



Postgraduate Cypriot  
Archaeology Conference  
2020

# 13-15 November 2020

**ONLINE WEBINAR  
CONFERENCE**

17th Meeting on Postgraduate  
Cypriot Archaeology (PoCA)

University of Cyprus

This event will take place via Zoom.

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**Organizing Scientific Committee PoCA 2020**

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# **Paper Abstracts**

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### **More information:**

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## **Circumnavigating Cyprus: A Trek towards Understanding Cultural Segregation on a Mediterranean Island**

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Blending archaeological survey and photo-ethnographic methods, *Circumnavigating Cyprus*, was a walking expedition and media-generating project that circumnavigated the island of Cyprus to gather narratives and images pertaining to the pronounced sociopolitical segregation that has been in effect for over forty-five years in this country. By weaving together multiple forms of media, the *Circumnavigating Cyprus* project sought to produce a multifaceted representation of Cypriot identity and a deepened understanding of the cultural and political dynamics of this divided island. In contrast to the political reality of separation, the goal of this project was to generate a holistic picture of the country's landscapes, cultures, and peoples in hopes of facilitating greater understanding and cohesion in the near future.

This paper reflects upon the remarkable similarity in the topics raised and sentiments expressed by the individuals interviewed during the expedition. Informants on both sides of the border shared similar views regarding the positive intermixed past before the ethnic conflicts of the 1960s and 1970s, the role of global powers in perpetuating the sociopolitical divide, Cypriot cultural identity, and the future of Cyprus. Narratives gathered from this project suggest that, although they do not share a language, a religion, and now a territory, Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots believe they possess a single ethnic and cultural identity, with 'Greek' and 'Turkish' being a secondary affiliation. Nearly all individuals interviewed hope for reunification, although opinions varied regarding the feasibility of realizing a united island.

# **The Archaeological Landscape of Protara-Paralimni, Cyprus - The View from the Sea. Underwater Scattered Pottery Assemblages and the Importance of their Systematic Study in Intensive Developed Touristic Areas**

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The region of Protaras-Paralimni on the eastern coast of Cyprus remains an almost blank spot on the archaeological map of Cyprus. Excavations of a coastal Neolithic settlement at Nissia showed not only early habitation of the region but also its maritime character from the beginnings. So far only little has been researched in this area, either on land or underwater. The rush touristic development during the past 20 to 30 years led to an almost complete silence regarding archaeological research on land. Underwater albeit some survey projects and one excavation there are still many gaps in the archaeological record to be filled.

A new intensive underwater survey was undertaken in October 2016- February 2017 by the author of this paper at Nissia, a small cove on the eastern coast of Cyprus, in Protaras-Paralimni. The survey's results proved the use of the cove as an anchorage, especially during the Roman and Late-Roman periods. The fact that no settlement of this period has been found so far in this area led accordingly to the question: Who used this anchorage and for what purposes?

This paper is an attempt of integrating the anchorage at Nissia Coves in its archaeological landscape. A second objective of this paper is to raise awareness regarding the importance of studying scattered material underwater, especially in touristic developed areas, where modern facilities represent an obstacle for land archaeology.

## **Archaeology in the Classroom: A First Attempt in the Schools of Cyprus**

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Presenting and reconstructing archaeological data through teaching History in the public schools of Cyprus constitutes a very interesting and at the same time unknown research field. Towards this direction, recording the archaeological information that is mentioned in History textbooks and curricula used in the primary and secondary public schools of Cyprus, leads to a better understanding considering the teaching background of Archaeology. Taking also into consideration the opinions of history teachers and professors and the current public museum education framework, this paper aims to present the characteristics of the available archaeological information and the teaching conditions this is transmitted by explaining in advance the type of the analysis conducted and the peculiarities of the said teaching material. The importance of this research is concentrated in a newly established teaching background that is used for preparing courses rich in archaeological evidence but aligned with the formal education framework and where possible, taking advantage of the instructive dynamism produced by learning in a museum environment.



# **Phoenician Amphorae Imported to Cyprus during the Cypro-Archaic and Cypro-Classical Periods (750-310 BC): Quantitative and Spatial Distribution**

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This paper forms a part of my MA thesis which focuses on the Phoenician amphorae recovered on Cyprus during the Archaic and Classical periods. The Phoenician amphora is one of the characteristic amphora types in the whole Mediterranean during the Iron Age; the characteristic loop handles, and the morphological appearance is very diagnostic especially the Archaic and Classical periods.

The aim of this thesis is the quantitative and spatial analysis of the published material of the Phoenician amphorae, but it also aims to contribute to the study of trade relations between Cyprus and the Levant during the Archaic and Classical periods. The continuous trade connections between these two areas date from the second millennium B.C. and can be documented by the pottery imports and exports and epigraphs.

Moreover, the sites that I examined and recovered for my thesis are the Phoenician amphorae in Cyprus and are mostly from the necropolis of Cypriot city-kingdoms such as Kition, Marion and Salamis. Most of the amphorae found intact in this context and the study of them is easier than other sites such as settlement sites, anchorages and rural sites, which the amphorae where have been discovered out of the tomb context and is mostly in sherds.

Finally, the Phoenician amphorae, is one of the amphora types in Cyprus that is mostly 'unidentified'; many of the publications used various typologies or names to describe them. This non-uniform approach of the amphorae is one of the problematic aspects of the study of the Phoenician amphorae on the island that I seek to solve it using a typological classification.

## **Weighing Trade: Function and Context of the Weights from Aghios Dhimitrios, Cyprus**

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It is widely accepted that the “zeitgeist” of period the period encompassing Mediterranean Late Bronze and Early Iron age is to be found in concepts such as connectivity and mobility together with human behaviors such diplomacy, warfare, piracy and especially trade. Indeed, textual and material culture evidences provide a vivid picture of a world which was directly and indirectly connected from east to west, from sea to sea, and one of the most important of the threads composing this complex texture was trade. Cyprus was an essential node in this system. Often the hypothesis proposed to explain this is the exploitation of its rich copper deposits, but the ancient inhabitants of the island were also able to gain centrality and relevance playing a major role as actors in trade dynamics as attested by the textual evidences and the impressive numbers of Cypriote materials found in many Mediterranean sites. Now, if we focus on trade, we can recognize how weighing goods was a key moment in the trade transactions and weights played an essential role representing different weight systems used by the different societies which interacted in this period. Cyprus is not an exception: in many sites weights of different materials and shapes have been found. Among these of special interest are those found at *Aghios Dhimitrios*. In the present paper I will provide an overview about these weights and their micro and macro context in way to provide a broader and updated interpretation of these materials and their meaning.

## **Rethinking the Kyrenia Shipwreck: The Voice of the People**

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The Kyrenia shipwreck is a Hellenistic merchant ship that sank less than a mile off the coast of Kyrenia. Its discovery in 1965 triggered the development of distinct narratives around it. Its excavation brought to light the ship and her cargo, both in a very good state of preservation. This characteristic earned the Kyrenia shipwreck an exceptional position within the, nascent at the time, field of shipwreck archaeology. Moreover, the remains of the ancient Greek merchant ship were instantly embraced by the archaeological and political circles of the newly-founded Republic of Cyprus. Embedded throughout its fifty-year afterlife in a turbulent phase of Cyprus' history, the internationally known Kyrenia shipwreck has been gradually attributed diverse roles and meanings.

Besides the scientific and the official Cypriot contexts outlined above, there is another, non-official yet salient, perspective surrounding the Kyrenia shipwreck in the contemporary world. Upon its discovery, the site was introduced within the local society of Kyrenia, composed of Greek Cypriots and a Turkish Cypriot minority. The presentation will focus on the diverse and changeable perceptions, negotiations, and practices the local community developed around the Kyrenia shipwreck, in order to analyse the uses and meanings accorded to the site. In this way, the paper seeks to underline the need to beyond the shipwreck sites themselves, and understand them as places of interaction that create new ways of understanding and engaging with the present.

## **The Harbours of the Cyprus and the Eastern Mediterranean during the Diadochi Wars**

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This paper explores the harbours of Cyprus, namely those of Nea Paphos, Marion, Amathus and Carpasia, in the context of the Diadochi Wars. During this time armies, fleets and harbours were a demanding need. The harbours that were built by the Diadochi for the purpose to sustain their ongoing wars are the center of interest of this research. Cyprus consists an excellent study case to understand the politics of the time as it played a prominent role. Most importantly, it preserves the remains of harbour structures dating to this period. This allows us to explore the Hellenistic harbour construction and the development of the harbour network on the island but also expand beyond and link them with harbours of the surrounding region. The aim of this research is to better define the character and role of the Hellenistic harbours of Cyprus through the use of ancient sources, aerial photos and literature review. Previous research has already examined this subject however many research questions remain open for discussion. Is there any archaeological evidence that proves that the Hellenistic harbours of Cyprus were part of a project initiated by one of the Diadochi to fortify the island with naval harbours? Were these harbours indeed abandoned and destroyed and if so what is the archaeological evidence? How is our understanding of these harbours enriched when harbours from the surrounding area are included in the discussion? The preliminary results of this research offer a broader understanding of the Hellenistic harbours of Cyprus.

## **The Church of Saint Mamas in Dali**

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The small church of Saint Mamas at Dali, was studied, registered and documented. The church is located southeast of the Municipality of Dali, which hosts a plethora of remarkable places of worship, dating from antiquity to today. The historical and architectural assessment of the church extends mainly from the Frankish occupation (1192-1489) up to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The study was based on information acquired through in-situ documentation and supported by historical sources, the majority of which, derived from foreign travellers of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century. It included integrated, architectural and environmental documentation of the church, obtained by traditional and modern registration methods. Different types of equipment were used for the establishment of the architectural drawings, the 3D model, and the indoor conditions of the church.

More specifically, to acquire detailed drawings, photogrammetry and 3D laser scanning were used, to document both the exterior and the interior of the church, providing an extra layer of information. Data loggers were placed inside the church recording the indoor temperature and relative humidity for the assessment of thermal comfort, whereas a logger which records CO<sub>2</sub> concentration, allowed the evaluation of the indoor air quality. Furthermore, through the registration and documentation process, the

typology, the morphology, the construction characteristics, and other integrated elements of the church, were analysed and classified in the different chronological phases, based on their particularities.

## **The Athena Temple of Vouni: New Evidence on the Useful Life of the Site**

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The remains of the Athena temple of Vouni are on the highest point of the mountain, already on 07.05.1928 the excavator Alfred Westholm mentions the temple in a letter to his parents, but not until the 15.05.1928 the excavations began there. Until 04.06.1928 the temple excavation was finished for the most part and due to the lack of money the main focus of the excavation was now directed to the area of the palace. Despite the very short time Westholm invested in the temple excavation, he managed to excavate three treasure houses (rooms V- VII), an altar, the actual temple building (room I) and a courtyard in front of the temple (room II).

New investigations on the finds from the temple area, especially the dedications of weapons, allow a closer look at the temporal use of the area. The dedications of weapons make up a large part of the finds, the absence of any form of protective weapons (shields, helmets etc.) is surprising and contradicts the dedications of weapons from other Greek sanctuaries. The legitimate question that arises from this is what special circumstances the consecrated persons considered to donate exclusively offensive weapons and if perhaps the political circumstances of the time were connected with this.

## **Large Bronze Statuary from the Sanctuary of Apollon in the Pediaios**

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With this paper I will present some further results from my research on the unpublished excavation in the riverbed of the Pediaios next to Tamassos led by Max Ohnefalsch-Richter in 1889. The excavation site was chosen by Ohnefalsch-Richter based on two chance finds made by locals: The find in 1836 of a larger-than-life, Greek-style nude bronze statue attributed to Apollon, of which only the head – the Chatsworth Head, today in the British Museum in London, as well as possibly the right leg, today in the Louvre in Paris, survive. And the discovery of a smaller hollow-cast bronze hand in the winter of 1888/1889. The hand is not extant today.

As a relatively large number of the finds unearthed during the excavation are fragments of other larger hollow-cast bronze statues and smaller solid-cast statuettes, as well as of bronze vessels, the sanctuary has also been referred to as the “Bronze Temenos”.

The comprehensive analysis of these bronze objects is a crucial part of my research into the questions of how this presumed cult site relates in its significance to the city of Tamassos, and how it compares to other sanctuaries in Cyprus, especially to those of Apollon. The analysis should also help to better ascertain the duration in which the sanctuary was in use and whether the identification of the site as a sanctuary of Apollon proposed by Ohnefalsch-Richter can be upheld.



## **Reassembling the Pieces, Reassessing the Picture: An Analytical Study of Medieval Glazed Pottery (mid. 12th-16th c.) from Polis Chrysochous, Cyprus**

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The present paper contributes to the wider discussion on Cypriot medieval glazed ceramics by presenting for the first time the results of the analyses of samples from a domestic context, namely a medieval domestic structure located north of the basilica E.GO on the site of Polis Chrysochous-*Pettrades*. Scanning Electron Microscopy coupled with Energy Dispersive Spectrometry (SEM-EDS) was used to establish a first characterisation of a total of thirty ceramics from the site, in terms of the chemical composition and mineralogy of their fabric, slip and glaze. The assemblage under study includes also sherds that typologically belong to the mid.12<sup>th</sup>-early 13<sup>th</sup> c. Aegean production wares allowing a preliminary investigation of their provenance and an insightful comparison with the local glazed production on the island. The material extends typologically also to the 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> period, enabling the examination of the potential technological variability concerning slip and glazing technologies between the different local workshops over a broad period. Following this analytical framework, the chaîne opératoire and the empirical knowledge linked to the production of glazed wares on the island will be reconstructed within the complex sociocultural context of the period and the wider glazing technological traditions of the neighbouring regions. At the same time, this analytical study of the ceramic pieces from the site of Polis Chrysochous, enables the examination of the social interactions of the occupants of this structure with the wider intra- and extra- island sites, shedding light on the later history of the site which until now had remained limitedly explored.

## **The Body and its Image in the Neolithic and Bronze Age Cyprus**

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The paper concerns the human body as represented in the “art” of the early Cyprus. In the material aspect, it treats mostly on the Cypriot figurines, but touches upon glyptic and vase painting. I focus on the semiotic relationship between significant objects (artefacts) and their referents. I omit the crossreferential aspects developed f. in. by Richard Lesure in his recent paper on the similar subject (Lesure JMA 30 (2017)), taking more traditional, anthropological standpoint. The various forms of body “pictures” are understood here as visual representations of only one abstract object: the human body and the ways of its schematization.

On the foundation of the above-mentioned premises I identify two main types of approaches to the bodily representation that manifest themselves in the Cypriot art. First is symbolic (with all ambiguity of the term) social, semiotic, passive and external- this is the body viewed from the point of view of “the other” so to say. And the second is individualistic, expressive and internal- picturing the body as experienced by its owner. The two are being reflected through different materials, varying styles and techniques. I trace the history of this division, making remarks linked directly to an image of the body that we are being offered on a given occasion. The “image” is understood broadly as any form of depiction, although I confine myself to the visual sphere. This is a work of synthesis with certain new interpretative content.

## **Village Life: Style, Shape and Practise in the Early Bronze Age Cypriot Society**

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The emphasis that archaeologists have placed on state, urban and complex societies over the years has resulted into a number of misconceptions regarding rural societies, among others. Such societies have been characterised as simple, less complex and egalitarian, primarily due to the use of over-generalised simply structured models and less elaborate theoretical frameworks. Early Bronze Age Cypriot society is no exception, and it has often been described as consisting of small autonomous, well-integrated egalitarian communities; in other words, well-established villages. For approaching such societies, this endeavour denies their teleological nature of moving from simple to complex-hierarchical structures. Rather than a one-directional movement towards urbanism led by competition and the establishment of elite individuals in these societies, numerous choices on individual and group level in various fields of activity could lead to differential pathways of development in them. Thus, the only way of establishing a better understanding of these societies is by delving into multiple strands of data associated with the life of people and how it changes over time. This article uses three theoretical parameters—style, shape and practice—in the approach of material culture originating from secure contexts of Early Bronze Age sites in Cyprus in order to shed light into the various facets of Early Bronze Age life, how these change over time and how this affect the associated inter-personal relationships. This bottom-up approach aims to provide not an overgeneralised view of the Early Bronze Age society but to propose a multi-dimensional approach into these societies by unfolding the case study of Early Bronze Age Cyprus.

## **The Amazon Sarcophagus from Soloi: Reflections on the Iconography of a Greek Import in Cypriot Context**

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My paper is based on my master thesis on Cypriot sarcophagus burials from Archaic to Hellenistic times. The focus is on the 'Fugger Sarcophagus' in Vienna, a marble sarcophagus from the late 4th century B.C. decorated with an Amazonomachy. Found in Soloi in 1557, it came into the possession of the Fugger merchant dynasty in Augsburg (Germany) as early as 1567. In Vienna since the first half of the 17th century, the sarcophagus is now one of the highlights of the Kunsthistorisches Museum. It is regarded as an important example of early Hellenistic art and is missing in hardly any handbook on Greek sculpture. Numerous publications deal with its reliefs and their style, but up to now it has always been considered in front of a Greek background.

However, it is worth considering the iconography of the sarcophagus in the Cypriot context. What is the tradition of depictions of fighting in Cypriot art? Are naked warriors suitable as identification figures for the Cypriot elite? How can the pictorial decoration serve for the self-portrayal of the person buried in it, and to what extent could ancient Cypriot viewers understand the Greek pictorial themes and iconographic formulas? And finally it is to question, to what extent the Amazon sarcophagus can be placed as an example for sepulchral art in the series of large-format Greek imports on Cyprus, most of which originate in the sanctuary context.

## **Parts of a New Whole: First Steps towards a Bioarchaeological Investigation of Late Bronze Age Cypriot Attitudes to Death and the Body**

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Late Cypriot (c. 1600-1050 BCE) chamber tombs are the sites of complex, multi-stage funerary practices, in which bones and bodies were manipulated post-mortem. These practices, as well as other taphonomic processes, produce skeletal assemblages which are overwhelmingly poorly preserved and highly commingled. In analysing and interpreting these assemblages, an appropriate methodology and theoretical framework are essential.

Funerary taphonomy, a methodology which has not yet been widely applied to Cypriot assemblages, was used to analyse the skeletal sample from a LC chamber tomb excavated in Limassol. These results were interpreted through a bioarchaeological lens, taking social theory and the wider archaeological context into account.

Almost 4,000 bone fragments from T.357 were assessed according to element identification, side, completeness/preservation, taphonomic alterations and (where possible) age, sex and pathology. The Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) was calculated, as were element frequencies through Bone Representation Indexes (BRI). These data were analysed graphically and statistically.

The assemblage was inferred to result from episodic secondary deposition of bones, with T.357 acting as a final repository for bones from other features in the area. Evidence such as cut- and chop-marks on bones hinted at a mortuary program

predicated on the dissolution of the body through activities such as defleshing, disarticulation and fragmentation. These interpretations mapped on to possible LC attitudes towards death and the body, allowing for the consideration of concepts such as partibility and relational personhood.

## **Rural Settlement Dynamics in Medieval Cyprus: The Case of Deneia and Akaki**

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The dynamic landscape of Cyprus constituted the ground of many diverse civilizations since antiquity thanks to the advantageous and strategic location of the island as a nodal point for trade and communication in the Eastern Mediterranean. The aim of this paper is to elucidate the complex nature of the rural landscape of Cyprus from the Middle Byzantine period to the end of Frankish domination (c. 12th -15th A.D). More specifically, it seeks to provide information contributing to the broader discussion about the reconstruction of settlement pattern across the Cypriot countryside during the period in question. The understanding of settlement patterns, through the study of aspects such as continuity, location shifts or newly established sites, will allow useful insights into the social, political and economic transformations of those past communities by exploring the relationship between people and environment.

Particular emphasis is on the results of the intensive surface survey carried out in the region of modern villages of Akaki and Deneia (Nicosia District) in the framework of my PhD research. A careful consideration of the density of diagnostic pottery dated to the period in question (c. 12th -15th A.D) provides a concrete picture of the character and the distribution of archaeological sites across this particular rural landscape. Furthermore, the island of Cyprus from the mid-20th century to the present day has been the focus of landscape studies, with surface survey being the leading methodological tool for landscape exploration. The results of these projects, although each one based on different research orientations, questions and theoretical background, offer ideal comparanda for a more sophisticated and comparative approach to the reconstruction of settlement patterns across the Cypriot countryside.

## **Salt, Offspring and Fertility Cults in Classical Kition**

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It has long been assumed that the Cypriot polytheism maintained throughout Antiquity a strong connection to fertility cults. This is obviously bound to the popularity of the so-called « Great goddess », which cult was spread out all over the island. The kingdom of Kition is no exception to this specific feature. Our best evidence to discuss the cults of the Classical Kition relies primarily on epigraphical and archaeological data as the study of the kitian religious topography was well improved by recent scholarship. Some divinities known in Kition are very common among Cypriot religious landscape, but a few of them appeared to be specific, even restricted to the area. This is especially the case for the divinities attested around the Salt-Lake, where we found the uncommon double theonym of « Eshmoun-Melqart » as well as the unprecedented form of a divinity known as « Umm 'ZRT ». We propose here to discuss this later theonym, investigating the nature of the local cult of the goddess. The understanding of this rare onomastical sequence, which has no direct parallel within Phoenician documentation so far, might well be explained considering the topographical data specific to Kition. This communication thus proposes to debate the complex interaction between the names of Cypriot divinities and their establishment within the geographical environment.



## **Afflictions and Bruises: Preliminary Insights into the Life of People from the Ayia Napa Monastery**

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Historical documentation for Post-Medieval Cyprus is rich, still the archaeology is less known and understood. In this context, the lack of bioarchaeological studies for this period precludes establishing a biocultural framework. Recent rescue excavations by the Department of Antiquities at the Ayia Napa Monastery revealed a burial site with primary and secondary interments, dating to the 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> c. AD. The osteological analysis of the skeletal material from the Ayia Napa Monastery is currently being conducted at the Science and Technology in Archaeology and Culture Research Center of the Cyprus Institute. The skeletons examined up to the current stage of the project have been recovered from 3 different deposits: The upper deposit contained almost exclusively infant and children skeletons, the middle deposit had commingled skeletons belonging to children and adults, while the bottom deposit had primarily adult burials. The great number of infants and children may be linked to the belief that the Cincture of the Theotokos at Ayia Napa helped women conceive; a belief further linked to the fertility of the land in the region, attested in written sources of the 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century. It is

possible that grieving mothers dedicated the bodies of their deceased children to Virgin Mary, believing that they had conceived them thanks to her in the first place. This study will examine demographic parameters, activity markers, and pathological conditions in order to gain initial biocultural insights to the life of the past inhabitants of the region at a time period for which bioarchaeological studies in Cyprus are absent.

## The Relationship between Liturgy and Architecture, as Reflected in the Early Christian Baptisteries of Cyprus

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The island of Cyprus, located along pilgrimage routes to the Holy Land and important maritime trade routes of the Mediterranean, absorbed architectural features from various regions of the *orbis christianus antiquus*. Although influenced by other traditions, the architecture of the island presents some original features, which are not found elsewhere. One of these features is the architectural form of the baptisteries which are dated to the 5<sup>th</sup> century.

The Cypriot baptisteries follow a processional type that can be named a “Cypriot type”. They consist of a free-standing rectangular building, composed of different chambers that follow the processional type of the baptismal liturgy. In almost all these buildings a rich floor and parietal decoration is attested.

The baptisteries, which follow this “Cypriot type”, they all belong to the 5<sup>th</sup> century: the baptistery of Agios Epiphanius in Constantia, the baptistery at the Episcopal precinct at Kourion, the baptisteries of Agios Philon and Agia Triada at the Carpasia peninsula and the baptistery at Cape Petouna in Mazotos.

The baptistery at the basilica A at Agios Georghios of Pegia, which is dated to the 6<sup>th</sup> century, slightly escapes from the “Cypriot type” and forms an *uniquum* in the excavated record of Cyprus. The example of the Pegia baptistery can be used as a case-study for perceiving the amalgamation and continuation of local traditions into the Byzantine architecture.

## **New Insights into the “Bioarchaeology of the Everyday”: The Case of the Middle/Late Chalcolithic-Late Bronze Age Cypriot**

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Activity-related stress markers have successfully provided biomechanical models to reconstruct nuanced understandings of daily life among ancient as well as modern populations. Whilst caution is advised in relating skeletal activity markers with specific tasks and occupations, the insight they offer into activity patterns when combined with data from archaeological records, ethnographical parallels and large datasets of comparative skeletal evidence allows bioarcheologists to achieve in-depth reconstructions of everyday tasks and activities.

Yet this approach has adopted in very few cases from the ancient Near East (Baker et al. 2012, Boutin et al. 2012) and no examples are reported for the prehistoric period (Sheridan 2016:129). For Cyprus, the evaluation of these indicators has been addressed in appendices of final site monographs or, more rarely, in regional journals, which has slowed down its integrations into “sources more widely read by the larger bioarchaeology community” (Sheridan 2016:115).

This talk will present the results of an examination of three skeletal activity markers—enthesal changes, joint modification and extra-masticatory dental wear—undertaken on some of the most representative Middle/Late Chalcolithic-Late Bronze Age osteological collections from Cyprus. It will demonstrate an approach to studying the bioarcheology of the everyday alongside the results of this analysis which reveal that there is a significant correlation between age and most of the activity related stress markers observed. Overall results also suggest that females and males were involved in different physically demanding activities. Thus, the hypothesis of a sexual division of labor is supported.

## **Exhibiting Cyprus: A Comparative Study of the Collections Dispersed in Europe Nowadays**

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Following the beginning of the archaeological activities in Cyprus in the mid-19th century, the development of the international art market and historical events on the island during the 20th century resulted in the dispersion of its archaeological artefacts in European museums. These artefacts constitute today the core of the main collections of Cyprus' archaeological heritage in well-known museums such as the Louvre, the British Museum and the Mediterranean Museum of Stockholm. Nevertheless, the dispersion of these artefacts has deprived them of their archeological context, which is the keystone for their comprehension, especially by the public visiting these museums. This communication aims to examine how these collections are presented, how the notion of context is understood and actualised in these permanent exhibitions, and, not least, why contextualisation is/should be a major concern in the effort to valorize the Cypriot archaeological heritage on display. This will lead to a discussion of the valorization methods that could be implemented in order to achieve a better contextualization of the Cypriot artefacts. In order to do so, I will first briefly look into the origin of these collections before presenting a comparative case-study of several permanent exhibitions, focusing on their means of valorization. I will finally present some research perspectives for heritage management and museology that could enhance the context of the Cypriot collections dispersed in European museums.

## **Occupation of Xeros Valley in Kofinou: Placing Sites in their Topographical Context**

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Alluvial deposits constitute a good indicator of environmental and topographical change, thus, their investigation can shed light on the interactions between human societies and the natural environment diachronically. The SeSaLaC project of the University of Cyprus provides suitable context for the application of a geoarchaeological approach. This paper aims to present preliminary observations on the evolution of the valley through the centuries and demonstrate an overview on how societies adapted to topographical changes due to the Xeros riverbed shifting. The results are based on radiocarbon dating of alluvial paleosols which allow the establishment of a chronological framework of the alluvial dynamic and the evolution of the valley. Their combination with the results of the archaeological survey in the Xeros Valley seeks to outline the evolution of settlements and the movement patterns through the time.

## **Inclusion and Multivocality: Evaluating Community Archaeology**

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Community archaeology is archaeology that is done for, with or by the community. This is a broad definition and it is made broader by the untold ways in which a community might define itself. However, a unifying element of community archaeology projects is the desire to create more holistic and inclusive practices and realign traditional power structures within archaeology. This redistribution of power incorporates an intentional shift away from top-down interpretations of the past and the acceptance of multiple narratives.

My project explores three strands of community archaeology: 1) in-person outreach programs such as open days, public tours and lectures; 2) the creation of multivocal narratives; 3) use of the internet as a tool of outreach via social media, website creation, interactive models and digital story-telling. This paper will focus on a smaller aspect of my research: the ongoing discourse surrounding the definition and execution of community archaeology projects within the field more broadly, and how that pertains to archaeological projects in Cyprus. Cyprus is an ideal case study for my research, as there are many interdisciplinary projects currently being undertaken and aspects of community archaeology are beginning to be incorporated into research methodologies across the country. I will be exploring three archaeological projects in Cyprus and examine their outreach and engagement programs in order to analyse the effects of community archaeology on current archaeological research and investigate how it can act as a response to the lasting impact of imperialism and orientalism, which has previously shaped archaeological research.

## Glazed Wares from Cyprus: Old Material through a New Perspective

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Cypriot medieval glazed pottery is always eye-catching and stands out in local museums. Several production sites have been identified. Research has been focused on provenance, glaze technology and depictions, following a predominantly art history approach. In this paper I would like to take a different path. I believe that there is much more that glazed wares can tell us about people's experiences. I will mainly use archaeological theories which focus on how material culture, and more specifically objects, can affect the people using them and how people experienced them as objects. As material agency theory suggests, objects can act, they are more than passive instruments. Moreover, images, do not testify the materiality of the objects but they are part of their materiality, images as part of the glazed wares can trigger memories and stimulate emotions. The "wedding bowls" are a great example. So far, we have read that the embraced couple is a scene of a wedding. Maybe these bowls were objects to commemorate weddings, evoking memories to the owners, as photographs do today. Furthermore, food psychology will be incorporated in the paper, as a reminder of how we can use modern theories to understand the experiences of people in the past. Lastly, I would discuss Cypriot glazed wares, being part of a *koine* and how people choosing that type of glazed wares, a broad pottery group, can illustrate their identity.



## **Bibru or Rhyton? On an Animal-Headed Vessel from Palaepaphos (Kouklia), its Origin and Meaning for Cyprus and the Island's Network in the Cypro-Classical Period**

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The aim of this contribution is to examine a rare discovery of the Cypro-Classical period, an animalheaded pottery vessel found at Palaepaphos in the Evreti area during excavations of the British Kouklia Expedition.

Because of their wide distribution, zoomorphic vessels (animal-shaped vases, animal-headed drinking cups, *bibri* and *rhyta*) are often studied to understand social and cult practices and to detect influences between the Near East and the Aegean in the Bronze Age. Contrary to the Bronze Age specimens, Cypriot Iron Age animal-headed vessels have been generally neglected.

The unpublished Evreti rhyton fits in a series of very few, miscellaneous local productions of animalshaped vessels dating to the CA and CC periods originating from different places on the island. Due to their rarity, their dating and classification is still an unresolved issue, as is their source of inspiration.

For a long time zoomorphic *rhyta* have been looked at as the more distinctive type of Achaemenid tableware, as descendants of the Late Assyrian animal-shaped vessels and immediate model for Attic *rhyta*. How does the Cypriot material evidence fit in this picture, and how can it shed light on Cyprus' social practices and networks? Starting from the Evreti vessel this paper intends to discuss Cypriot and imported animal-headed vases (among them some Attic specimens in particular) in order to reconsider the influence of Eastern and Western models on the island productions and more specifically in the Paphos region in the Cypro-Classical period.

## **Cyprus Coastal Assessment Project (CCAP): Digital Documentation and Mapping of Coastal and Underwater Archaeological Sites of the Republic of Cyprus**

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The ongoing interest and endeavors of the last decades for the protection and management of the maritime cultural heritage of Cyprus, along with its current threats by the increasing development in its coastal zone and territorial waters, have illustrated the necessity for the documentation of its maritime cultural sites. In this context, the Department of Antiquities of Cyprus under the supervision of Dr. Despina Pilides, Curator of Antiquities, has just implemented an innovative research programme funded by the Honor Frost Foundation for the documentation and spatial mapping of the coastal and underwater sites of the island, entitled Cyprus Coastal Assessment Project.

The initial phase of the project aims at data gathering and thorough archival research including field reports, published archaeological research, grey literature and photographic archives. Additionally, any dataset relating to Cypriot maritime cultural landscape from various other departments will be examined such as aerial images, satellite and topographical data and Airborne Laser Bathymetry data. The project also involves the documentation of intangible heritage in relation to the sea through interviews with coastal communities. Based on the data gathered, a detailed database of the maritime cultural sites will be created, which will then be applied to a Geographical Information System platform for organizational, evaluation and analysis purposes.

The scope of this paper is to discuss the preliminary results and the challenges of the first phase of this project, its potentials for the management and protection of Cyprus's maritime cultural heritage, as well as, for monitoring increasing coastal and offshore development.

## **Kourion and Cyprus in Crisis and Catastrophe: Byzantine Resilience and Responses to Disaster**

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At the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> century CE and again in the mid-7<sup>th</sup> century CE, the city of Kourion on the South coast of Cyprus was subjected to periods of intense stress that placed the lives of its inhabitants in severe danger, as well as challenged the fabric of social and economic life for the whole island. The earthquake of 395 and the Arab raids of 649 and 653 devastated the city and are discernable, to varying degrees, in the archaeological record. This paper examines the city's response, how it and its surrounding region rebounded (or did not), and places it into the larger context of the resilience to catastrophe of Byzantine systems of command and control at these points in the history of the Empire. Making use of resilience theory, it will be seen how the *material* responses of different sectors of society elucidate strengths and weaknesses in the interconnecting systems of socio-economic interdependence, with important implications for shifts in the relations between classes. This also acts as a bellwether for the coherence of ties between Constantinople and more peripheral regions that has a marked effect on the course of Byzantine history following periods of crisis and catastrophe.

## **Mapping the Minor Collections: Tracing the Diaspora of Ancient Cypriot Material Culture in the UK**

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As a result of excavation and collection practices in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> centuries, much ancient Cypriot material culture was exported from Cyprus to the UK. Some was excavated on behalf of major museums and formed the basis of public collections which are thoroughly catalogued and well-studied. Private collectors also acquired objects directly from Cyprus and/or indirectly through sales; in some cases, these collections were transferred to public institutions more or less intact and are likewise well known to scholars. Most UK museums with significant collections have published them, and museums are increasingly making their collections accessible online.

However, there remain many dispersed, relatively small collections in public ownership around the country which are not published or easy for researchers to discover. These characteristically form part of the diverse collections of Local Authority museums, donated by local collectors or their descendants, and due to their small scale and lack of provenance, they are not usually a major focus of attention for the organisations concerned. Nonetheless, these collections have a part to play in the study of specific types of material culture, and in the history of Cypriot archaeology, collection and display. They also hold potential to be used by museums to engage public audiences, if they are better recorded and understood. This paper outlines a proposed approach to map such 'minor' collections and support museums in making them accessible to the scholarly community and to general audiences.

## **Attic Pottery from the City-site of Tamassos**

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Attic pottery has always been a key tool for the study of archaeological contexts. For example, it can be used for the reconstruction of ancient trade and for the understanding of its cultural meaning. The status quo of the results of the excavations in Tamassos is unsatisfying. The so-called royal tombs are well known and published, but that does not apply for the finds of the necropolis and of the city-site. The majority of the material remained unpublished and unstudied. The aim of the current project is the typological and chronological analysis of the Attic pottery found in the city-site of Tamassos and in the royal tombs and to get an accurate picture of the Attic trade of pottery to Cyprus by comparing the results with other important sites on the island. Another aim is to finally make primary sources available to both, scholars and the public.

The material investigated consists of over 200 pieces of Black Figure, Red Figure and Black Glazed pottery represented by complete pots, parts or fragments. The earliest pieces date about 580 B.C. and the youngest to the last quarter of the 3rd century. Some selected fragments from the city-site provide an overview of the Attic pottery from the Archaic to the Hellenistic period. These pieces were spread over the whole excavated area and show the long-time Attic pottery were imported and the specific shapes, which came to Cyprus.

## **Tamassos: Construction Technology in Cypro-Archaic and Cypro-Classical Times**

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My paper will present the long ago finished yet unpublished excavations at ancient Tamassos. Several seasons of fieldwork, headed by Hans-Günther Buchholz, were conducted in the 1970s. However, only a few, all-too-short preliminary reports and case studies have hitherto been published, the results remain essentially unknown. When the excavation records were allocated to the Archaeological Institute at Goethe-University Frankfurt in 2016, an opportunity to change that situation was presented – for the first time, the entire material was accessible and could be studied in-depth. After preliminary research was conducted in Frankfurt, I can intensify my studies as ONISILOS-employee at UCY and focus on more specific research questions concerning the material – one of which I would like to discuss here.

I will focus on the architectural remains, more precisely on the construction technology and materials used. As there are various types of walls to be observed in Tamassos – from monumental representative architecture limited to the royal tombs, to the rather exceptional usage of carefully processed limestone slabs, to the predominantly found pedestals made of gravel supporting mud brick masonry – the question if the loss of the Tamassian independence correlates with this hypothetical decline of elaboration will be discussed. By examining comparable findings from Cyprus as well as the contextual evidence from the city itself, the paper aims to clarify if specific techniques can be matched to specific periods – and furthermore to identify the characteristics of the Tamassian architecture.

## **New Mycenaean and Cypriot Finds in Sardinia**

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Situated in the centre of the Mediterranean, Sardinia constituted an obligatory stop in Mediterranean Sea trade starting in the late Bronze Age, period in which the first imported artefacts are documented. The Mycenaean pottery is the most important archaeological marker, found in 17th different locations of Sardinia; furthermore, in recent years it has been possible to identify a local production of Mycenaean pottery, called Italo-Mycenaean, while the ceramic fragments of Cypriot origin are very few. In addition to ceramics, another category of artefacts, attesting relations with the Aegean-Cypriot world are the metallurgical artefacts and the so called "Oxhide lingots". The arrival of Cypriot lingots on the island is linked to the production of a variety of products such as a traditional Cypriot tripod, bracket, incense burners and artefacts related to technology and processing of metals, such as springs and vanes; no Mycenaean fragment has been found associated with Cypriot metal artefacts, furthermore while Mycenaean pottery was found mainly in the southern part of Sardinia, Cypriot artefacts were found all over the island. It is possible that the Nuragic communities have established different relationships with one or the other component, preferring one over the other. The research aims to understand how the Nuragic communities have interacted with groups of Aegean and Cypriot craftsmen.



## **Cypriot Gymnasiarchs: Negotiation of Identities and Balancing of Powers**

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This paper investigates the social and cultural identities of the Cypriot elite related to the Hellenistic *gymnasia* and in particular how and to what extent this institution contributed to the projection of the Cypriot elite's ideology. Dividing Ptolemaic domination over the island in three major periods based on the historical events and on the internal policy of the Ptolemies (294-221 BC, 221-116 BC and 116-30 BC) the evolution of the office of the gymnasiarch is examined. The comparative study of the epigraphical evidence (honorific and dedicatory inscriptions) from different periods of Ptolemaic occupation, and of practices such as the dedication of part of monuments related to the *gymnasion* and the erection of statues reveal the changes in the Cypriot sociopolitical environment. The incorporation of members of the local Cypriot elite in the Ptolemaic administration from the second century BC onwards and the dissociation of the *gymnasion* from the Ptolemaic garrisons created favorable circumstances for the local community to strengthen its position and to enhance its prestige through the actions of the local elite. In this environment the *gymnasion* constituted a dynamic space of interaction among different parties where the Cypriot culture was merged with practices imposed by the Ptolemies. A new imported institution that was not part of the Cypriot tradition, the *gymnasion*, showed how the Cypriot elite was willing to shift cultural identities according to the circumstances without losing their connection with the local tradition and past privileges.

## **Between Following Tradition and Being Unique: Cypriot Limestone Reliefs on Focus**

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In my lecture I would like to give a brief overview about selected cypriot limestone and marble reliefs from the archaic to the Hellenistic time I worked on this year in the Cyprus Museum in Nicosia and the Limassol Archaeological Museum. Based on the main problem with not knowing origins of many of the artifacts from the early field campaigns at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the chronological classification rests as another attempt, but will not be refrained from giving it a try. Within selected material a short insight of objects of different genres of reliefs should be given first.

A main focus in my thesis of course is the question of the stylistic context to other reliefs for example reliefs from Asia Minor on the one hand and the mainland greek and Levantine tradition as cypriot reliefs may follow on the other. There should be given a short overview of the characteristic cypriot way of telling stories in visual art as well as the question will be released to discussion, if we can elaborate some kind of differences among the artistic work between the east and west part of Cyprus.

Finally, the sacral context of the reliefs should be considered with the question about the occasions for relief display in cypriot sanctuaries, do they follow foreign models or can we constitute any cypriot characteristics as well.

## **Some Thoughts on the ›Suburban‹ Location of a Temenos of a Female Deity in Idalion**

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The temenos of a female deity known as the ›Temple of Aphrodite‹ was excavated near the ancient city kingdom of Idalion in 1885 by the German self-taught archaeologist Max Ohnefalsch-Richter. The re-evaluation of the documentation of this mostly unpublished excavation is the objective of a current PhD project.

The location of the sanctuary outside of the perimeter of the walls of the ancient city has in the past been characterized as ›suburban‹. In contrast to the extra-urban sanctuaries (or frontier sanctuaries) which have been in the focus of archaeological discussion numerous times in the past, so far no overall study of sanctuaries defined as suburban has come forth. Interesting archaeological evidence from the temenos in Idalion like the presence of large-scale terracotta and limestone votives could link the different categories of sanctuaries and thus allow some insight on the political dimension of their location. The location close to the banks of the Gialias river might also be noteworthy regarding a possible road network with the Mesaoria plain.

The paper presented at the conference aims to share some thoughts on this issue regarding the Idalion sanctuary as well as take evidence from other Cypriot sites into consideration.

## Historical Archaeology in Cyprus in the Light of Ceramic Studies

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Historical Archaeology in the context of Cyprus can be broadly defined as a field concerned with the material culture of relatively recent past (c. the 16th-20th centuries) that is significantly enriched and influenced by written records. During this period, the political rule over Cyprus shifted between the Venetians, Ottomans and British, and these changes influenced socio-economic developments on the island. The study of common pottery produced and consumed by the local population of Cyprus gives a good insight into the dynamic of socio-economic and political changes.

This paper presents the preliminary results of archaeological and scientific studies of common pottery from the archaeological sites of Agia Napa-Monastery and Paphos-Fabrika. The in-depth study of the ceramic assemblage from Agia Napa contributes to the better understanding of chronology, trade and consumption in the Early Modern Cyprus. Furthermore, the scientific study of ceramics from both Agia Napa and Paphos, using methods of ceramic petrography and SEM-EDS, provides a new information on the production technology and provenance of local ceramics.