

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
INSTITUTE *of* AMERICA

SAN FRANCISCO SOCIETY - *Spring* 2023



AIA National Lecture:

Waterscapes in Etruria: Vulci (10th cent. BCE - 5th cent. BCE)

Monday, February 6th, 2023, 7:00 pm PST
Dwinelle 370, UC Berkeley
Hybrid Event

Dr. Maurizio Forte

William and Sue Gross Distinguished Professor of Classical Studies Art, Art History, and Visual Studies at Duke University;
Founder and Director of the DIG@Lab at Duke University;
Director of the ArchaeoDrone lab

Previous archaeological excavations at Vulci (Etruscan then Roman city) focused heavily on aristocratic tombs, funerary art, and ritual monuments that have shown the power of elite classes and their capacity to trade with the Attic region (in Greece). By contrast, less than 5% of the ancient urban

area has been excavated, and no stratigraphic documentation of Vulci has been published in the last decades. The decision of Duke University team to dig in the Southern region of the tufa (limestone) plateau (2014-2022) near the intersection between *cardo* and *decumanus*, or perpendicularly laid out thoroughfares, was determined by a preliminary GPR (ground penetrating radar) survey in the area that showed very deep deposits (over 2.5 m.) and the overlapping of several monumental structures. In particular, the last two years of excavations unveiled the presence of a large network of Etruscan and Roman water systems: wells, cisterns, channels, tunnels, pipes, pools, and fountains. Additional archaeological finds, such as a large monumental complex with several rooms and key objects like Etruscan inscriptions, ritual bowls and lamps, sculptures, and raw coral, seem to corroborate the presence of pre-existing water cults in the Etruscan and Roman times. This monumental complex was built in the Imperial Roman age (1st cent. CE) but on top of Etruscan buildings. The presence of Etruscan votive objects seems to demonstrate the pre-existence of an Etruscan sanctuary dedicated to water cults because of the presence of raw coral (documented in other sanctuaries and temples along the Mediterranean). Water is an outstanding research topic in pre-Roman and Roman archaeology; in fact, the Etruscans considered water an essential factor for everyday life, making it paramount in their religion. Etruscan water systems were reused and imitated by the Romans and characterized urban settings and sacred places for the entire first millennium BCE. Duke excavations in Vulci show complex water systems, originally Etruscan, then upgraded in Roman times. The Duke research team documented for the first time in Southern Etruria a very large (about 40 cubic meters) intact cistern (stratigraphically excavated) in 3D, including all the correlated tunnels, occluded shafts, well curbstone, and feeding conduits.



Antiquities and the Far Right in Settler Colonies: a View from Canada

Tuesday, March 21st, 2023, 5:30 pm PDT

Virtual Lecture

Dr. Katherine Blouin

Associate Professor of Ancient History and Classics, University of Toronto;

Program coordinator, Classics Studies, UTSC;

Co-coordinator, Ancient History stream, Department of Classics

The “Freedom Convoy” protestors who occupied Ottawa and several Canadian locations in the winter 2022 raised nearly \$10 millions on GoFundMe before the fundraiser was shut down for violating the platform’s prohibition against the promotion of violence and harassment. Fundraising subsequently moved to GiveSendGo, which has become the crowdfunding platform of choice for right-wing extremists. As the extremism behind the “Freedom Convoy” became increasingly obvious, GiveSendGo’s list of donors was leaked to journalists and researchers in mid-February 2022. The leak of this information provides a glimpse at the motivations of those who give financial support to white nationalism and are usually protected by the confidentiality of the powerful financial institutions such groups use in order to receive funds. It also gives us a window into the uses and abuses of ancient-to-modern history by individuals (c) overtly supporting such movements, and, thereby, poses serious questions regarding the political impacts of historical illiteracy. In this paper, I will present the preliminary results of an ongoing research project dedicated to the listing and analysis of all historical references present in the GiveSendGo donation sheet to the 2022 “Freedom Convoy”. This work has been done in part in collaboration with the Pharos team, and is now conducted with the support of the University of Toronto’s Institute of Islamic Studies.



*Colonization and Indigeneity:
Etruscan Pasts and Native American Futures*

Tuesday, April 18th, 2023 5:30 pm PDT
Doe Library 308A, UC Berkeley
Hybrid Event

Dr. Lisa Pieraccini

History of Art Lecturer, Ancient History & Mediterranean Archaeology Affiliate Faculty;
Program Coordinator for the M. Del Chiaro Center for Ancient Italian Studies at the University of
California, Berkeley;
President of the AIA San Francisco Society

This paper seeks to shed light on issues of indigeneity and decolonization between the Etruscans and Native Americans. By looking at the artwork of Italian artist, Giovanni Gorgone Pelaya, common paradigms emerge between these chronologically and regionally different peoples. In this transhistorical and global assessment of Pelaya's work, Etruscan and Native American issues connect in fascinating and symbolic ways. Pelaya's prints appear to express how colonizing infrastructures of the old world developed into super colonial powers in the new world. His prints offer a provocative entry into larger discussions of colonialism and decolonization not only in America, but also ancient Italy.



TOPIC: *Palmyra*

Wednesday, May 3rd, 2023

Virtual Lecture

Dr. Rubina Raja

Professor of Classical Archaeology and Art at Aarhus University, Denmark;
Director of The Danish National Research Foundation's Centre of Excellence for Urban Network
Evolutions (UrbNet)

Details to be announced soon.



OTHER EVENTS AND LECTURES *of* INTEREST IN SPRING

2023

AHMA Colloquium Series:

<https://ahma.berkeley.edu/news-events/ahma-colloquium>

The Mario Del Chiaro Center for Ancient Italian Studies: Lecture

For more information on the lecture click:

<https://ahma.berkeley.edu/campus-facilities/associated-research-centers/mario-del-chiaro-center-study-ancient-italy>

April 6th, 2023

Claudia Moser, History of Art and Architecture Department, The University of California Santa Barbara will be the UC Berkeley Del Chiaro Lecturer (more details to come).

Ancient Arts Council Lectures:

For more information and Zoom links click:

<https://www.ancientartcouncil.org/programs>

January 21st, 2023, 2:00 - 3:00 pm PST - Hybrid

Ramses the Great through Nubian Eyes

Presented by Dr. Rita Freed John F. Cogan and Mary L. Cornille Chair Emerita, Art of Ancient Egypt, Nubia, and the Near East, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

January 28th, 2023, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm PST - Virtual

Ramses the Great and the Gold of the Pharaohs

Presented by Dr. Renee Dreyfus George and Judy Marcus Distinguished Curator and Curator in Charge, Ancient Art, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco

February 4th, 2023, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm PDT - Hybrid

The Ancient Egyptian Imagery of the Beyond in the Ramesside Period

Presented by Dr. Rita Lucarelli Associate Professor of Egyptology, Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of California, Berkeley

February 5th, 2023, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm PDT - In person

Tutankhamun: Zero to Hero

Presented by Dr. Aidan Dodson Honorary Full Professor of Egyptology, University of Bristol, UK

For more information on:

AHMA Noon Colloquium Series, e-mail: elizabeth_fajardo@berkeley.edu or dsparis@berkeley.edu

Ancient Arts Council events, information, and/or membership, see

<https://www.ancientartcouncil.org> or email ancientart@famsf.org

American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), Northern California Chapter events, see

<https://www.arce-nc.org/>

NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL:

The SF Society newsletter is available for download from:

<https://www.archaeological.org/society/san-francisco/>. This website also lists the AIA lectures.

2022-2023 AIA Officers:

Lisa Pieraccini, President

Marvin Morris, Vice President

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James Barter, Elizabeth S. Peña

For information on Fall AIA events or your membership, contact Bekah McKay (bekahmckay@berkeley.edu) or Lisa Pieraccini (lisap@berkeley.edu)