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26th EAA Virtual Annual Meeting

Abstract Book

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26th EAA Virtual Annual Meeting

Abstract Book

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Index of Authors includes all session organisers and only the main authors of contributions.

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26th EAA Virtual Annual Meeting – Abstract Book

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DEVELOPMENT OF EARLY CHRISTIAN ARCHITECTURE: KOSOVO CASE**Abstract author(s):** Hoxha, Zana (Institute of Albanology) - Luci, Kemajli (Museum of Kosovo)**Abstract format:** Oral

This paper focuses on Early Christian architecture in the territory of Kosovo. Kosovo lies on the southeastern part of Europe, precisely on the Balkan Peninsula, putting the country at a favorable geographic and geopolitical position. Consequently, the process of Christianization reached this region relatively early. The written sources confirm that the earliest traces of Christianity are the first martyrdoms, Flonus and Laurus, in the roman city of Ulpiana in the 2nd century AD, while the first traces in architecture from Ulpiana date from the 4th century AD. Through analysis of historical data and other available documents and archeological mapping forty six buildings of this type have been identified. The objective of this poster is to analyze and present through geographic information system (GIS) early Christian architecture, creating various maps based on location, date, type, typology, level of research, and legal status. These analyses will serve to create a clear picture of this type of architecture, and through that to better understand the appearance of Christianity in this territory. Moreover, using the spatial presentation we give us a clear picture of the differentiation between rural and urban areas.

a. FUNERARY RITUALS IN DOBRUDJA (ROMANIA) IN THE 10TH - 11TH CENTURIES AD**Abstract author(s):** Radu, Petcu - Petcu-Levei, Ingrid (Museum of National History and Archeology from Constanta)**Abstract format:** Poster

This paper aims to discuss the issues related to the funerary rites and rituals in the context of archaeological discoveries in Dobruja, Romania. The subject try to approach the problems of the funeral discoveries throughout the 10th -11th centuries AD. The territory, from the point of view of the historical and archaeological researches, is favored by the passage of the Danube river, which was an important factor for the settlement of different populations, and has always had the favorable advantage of delimiting the funeral rite and ritual. In an extent overview, its revealed as an interethnic puzzle between the interlocking local populations which forms an interger, combining customs and traditions. The influence taken can be easily noticed, so the study of burial practices can give us important clues about the local populations that were in permanent contact with the migrants from the northern Pontic steppes, as well as about their Christianization and the joining and transition from the pagan to Christian funeral ritual.

MODERN NETWORKS AND PAST NARRATIVES: 'TREASURE HUNTING', THE ART MARKET, SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS, AND CO-OPERATION FOR PROTECTION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE**Theme:** 1. Networks, networking, communication: archaeology of interactions**Organisers:** Mödlinger, Marianna (University of Genoa) - Kairiss, Andris (Riga Technical University) - Godfrey, Evelynne (Uffington Heritage Watch) - Traviglia, Arianna (Italian Institute of Technology)**Format:** Regular session

The global art market includes antiquities that come not just from old collections but also recent 'treasure hunting'. The art market benefits from well-established, effective networks from the ground up, and involves not just renowned auction houses, but also thousands of on-line forums and Social Media groups. Archaeology lacks similar coherent networks. Network-building initiatives, such as NETHER, are rare. The first line of action must be the archaeologists, conservators, and scientists studying the artefacts. Better co-operation is needed between heritage professionals and police forces, customs, and other State agencies.

In this session, we will discuss examples of:

- Effective modern networking and co-operation to protect archaeological heritage, and solutions for combating illegal acquisition and trade in antiquities
- Analysis, including investigative conservation, that helps to inform the archaeological narrative of artefacts.

Case-studies might include artefacts that have been evaluated for or sold on the art market, or be from a site identified by 'treasure hunters', like the recently published Early Medieval Staffordshire Hoard, or be from a museum collection, or perhaps, like the Roman-era silver hoard now on display in the Hungarian National Museum, be the subject of repatriation after clandestine excavation and selling abroad. The justification for analysis in any case-study should be to inform the archaeological narrative and advance understanding of the historical context, such as analytical work to define the technology and examine the craftsmanship of the objects.

- Paper or poster submissions can address questions of:
 - Co-operation between agencies and institutions: how can we provide access to archaeological 'grey literature' and how can we connect different databases?
 - Ethical issues: for whom and why are we analysing objects?
 - Social and economic impact: contribution of outreach and community archaeology to inform the public of the damage of looting, and to engage people in 'citizen science'.

LICENCE TO LOOT? THE CHALLENGES OF A COOPERATIVE APPROACH METAL-DETECTING IN EUROPE**Abstract author(s):** Deckers, Pieterjan (Centre for Urban Network Evolutions - UrbNet, Aarhus University) - Lewis, Michael (Portable Antiquities Scheme, British Museum)**Abstract format:** Oral

'Treasure hunting' (mostly through metal-detecting) is a widespread phenomenon practiced across Europe. To a greater or lesser extent this is regardless of legislative context, though policy and culture strongly affect the journeys that such finds follow. Many end up in private collections – the 'finders', or after being traded on. Others, like the Staffordshire Hoard enter into museum collections, where they can be enjoyed by the public and studied by researchers; again, the pathways to this outcome vary. Another trajectory to take into consideration is how information about these finds is recorded, made accessible, and stored for posterity.

This paper will examine the journeys of a number of recent detector finds from countries that take a cooperative approach to non-professional metal-detecting. We will highlight how this, combined with the right (digital) tools and an effective collaboration between various stakeholders, can lead to new knowledge about the past, support heritage managers in protecting the archaeological record, and foster stewardship amongst the wider public.

Far from arguing for a one-size-fits-all approach, we will also discuss the challenges related to this approach, not least the political and cultural environments that determine its success. Overall, we advocate stepping away from ideological viewpoints to find a facts-based approach, balancing the costs and benefits of legislation and policy in a given context, in order to bring dividends to all interested in the past.

DESTROYING THEIR CULTURE TO PROTECT OUR PRECIOUSNESS? 'TREASURE HUNTING' AS INTANGIBLE HERITAGE**Abstract author(s):** Karl, Raimund (Bangor University)**Abstract format:** Oral

Art. 27 (1) of the UDHR stipulates that 'everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community'. In its Art. 2 (1), the UNESCO Convention for its safeguarding defines the 'Intangible Cultural Heritage' as 'the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills - as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith - that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage'. It imagines it as being 'transmitted from generation to generation', as constantly being 'recreated by communities and groups', and as providing them 'with a sense of identity and continuity, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity'.

But to whose culture and practices (etc.) do these beautiful words apply to? Literally to everyone's, as the UDHR demands? Or only to some, to those who are more equal than others, whose culture is superior to those of some others?

'Treasure hunting' is a cultural practice, which - by far - predates the practice of archaeology. It has its own representations, expressions, and requires particular knowledge and skills. It has iconic instruments, produces objects and artefacts, and there are cultural spaces associated with it. There certainly are individuals and groups, and arguably even communities, who recognise it as part of their cultural heritage, transmit it from generation to generation and constantly recreate it, providing them with a sense of identity and continuity. In short: it is intangible heritage. It even is engagement with the past, which leaves material traces, which can be examined archaeologically, improving our understanding of past and present human cultural diversity.

Do we, who profess to protect heritage 'for everyone', need to respect their culture and safeguard their practices, too? Or are we entitled to try to destroy it to protect our precious archaeology?

DAMAGES TO ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE RESULTING FROM UNAUTHORIZED EXCAVATIONS: SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES AND LEGAL ASPECTS**Abstract author(s):** Kairiss, Andris (Riga Technical University) - Olevska, Irita (Art-Law club)**Abstract format:** Oral

It is widely acknowledged that the destruction of archaeological sites, illegal removal and trade in antiquities leads to the impoverishment of the archaeological heritage, causing not only damage from the cultural heritage conservation and exploration perspective, but also a range of socio-economic losses.

Considering social, cultural significance and multiple uses of the heritage, it is difficult to make an accurate monetary valuation of it even at the local level. There is also a view that heritage objects are priceless from cultural and historical perspective. If so, what are the criteria for assessing damage to archaeological heritage caused by unauthorized/illegal activities and how justified is calculation of such damage in the relevant civil, administrative and criminal proceedings? From an economic perspective, archaeological heritage has an asset value, so it is important to know its actual and potential socio-economic impact and the range of social interests involved in its use to justify and ensure its effective protection, maintenance and sustainable use. The basic solution for defining the value criteria of the heritage and assessing the damage to it seems to be related to identification of the spectrum of socio-economic interests in its use ('consumption').

Within the context of development and well-being of society, exploitation of archaeological heritage is closely linked to cultural, social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. Therefore, there is a growing debate about development of an interdisciplinary approach both to identifying and developing the opportunities presented by this heritage, and to identifying and mitigating its threats. Thus, by analyzing the situation in Latvia and other countries and based on the findings of archaeological science, integrated socio-economic and legal approach will be utilized in the presentation, providing both theoretical and practical insights into the challenges and possible solutions for assessing the damage to archaeological heritage caused by unauthorized activities.

4 FROM THE GATHERING OF MUSHROOMS AND BLACKBERRIES... TOWARD AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL NARRATIVE OF A BRONZE DEPOSIT IN EASTERN ROMANIA

Abstract author(s): Bobohan, Neculai (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi) - Gafinciu, Alexandru Marian (Complexul Muzeal Județean Neamț)

Abstract format: Oral

The activity of the Romanian treasure hunters has become the weekend routine for a bunch of "amateur archaeologists". Recently, the spectacular growth of interest in unearthing ancient metal objects was boosted by a huge monetary breakthrough in southern Romania. In 2013, the discoverer was rewarded by a prime minister and then the boom followed. As metal discoveries multiply, the need to build the story behind these discoveries dramatically decreases.

In what follows I will present some case studies regarding the hunt for metal treasures and the manner in which these findings can be recovered and integrated into local historical narratives or into grand narratives specific for historical periods.

This activity implies, in the absence of coherent legal provisions, the development of special skills of interaction with the discoverer, with the institutions that have the purpose of preserving the heritage and with the guild of archaeologists or colleagues specialized in metal analysis.

The final activity will involve the scientific valorization and public involvement. About how we will manage to work together to meet the challenges of institutional cooperation, multiple ethical issues and the social and economic impact, the responses will be modeled by grafting the local specific on regional realities. If we do not succeed we will return to gather mushrooms, blackberries and metal scraps!

5 COLLECTION-DRIVEN EXPLOITATION OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD. WHO IS NETWORKING WITH WHOM AND WHY?

Abstract author(s): Godfrey, Evelynne (Uffington Heritage Watch) - Barford, Paul (Independent Researcher, Warsaw)

Abstract format: Oral

The explosive growth in recent decades of the collecting of 'portable antiquities' and the antiquities trade have led to substantial damage being done by artefact hunters to the archaeological record all over the world. Archaeologists were unanimous in raising concerns from the 1950s, and this led to legislative changes in some countries as a response. By the late 1990s, the problem was widely perceived as having reached crisis proportions. Yet at the same time, new attitudes towards archaeological collecting were beginning to emerge, in the archaeologies of the English-speaking world in particular. Some archaeologists saw artefact hunters as allies, with 'common interests' with archaeology. But above all, they discovered new and interesting objects for study. As a result, archaeologists in several countries are now collaborating with 'responsible' individuals engaged in their collection-driven exploitation of the archaeological record primarily in order to gain access to many decontextualised artefacts. As a result of their constant and uncritical praise of artefact hunting and the alleged benefits it has brought to the discipline they are unwittingly involved in promotion of the hobby. These supporters of collectors dismiss offhand, sometimes in a hostile manner, the concerns and questions raised by those urging that archaeologists should be collaborating with each other in the protection of the archaeological resource from this kind of unsustainable exploitation. This paper will attempt to consider why these differences have emerged within parts of the archaeological community. This seems to be based on fundamental differences in conceptualising the nature, aims and responsibilities of the discipline.

6 THE ANTIQUITIES MARKET ON EBAY.COM: THE CASE OF ROMAN ANTIQUITIES AND THE UN-EXISTING PROVENANCE

Abstract author(s): Giovanelli, Riccardo (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia)

Abstract format: Oral

What's the shape of the antiquities market with the birth of internet 2.0? Is it, as the prevailing narrative would like to say, an elite market? Or has the power of the "touch to pay" technologies and e-markets also changed such a showcase that has been always thought as an elite hobby? With my paper, I analysed the features of the antiquities market as it is on eBay: where the sellers are from? What they highlight within their advertising pages? What does it matter for the antiquities electronic market world? I then focused more in deep on the shape of the highest value Roman antiquities market on the same platform, in particular reflecting on the value of the "Provenance" issue, as witnessed by sellers, buyers and the platform itself.

Data collected in 2017 and 2019 show clearly that the majority of listings on the platform doesn't declare any Provenance at all and

that when existing, it's often unverifiable and of poor quality, but anyway legalised within a market, whose rules are easy to overcome and played with. The high-end fraction of the market resulted as similar to the traditional art market plaza, but in eBay it is more possible that looted items can easily be put on sale and easily virtually moved from a place to another, consolidating the narrative of a "laundered" item.

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INVESTIGATING THE PROVENANCE OF EGYPTIAN BLUE PIGMENTS IN ANCIENT ROMAN POLYCHROMY

Abstract author(s): Rodler, Alexandra - Matthey, Sarah (Analytical, Environmental and Geo-Chemistry Research Group, Department of Chemistry, Vrije Universiteit Brussel) - Artoli, Gilberto (Department of Geosciences, University of Padova) - Brons, Cecilie (The Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek) - Goderis, Steven (Analytical, Environmental and Geo-Chemistry Research Group, Department of Chemistry, Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

Abstract format: Oral

So-called Campana reliefs, named after Pietro Campana who published part of his private collection of antiquities in 1861, are polychrome and architectural terracotta reliefs dated between c. 50 BC and 60 AD and depicting, for example, mythological scenes. The studied relief shows a scene with two satyrs picking grapes and was acquired by the Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek, Denmark, at an auction in Rome in 1899. Its specific provenance, however, is unknown and is it assumed to be from Rome or elsewhere in Central Italy, where most Campana reliefs have been found. The preliminary, non-invasive investigation included VL imaging and portable XRF, which revealed an abundance of Egyptian blue pigments that dominate the background as well as the floral decoration on top of the of the scene. Egyptian blue pigments were used throughout Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece and the Roman Empire from as early as c. 2,500 BC to c. 800 AD. It is the earliest artificial pigment and was produced in a complex process involving heating a copper compound along with calcium carbonate, silica and a few percent of a flux. Despite its widespread use amongst ancient Mediterranean cultures, little is known about production centres and the source of materials used for producing Egyptian blue pigments. We collected several samples of Egyptian blue pigments of the studied Campana relief for subsequent, lead isotope analysis. The variations in lead isotopic composition of the analysed Egyptian blue samples can be useful for narrowing the geological sources of the copper used for producing these specific pigments. This can indicate whether the Egyptian blue pigments were locally produced in Italy or imported.

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FORMULATING A CODE OF ETHICS FOR THE SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL MATERIALS

Abstract author(s): Mödlinger, Marianne (University of Genoa) - Godfrey, Evelynne (Uffington Heritage Watch) - Kariss, Andrijs (Riga Technical University) - Hajdas, Ika (ETH Zürich)

Abstract format: Oral

Members of the EAA Community on the Illicit Trade in Cultural Material formed a Task Force working on the formulation on a Code of Ethics for the scientific analyses of archaeological material. The justification, objectives and structure of the code will be briefly described in the course of the presentation.

This code aims to set minimum standards of professional practice and performance for archaeologists, conservators, and scientists from other disciplines undertaking analysis and investigative conservation of archaeological materials.

In recent years, archaeologists and scientists based in laboratories of different kinds have experienced increasing demands for scientific examination and expert appraisal of archaeological artefacts and samples. These requests derive not only from archaeological field units, public museums, Local or Regional Authorities, universities or other public research institutions, but also from private clients such as antiquities dealers, auction houses, private collections, and individual owners or their representatives.

Private clients requesting such work often seek to obtain a "Certificate of Authenticity". These documents typically focus on scientific measurement of the approximate age of the object by archaeometric dating methods, or evidence for possible forgeries. Presentation of data from scientific analyses, or an expert archaeological appraisal, can in effect help to enhance the saleability, and to increase the financial value, of the object, hence supporting the commercial trade in archaeological material on the art market.

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FROM FRAGMENTED ARTEFACTS TO HOUSEHOLD ACTIVITIES. POTENTIALS OF HOUSEHOLD ARCHAEOLOGY IN SETTLEMENT RESEARCH

Theme: 5. Theories and methods in archaeology: interactions between disciplines

Organisers: Szabó, Dóra (University of Exeter) - Soós, Eszter (University of Pécs) - de Souza, Jonas Gregorio (University Pompeu Fabra)

Format: Regular session

Household archaeology has undergone profound changes since the establishment of its methodology in the 1970s and remained on the horizon of settlement archaeology right until today. Its fluidity and interdisciplinarity catalyses its constant improvement by the application of diverse methodological techniques. Its flexibility also enables its use in different time periods in a broad geographical scale.

The potential of household archaeology for settlement research is that it can contribute to the understanding of social dynamics of past communities by focusing on the spatial structure and material culture of settlements. Thus, it can provide invaluable informa-