I mean the identification of a group as a community with a shared culture, life style, language, religious beliefs, customs, cuisine, mode of dress, social organization and artistic expression. Ethnic groups can also be characterized by physical and morphological differences. In the case of Pazyryk, forensic analysis of the human remains led scholars to suggest that from early on the community was a mix of Europoid and Mongoloid races. Nevertheless, these people did not consider themselves as two distinct ethnic groups, but a homogenous group. Moreover, the excavated grave goods of the large *kurgany* (tumuli) reflect numerous inter-ethnic contacts, mainly with Scythian, Near Eastern, Persian and Chinese cultures, showing just how receptive Altai peoples were to foreign contacts and far from isolated. The inclusive society of the Pazyryks came to light through the remarkable discoveries of Russian archaeologists, and it can still teach us important lessons today on tolerance and mutual understanding.

Kelsey Cornwell *Emergence of Civilization...in the West? An Alternate Perspective of the Social Stratification in the Argaric Culture*

For a long time in the archaeological community the development of complex societies in the Eastern Mediterranean, specifically in the Late Bronze Age Aegean, has been considered synonymous with the emergence of civilization. This could be in fact close to reality, or it could be a consequence of regional focus of archaeological studies. More recently, researchers have spread out around the Mediterranean and have found many of the phenomena that occurred in the Aegean happened elsewhere in similar fashions. With these societies, however, contemporary literature focuses on how complex state formation marked the beginning of social inequality and not, as is the case in the East, civilization. This paper specifically analyzes the development of the Argaric culture in Iberia to bring light to these inconsistencies. It does not intend to challenge the existence of social stratification in either the Argaric or Aegean cultures; it rather highlights the similarities between the development of these societies in order to reconcile this standing discrepancy.

Jan Cutajar *Sustainability, Green Chemistry and Contemporary Conservation Practice*

In the last decade, the field of green chemistry has picked up momentum and the literature is exploring many exciting fields. As of yet, however, none of the arising potential applications have been applied to the heritage science field.

In light of this, the following questions might yield interesting results: What practices do conservators carry out on a daily basis which are potentially toxic to their health and the state of the environment? What waste is generated through conservation practice and how is this managed with respect to environmental-friendly policies? Can the use of certain chemicals/procedures be replaced with more benign ones to further advantages?

Rachel Dewan *Revealing an Invisible Spice Market: The Minoan Use and Social Significance of Saffron*

Though their nickname as the ‘hippies of the ancient world’ is usually applied lightheartedly to the Minoans of the Bronze Age Aegean, archaeological and iconographic evidence does indeed attest to their reverence for the natural world. One plant seems particularly prevalent within the Aegean, for represented on ceramics, in wall-paintings, and on votive objects are

numerous depictions of the crocus flower. While the saffron spice, a product of the flower, was carefully recorded in Linear B texts, testifying to its importance as a valuable economic commodity, its inclusion in highly detailed iconographic representations and the contexts within which they were found attest to a significance which extended beyond commercial import. An integral part of Minoan industry, medicine, religion, and trade, the pervasive importance of saffron and the crocus flower throughout many social spheres made it, not only a valuable commodity throughout the Bronze Age Mediterranean world, but also an integral part of culture and identity for the Minoan people.

Julia Elsey *Pride in the Fight Against Trafficked Antiquities*

Heritage professionals around the world have been attempting to curb the illicit antiquities trade for decades. Among other strategies, the repatriation of antiquities from international museums is viewed as integral in correcting the injustices viewed to have been inflicted upon “source” countries. However, I will argue that repatriation is ineffective in the fight against antiquities trafficking, and is instead representative of an unhelpful nationalism. The resources used by countries like Italy for litigation would be more fruitfully utilized in local community investment, including cultural resource management schemes.

Ying Tung Fung *Regional Tradition of 'Civilization' of Liangzhu Culture in Eastern China: Archaeological Evidence and the Influences on Archaeological Research and Cultural Heritage Management*

I will use a case study of the Liangzhu culture (5300-4000 BP) at the lower Yangzi River in eastern China, to investigate the changing view of the origin of civilization in China, and its influence on current archaeological research and cultural heritage management. Liangzhu culture, which is regarded as one of the regional traditions of ‘civilization’ in China, reflects the presumption of that the Central Plain was the nucleus of the origins of Chinese civilization, which has formed 2,000 years ago, is dubious. Regional culture indicates that ‘civilization’ could have formed independently around the peripheral regions in an earlier period before the dawn of the bronze age; it is reflected by the archaeological discoveries of settlements, construction of walled-cities, elite cemeteries, and the production and consumption of jade artefacts, etc. The archaeological significance of the Liangzhu culture has drawn attention from archaeologists and cultural heritage organizations, encouraging extended archaeological excavation and research done in this area; as well as regional and national programs such as establishment of a museum and national park, operating academic forums and committees, applying new set of law, and bidding to become an UNESCO World Heritage Site, etc.

Anna Funke *A Case Study in Value-Based Conservation: Taxidermy*

Changing perspectives of taxidermy have affected the ways in which these collections are managed, displayed and conserved for the last 150 years. They were long regarded as old-fashioned and tasteless; mildly disturbing reminders of our own less conscientious past and morbid fascination was the primary draw of their displays. Now taxidermy is once again becoming popular as a prominent part of modern art, fashion and advertisement. The values associated with these new specimens, however, are very different from those associated with the older, natural history ones. The historic value of a specimen that was collected by an employee of the East India company to be sent home as an example of the exotic and unknown, for example, varies hugely from the artistic and cultural values associated with a specimen that was used to decorate a recent album cover. In a time when conservation as a discipline supports value based treatments, these differences need to be considered in the management and conservation of taxidermy specimens and collections at large.

Sarah Giffin *The Production of a Plain-weave Textile Using a Traditional Andean Backstrap Loom*

Peruvian textiles are one of the most frequently studied textile arts, as their burial environments in the dunes of the coastal Atacama Desert of South America have resulted in the spectacular preservation of colours, decorative designs and weave patterns over millennia. However, very little has been said about the physical production processes of Peruvian textiles: the time it takes to make each individual piece of fabric, the amount of skill needed to produce a single textile, the levels of difficulty in both warping and weaving. Giffin's paper hopes to address these information gaps by producing a simple tabby weave using the traditional Andean weaving implement, the backstrap loom in order to create a baseline for production time and effort. With this information, the archaeological community can have a potentially useful tool for studying Andean textile manufacturing techniques.

Jordan Graham *The Aztec Use of Atrial Crosses to Superficially Assimilate during the Spanish Colonial Era while Upholding Prior State Imagery*

Before colonisation, the Aztec Empire had a thriving multi-faceted economy and a society steeped in religious tradition due to the widespread use of propaganda by its central political powers. As the influx of Spaniards overwhelmed the Aztec population, their focus became assimilation and the subsequent building of convents. As labour, Aztecs were recruited for larger buildings and sensitive details, such as the carving of the atrial crosses that became characteristic of convents. Though the Spaniards were satisfied, they failed to realise these monumental symbols were not those of an assimilated people, but symbols of resistance embodying pre-colonial Aztec ontologies. In this paper, the ways in which the atrial crosses were used will be understood by examining monumental propaganda in Mesoamerica before the arrival of the Spanish, the recruitment of Aztec labour, statistically analysing Atrial cross trends, the reincorporation of salvage material, and modern interpretations of Mesoamerican beliefs today. Through this perspective, Early Colonial Aztec art in Mesoamerica will be recontextualised by removing the emphasis on religious and cultural assimilation, and focusing the analysis on the extant agency inherent both within the artists and the artefacts, which served to perpetuate the Aztec ontology into modern generations.

Kira Hopkins *An Early History of Naukratis*

Naukratis is a significant, complex site, claimed by Herodotus and modern scholars to be a Greek trade-post (emporion), but situated in Egypt. When it was founded, by whom, and as what type of settlement have therefore been debated since Petrie's excavation. Much of the uncertainty is due to a lack of interdisciplinary communication. While Naukratis is primarily the focus of Classical archaeologists, the recent strides made by Classicists examining the lexical choices of Herodotus demonstrate that the highly schematised settlement models of Classical archaeologists differ greatly from much looser ancient definitions of these terms. This, alongside the work of Egyptologists on Naukratis and other Saite sites, can offer a coherent narrative for its foundation; strongly suggesting that Naukratis was not originally a Greek settlement but began as an Egyptian administrative centre that gained Greek traders without losing its native population, and that Herodotus, when read carefully, actually states this. Naukratis' early history is important as it indicates that our view of 'the Greeks abroad' is still colonialist, Helleno-centric and hindered by outdated models. It also highlights the importance of an inter-disciplinary approach and the problems that can arise from integrating textual and archaeological evidence haphazardly.

Cristina Ichim *Mycenaeanisation of the Southern Aegean at the Beginning of the Late Bronze Age*

The transition to the Late Bronze Age in the Aegean sees the emergence of a Mycenaean cultural koine and the convergence of material practices on an unprecedented spatial scale. What makes this phenomenon special, particularly when contrasted with Minoanisation, is the early manifestation of 'Mycenaean' elements across the southern Aegean, at a pre-palatial time, when 'Mycenaean' cultural consciousness itself was forming on the mainland. I offer a critical appraisal of previous approaches that seek explanation for this phenomenon in invasion models, demographic growth, and mass migrations, and instead I propose a radical reconceptualization of Mycenaeanisation that treats the formation of Mycenaean cultural identity on the mainland and its appearance around the basin as part of the same process. I argue that 'Mycenaean' culture develops at key nodal sites within a network that spreads the whole of the southern Aegean. These nodal sites tend to be well-connected coastal settlements and also to have exhibited a strong Minoanising influence earlier. Thus, viewing the Mycenaeanisation of the Aegean as a top-down decentred process presents the opportunity of asking novel questions.

Mads S. Jørgensen *The Late Classic Period Maya King Chakjal Chih? Chaahk of Namaan: An Epigraphic and Paleographic study of La Florida Stela 1*

The Namaan King Chakjal Chih? Chaahk is known from but a few unprovenanced polychrome vessels, and only once mentioned in the published literature (Lopes 2003).

I seek to remedy this by drawing attention to the poorly studied glyphic corpus at the archaeological site of La Florida, Peten, Guatemala. Based on hitherto unpublished photos I argue that Stela 1 can be attributed Chakjal Chih? Chaahk through an epigraphic and paleographic analysis of the short glyphic text on the front of this stela. In doing so, this interdisciplinary study will substantively contribute to our understanding of the Namaan Court by 1) enhancing our understanding of Chakjal Chih? Chaahk and the archaeological site of La Florida, and 2) strengthen the argument of this site as the physical seat of the Namaan Royal Court. Methodologically, the study emphasises the potential of utilising palaeography in the study of Maya glyphic texts – particularly on monuments devoid of calendric information – which is currently under explored.

Josephine Mills *From Flint to Footsteps: Exploring Ancient Hominin Behaviour Through Stone Tool Provenancing*

Flint, a stone brimming with signatures of ancient environments, represents a huge untapped data source that is integral to understanding how ancient humans interacted with their landscapes. Formed on the warm shallow seabed of Cretaceous oceans, its structure, composed of tiny sea-creatures, captures signatures of prehistoric ecosystems. Recent advances in scientific techniques have revealed the geological and biological information encoded in flint objects during the formation of their parent material. This data has the potential to link individual artefacts to the flint outcrop they were originally quarried from thus matching artefacts to sources, mapping ancient human landscape use and raw material acquisition. In some cases this can be explored using microscopic analysis of nanofossils, such as radiolarians, and their relative composition within a sample. Other studies aim to assess the geological composition of flints, locating their trace elements using mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS), and linking them to particular bedrock deposits. This research project aims to assess both techniques from an archaeological perspective and work towards developing a standardised process that uses the microstructure of flint to connect artefacts with their source, revealing the footsteps of our ancestors.

Jessica O'Neill *Life/Death Cycles: The "Ghost Bikes" of London*

This research will look at the phenomenon of "ghost bikes" in London and discuss how they relate to other so-called "spontaneous memorials." Bicycles are painted white and placed near the sites of cyclist deaths, meant to not only serve as public commemoration for the victim but also to raise awareness of cyclist safety. Why does this type of memorial occur, and what functions does it serve? I intend to analyse the efficacy of ghost bike memorials for awareness raising and healing, compare them to similar cases both in the UK and internationally and address the limitations of these and other spontaneous memorials. I plan to draw from work by Rowlands on memory and memorials, from Freud on the attempt to externalize grief and Butler on heritage healing.

Isobel Reid *Symbolic, Practical or Comfortable? Creating a Theoretical Model to Group the Funerary Equipment of the Ancient Egyptian Dead*

The items included within Ancient Egyptian funerary contexts are varied, though we often assume the reasons for depositing items are guided by the same underlying principles. This led to the creation of the research question; can objects be grouped into categories based on why they were included? This model, formulated in response, includes three different motives for including items in a funerary context. This has been created using their own sources as well as modern interpretations. The categories created were: symbolic association, practical function and comfort for the deceased. Once established the model was testing by being applied to four items, which frequently occur in a funerary context. These were: the headrest, writing equipment, the heart scarab and coffins. In the case of writing equipment, we see a change from practical function to symbolic as part of the transitional phase of death. As expected, all items existed within more than one theoretical group, though to different degrees. Using the theoretical lens, this model showed that the function of items changed inside and outside the funerary context. There is future potential for archaeologists to apply this model to funerary contexts to group items for comparison based on their motive for inclusion.

Porin Šćukanec Reznicek *Frowning upon Human Sacrifice in Ancient Egypt*

There has always been a fascination with the Orient and particularly Ancient Egypt. From antiquity to modernity pyramids, mummies, gold and treasure, have always fascinated laics, researchers, fanatics and scientists. I will focus on the somewhat morbid obsession with the dead in Ancient Egypt. Mummies are symbols of Ancient Egypt, but what were their beginnings. One of the earliest tombs with human bodies were cemeteries in the ancient city of Abydos. Flinders Petrie, an early excavator at the site, suggested an idea of human sacrifice, regarding the tombs that surrounded royal tombs and enclosures. Although this has thought to have been disproven in later years, some contemporary egyptologists would disagree. Why does this idea often cause such an uproar? Are the Ancient Egyptians still viewed as an untouchable in such "barbaric" themes? What was their own opinion on such actions, if it can be inferred, and should that change modern perceptions of them (e.g. in museum displays)? I would demistify either of such notions, based on available material and interpretations. My aim is not to shed new light on the Egyptians, but to provide them with the one they deserve, no matter how "primitive" this might be seen.

Siobhan Shinn *Impact of Interregional Contact in Fourth Millennium BCE Egypt*

This presentation is a brief summary on the current state of my Masters' dissertation research. It suggests, contrary to oft cited scholarly opinion, interregional contact greatly impacted both the pace and trajectory of the development of pharaonic civilization during the fourth millennium BCE. First this paper briefly examines the new chronology for prehistoric Egypt and its role in changing preconceptions about the rate at which internal developments

occurred during the transition from prehistoric society to pharaonic civilization in northeast Africa. Then, it provides archaeological evidence for contact between southwest Asia, the southern Levant, and northeast Africa; in particular, it focuses on the raw materials, technology and artistic motifs imported into prehistoric Egypt. Seals, sealings and the sealing system are examined in detail as a foreign technology and their impact on the transition from prehistoric society to pharaonic civilization discussed. This presentation concludes with a list of further questions I propose to research over the course of my dissertation.

Florence Smith Nicholls and Rocío Mayol Sánchez *A New Approach to Mediterranean Connectivity: Bronze Age Minoan and Iron Age Phoenician Seals in a Comparative Perspective*

Mediterranean connectivity has been widely studied by archaeologists, however a new approach is necessary to gain an understanding of it as a process which is non-linear and multivalent. Seals are communicative devices, and their dispersal in different contexts represents not just interaction between different communities, but also possible reinterpretation according to the viewing group. The aim of this paper is to demonstrate connectivity in the Mediterranean through two case studies, one in the Aegean and the other in the West Mediterranean: the comparative analysis of LMI Bronze Age Minoan “look-alike” and Iron Age Phoenician seals. We intend to highlight the different contexts where these seals were found and analyse multiple interpretations of the significance of the glyptic iconography. These two case studies provide a comparative framework on both the micro and macro scale; interaction within a single island and across the Western Mediterranean respectively.

Ben Turkel *Window Glass in the Roman Empire: Manufacturing, Occurrence, and Use*

The manufacturing, occurrence, and use of window glass during the Roman Empire is a subject of continued debate. Generally speaking it is the manufacturing process and the occurrence of glass window panes which differs greatly from source to source. It will be demonstrated, however, that manufacturing processes revolved around blowing (Cylinder-Blown) and Casting (stretching) while occurrence ranged from private dwellings to government projects. The use of window glass is remarkably widespread and more common place than most sources give credit. The mass production of glass combined with the technical knowledge and consumer demand bring light to the issue that window pane glass was not uncommon throughout the Empire.