Reports from the Field, Summer 2016

Jarrid Dulaney (Ancient History & Mediterranean Archaeology)
Aaron Brown (Classical Archaeology)
Jessica Kaiser (Near Eastern Studies)

UC Berkeley graduate students report on their summer research and experiences at different ancient sites across the Mediterranean. Jarrid Dulaney studies 'intercultural space' in the Roman world and works the on The Marzamemi Maritime Heritage Project off the southeast coast of Sicily. Aaron Brown studies Roman and pre-Roman/Italic art and archaeology and works at several sites in Italy. Jessica Kaiser studies first millennium BCE Egyptian mortuary archaeology and osteology and works in Giza and Karnak. These illustrated first-hand reports present the latest results of current archaeological research across space and time in this exciting region.

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Tonio Hölscher
Professor of Classical Archaeology, University of Heidelberg

Athens, Acropolis, 438 B.C.
Amazement and Anger of a Fictive Visitor

The great 'classical' building program of the Athenian Acropolis, started by Perikles as a manifestation of Athens' dominating political and cultural power, was in fact based on the political, military, cultural and financial suppression of its allies. In this lecture a fictitious ambassador from the allied city of Ephesos will be accompanied during his visit to Athens at a highpoint of its religious self-glorification, the Panathenaic festival of 438 B.C. Confronted with the city's controversial public monuments, culminating in the Parthenon and its ostentatious cult-statue, the Athena Parthenos, just dedicated at this occasion, he will express the ambivalent reaction to Athens' cultural glory from the perspective of an outsider.
NORTON LECTURE
Wednesday, November 9th, 2016, 7:00 p.m.
370 Dwinelle Hall, UC Berkeley

Irving Finkel
Assistant Keeper of the Department of the Middle East, British Museum

The Ark Before Noah

In “The Ark Before Noah,” British Museum expert Dr. Irving Finkel reveals how decoding the symbols on a 4,000 year old piece of clay enable a radical new interpretation of the Noah's Ark myth. A world authority on the period, Dr. Finkel's enthralling real-life detective story began with a most remarkable event at the British Museum – the arrival one day in 2008 of a single, modest-sized Babylonian cuneiform tablet – one of the palm-sized clay rectangles on which our ancestors created the first documents. It had been brought in by a member of the public and this particular tablet proved to be of quite extraordinary importance. Not only does it date from about 1850 BC, but it is a copy of the Babylonian Story of the Flood, a myth from ancient Mesopotamia revealing among other things, instructions for building a large boat to survive a flood. But Dr. Finkel's pioneering work didn't stop there. Through another series of enthralling discoveries, he has been able to decode the story of the Flood in ways which offer unanticipated revelations to readers of “The Ark Before Noah”. In addition, the lecture will describe how a replica of the boat following the ancient instructions was built in India, the subject of the document film The Real Noah’s Ark.

OTHER EVENTS AND LECTURES OF INTEREST IN FALL 2016

AHMA Noon Colloquium Series
http://ahma.berkeley.edu/ahma-noon-colloquium

AHMA Pritchett Lecture – Monday, November 7th, 8:00 p.m.
Betsy Bryan, Professor of Egyptian Art and Archaeology, Johns Hopkins University
"Invoking the Deity through Altered Consciousness: Egyptian Communal Temple Rituals before the primary Mystery Religions"

Ancient Art Council Lectures
All lectures held at the Florence Gould Theater at the Legion of Honor, San Francisco

Saturday, September 24th, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Carol Redmount, Associate Professor of Egyptian Archaeology and Chair of the Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of California, Berkeley
“Invisible Cities: Urban Environments in Ancient Egypt”

Saturday, October 22nd, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Alessia Amenta, Curator, Department of Egyptian and Near Eastern Antiquities, Vatican Museums
“Mummies of the Vatican: Genuine or Fake”

Saturday, October 29th, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Christopher Hallett, Professor of History of Art and Classics, University of California, Berkeley
“Ancient Bronzes as Art Objects: Roman Collectors and ‘Corinthian Bronzes’”
Saturday, November 5th, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Rita Lucarelli, Assistant Professor of Egyptology, Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of California, Berkeley
“The Inhabitants of the Netherworld: Tracking Demons in Ancient Egyptian Mortuary Papyri and Coffins”

Saturday December 3rd, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Albert Leonard, Jr., Professor Emeritus, Classical Archaeology and Near Eastern Studies, University of Arizona
“Growing Up Bacchus: An Archaeological Look at a Wine-god’s Early Years”

American Research Center in Egypt Lectures
All lectures are held in Room 20 Barrows Hall, UC Berkeley

Sunday, September 11th, 3:00 p.m.
Dr. Diana Craig-Patch, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
“Lapis Lazuli: Ancient Egypt’s ‘Splendid and Costly Stone’”

Sunday, October 9th, 3:00 p.m.
Dr. David Anderson, University of Wisconsin
“Gazelles, Catfish and Cows: Ritual Activity in the Predynastic Settlement at el-Mahâsna”

Sunday, November 13th, 3:00 p.m.
Dr. Renee Freidman
“Update on Excavations at Hierakonpolis”

Sunday, December 11th, 3:00 p.m.
Dr. Melinda Hartwig, Michael C. Carlos Museum, Emory University
“Every Tomb Tells a Story”

For more information on:
AHMA Noon Colloquium Series, email evan.j.vance@berkeley.edu.

Ancient Arts Council events, information and/or membership, see www.ancientartcouncil.org or email ancientart@famsf.org.

American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), Northern California Chapter events, see http://www.arce.org/chapters/northerncalifornia/home.

The SF Society newsletter is available for download from: http://archaeological.org/societies/sanfrancisco. This website also lists the AIA lectures.

2016-2017 AIA Officers:
Kim Shelton, President; Deborah Anderson, Vice President and Treasurer; Lissette Jimenez, Program Coordinator; Louise Chu, FAMSF Liaison; Maribelisa Gillespie, Entertainment Chair; Isabelle Pafford and Marvin Morris, Publicity

AIA Executive Advisory Committee:
James Barter, Elizabeth S. Peña

For information on Fall AIA events or your membership, contact Debbie Anderson (408-489-2054, dwanders@sonic.net) or Kim Shelton (sheltonk@berkeley.edu)