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ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Investigating Cross-Cultural Contacts Between the Island of Cyprus and Its Neighbours During the 2nd and 1st Millennia BCE

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Abstract

The study of cross-cultural contacts cannot be set apart from an understanding of culture itself. V. G. Childe popularised the cultural-historical approach to archaeology, stating that a cultural group would largely manifest homogeneous markers. Therefore, elements typically associated with another culture would signify the presence of foreigners and/or trade. From the second half of the 2nd millennium BCE, the island of Cyprus was fully integrated into a broader Eastern Mediterranean network, resulting in a dramatic increase in foreign imports and the introduction of new technologies and iconography. The assimilation and/or adaptation of exogenous elements is visible in many aspects of the Cypriot material culture: ceramics, metallic artefacts, ivories, stone vases, cylinder seals, jewellery, terracottas, and stone sculpture. In return, Cypriot artefacts circulated widely throughout the Eastern Mediterranean. As a result, imitations and innovative productions inspired by Cypriot forms and motifs emerged, providing a much more complex and multifaceted picture of cultural interactions. Challenging our understanding of “cultural markers” and what can be considered as “local” or “foreign”, the main aim of this workshop is to explore how cross-cultural contacts contributed to shaping the material cultures of the island of Cyprus and the neighbouring regions during the 2nd and 1st millennia BCE.

Keywords

Cross-cultural connections, Material culture, Trading connections, Bronze Age, Iron Age

Program

Talk 1 - *The Urban Bang reloaded. Exploring the Middle Bronze Age society at the dawn of urbanisation in Cyprus*, Luca Bombardieri (Università di Siena, IT); Marialucia Amadio (Ghent University, BE).

Talk 2 - *Cross-Cultural Dynamics and Strategic Planning: Unveiling Pyla-Kokkinokremos in the Late Bronze Age*, Joachim Bretschneider & Greta Jans (Ghent University)

Talk 3 - *Tracing cross-cultural contacts and exchange: Pyla-Kokkinokremos in the Late Bronze Age from a ceramic perspective*, Francesca Porta (University of Bologna), Tatiana Pedrazzi (CNR-ISPC-Milan), Ioanna Kostopoulou (Ghent University)

Talk 4 - *New Kingdom Egyptian Amphorae in Late Cypriot contexts: an updated overview*, Artemis Georgiou (Archaeological Research Unit, University of Cyprus)

Talk 5 - *Investigating cultural entanglement between Cyprus and Egypt in the Second millennium BC: another glance at Egyptian craftsmanship*, (Sarah Vilain, CNRS)

Talk 6 - *Beyond the foreign/local dichotomy. New insights on Canaanite-Anatolian-inspired fusiform jars from Syria and Cyprus*, Tatiana Pedrazzi (CNR-ISPC, Milan)

Talk 7 - *Renewed Traditions Beyond “Local” and “Foreign”: Paphian Pottery During the Transitional Period from the Classical to the Hellenistic Era*, Cheyenne Peverelli (University of Basel)

Talk 8 - *The Sphinx and the Tree of Life, from Cyprus to the Aegean and Beyond*, Thierry Petit (Université Laval, Québec)

Type of paper

Workshop