

# The Artifact

A publication of the Archaeological Institute of America - Milwaukee Society Vol. 10 No. 1

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#### Letter from the President: Welcome to the 2004-2005 AIA

Those of us who caught the opening ceremonies of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens witnessed a particularly moving display of how the past continues to breathe life into the present. As the Greeks welcomed the world to their capital city, they proudly reminded us of the impact of ancient Greek culture on the Olympic flame and with it some of the greatest achievements of the human spirit. The Greeks are not alone. In fact, the quest for the past – or more appropriately the thirst for it - is omnipresent in almost every aspect of modern culture (and pop culture!). As members of the Milwaukee Society of the Archaeological Institute of America we are not merely bystanders, but rather participants, in this process of discovery and interpretation. Through the exciting and diverse program of lectures and events each year, your local AIA offers you the unique opportunity to reconnect with the past and let it speak to you.

As the 2004-2005 lecture series comes together, I can already promise you a program of stimulating and wide-ranging topics from internationally recognized scholars. Throughout the year we will travel from Rome to Guatemala to Greece and beyond. On September 14th, we welcome Professor R. Ross Holloway of Brown University. Professor Holloway, a past recipient of the AIA's prestigious Gold Medal for Distinguished Archaeological Achievement, will shed new light on one of the most important monuments

of ancient Rome, the Arch of Constantine. On October 24th. Professor William Saturno will offer us a first-hand look at one of the most exciting discoveries in Mayan archaeology at San Bartolo in Guatemala. The fall lecture season will conclude with a presentation by ethno-archaeologist Dr. Belgian Hélène Wallaert-Pêtre and her research on pottery traditions in Northern Cameroon. Finally, although the full spring lecture program is still in the planning stages, we have already scheduled a lecture by the distinguished Aegean Bronze Age archaeologist Jack Davis of the University of Cincinnati on April 10th. Professor Davis will share with us his current research on the Palace of Nestor at Pylos, home of the wise Mycenaean king of Homeric fame.

Still thirsty? Be sure to check out the AIA's outstanding website (www.archaeological.org) for the latest archaeological news, as well as scholarly commentaries on a wide range of topics from archaeology and film to cultural heritage issues on the world stage.

For now, I invite you to sit back and enjoy our first installment of *The Artifact* Vol. 10 and I look forward to joining you as we re-open dialogues with the great civilizations of the past.

Cheers, Derek B. Counts President



#### AIA - Milwaukee Society Email List

As we advance into the more high-tech 21<sup>st</sup> century, we would like to start compiling an email list of our members and friends. This will allow us to reach you more quickly with important news or last-minute information about lectures and events. If you would like to be added to this list please return this form to:

Katherine Murrell, UWM-Dept. of Art History, PO Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201 Or send your name and email address to: minerath@uwm.edu

Name

Current Address\_\_\_\_\_

Member of AIA? Yes / No

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive notices of upcoming events by email: Yes / No

## The Emperor Maxentius and the Arch of Constantine in Rome

#### Tuesday, September 14, 2004, 6:00-7:30pm Room 131, Merrill Hall, UW-Milwaukee

Distinguished Classical archaeologist Dr. R. Ross Holloway will speak about the Arch of Constantine as the first presentation in the fall lecture series. Nestled between the Roman Forum and the Colosseum, the Arch of Constantine certainly stands as one of the latest and most impressive remains of Imperial Rome's grandeur. Recent detailed study of the Arch of Constantine by Italian archaeologists has established that there are two phases in the building history of the structure, which was begun in the early fourth century A.D. It is therefore possible to attribute the beginning of work on the arch to the Emperor Maxentius, who was in control of Rome from 306 to 312. Constantine the Great, who defeated Maxentius at the Battle of the Mulvian Bridge, would then have completed the arch that bears his name. The elaborate sculptural decoration of the arch can also be divided between the original Maxentian program and the additions, with different emphasis, made by Constantine.



R. Ross Holloway

Holloway is the Elisha Benjamin Andrews Professor of Central Mediterranean Archaeology at Brown University. His research focuses on Greek and Roman art, numismatics, Bronze Age Italy, and the City of Rome. As an internationally recognized expert on the archaeology of Italy, Holloway has written extensively on the material culture of this region. He has been the recipient of numerous honorary degrees and honors, including the Archaeological Institute of America's Gold Medal for Distinguished Archaeological Achievement. His most recent book, Constantine and Rome, was published in spring 2004 by Yale University Press.



The Arch of Constantine, Rome, Italy, (south side).

# Murals, Myths, and the Origins of Maya Civilization

#### Sunday, October 24, 2004, 3:00 PM Room G90, Sabin Hall, UW-Milwaukee

In an expedition that has been compared by more than one writer to something out of an *Indiana Jones* plotline, Dr. William Saturno unexpectedly made one of the most significant recent discoveries in Mayan archaeology. While investigating the looting of artifacts deep in the Guatemalan rainforest, Saturno and his guides faced a thick and foreboding jungle, overwhelming heat and exhaustion, and severe dehydration. Looking for temporary reprieve from the sun, Saturno took shelter in a cave and uncovered one of the most important examples of Late Preclassic Mayan art known to exist.

During excavations performed in spring of 2003, the north wall mural in the cave was entirely exposed, revealing a complex scene concerning a sacred mountain, the maize god and human origins. These elaborate paintings appear in a single program within the chamber, one of the most elaborate scenes known for the ancient Maya.

This presentation will discuss current discoveries concerning the ongoing excavations of the west wall, the largest and best preserved section of the murals within the Pinturas Sub-1 chamber. Among the themes to be discussed are kingship and sacrifice, penitential bloodletting and the origins of Maya writing.

Dr. William Saturno is a Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of New Hampshire, as well as a Research Associate at Harvard's Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology. He received his Anthropology from Ph.D. in Harvard University, and completed his undergraduate education at the University of Arizona. He specializes in the Preclassic Maya, as well as in the origins of complex society. Dr. Saturno is director of the excavations at Proyecto San Bartolo in Guatemala, and has also worked in Honduras, Mexico, and Belize.



Authorized by the Guatemalan Institute of Anthropology and History, University of New Hampshire archaeologist William Saturno scrapes dirt from the exposed portion of a mural discovered at the ancient Maya site of San Bartolo in 2001. An update on excavation and preservation work on the mural appears in the December 2003 issue of National Geographic magazine. (Photo by Kenneth Garrett (c) 2003 National Geographic) http://www.unh.edu/news/campusjournal/archive/2003/december/120503saturno.html

#### Pottery Making in Northern Cameroon

Sunday, November 21, 2004, 3:00 PM Room G90, Sabin Hall, UW-Milwaukee

Belgian ethno-archaeologist Hélène Wallaert-Pêtre observes traditional craftspeople, recording their technologies and particularly how skilled workers teach apprentices – an illuminating perspective.

Having worked at length in Cameroon, Africa, Dr. Wallaert has this year observed Hopi Indian potters in their villages. Her presentation, using her prize-winning photographs, compares Hopi and West African potters, relating their millennia-old crafts to archaeological analyses of ceramics and village life.





#### From the Field

## The Athienou Archaeological Project (AAP), Cyprus

This past summer I was given the opportunity to join the staff of the Athienou Archaeological Project (AAP) on the island of Cyprus as a field supervisor. The project is directed by Dr. Michael Toumazou of Davidson College, North Carolina and Dr. Derek Counts from UW-Milwaukee's Department of Art History. AAP, which begun in 1990, combines field excavation traditional with an archaeological survey and undergraduate field school. The project features a multidisciplinary investigation (chemistry, biological anthropology, classics, art history, archaeology to name a few of the disciplines) of the site of

Atheniou-*Malloura* and its surrounding environs. The area, located in the fertile plains of central Cyprus, was used repeatedly during both the prehistoric and historic periods. The focus on the 2004 season was the Archaic-Roman rural sanctuary which served as the cult center to a principal male divinity represented by a variety of iconographic traditions (some of you may remember Dr. Counts' AIA lecture on the sanctuary and its cult last spring).

The 2004 field season of AAP included 16 field school students from various universities, as well as graduate students and faculty

participating as field staff. Other UW-Milwaukee participants included Elisabetta Cova (Adjunct Assistant Professor of Classics), Matthew Spigelman (incoming Anthropology candidate) MS and Matthew Knuth (undergraduate Classics Five major). excavation units (EUs), four of which were opened in previous field seasons and a new EU opened this summer, were excavated. I was given the responsibility to lead the team in the newly opened EU with the help of assistant supervisor, Matthew Spigelman. Each EU had three to five field school students, an assistant supervisor and a supervisor. In general, excavation focused on clarifying the arrangement the architectural of sacred enclosure. More specifically, my EU sought to explore the northern limits of the sanctuary's temenos wall, identify and excavate traces of early 20<sup>th</sup> century looting activity which plague the site, and to search for the elusive sanctuary Archaeological materials recovered altar. included ceramics. limestone statues and statuettes (whole and fragmentary), terracotta figurines, coins, faunal remains, shell and charcoal. In all, over 400 objects were found this Highlights season. include several statuettes representing the Greek god Pan, various limb fragments (my EU found an over life-size statue arm sans the hand), bronze coins and an inscribed incense burner. The data collected from these materials will be used to provide a comparative study of the sanctuary



On site at Athienou-Malloura (from left to right): Derek Counts, Elisabetta Cova, Jim Johnson, Matthew Knuth, and Matthew Spigelman.

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with material from other nearby sites such as Idalion and Golgoi.

In addition to fieldwork, the project sponsored weekend trips to various archaeological and historical sites on the island as well as stops at beautiful, local beaches on the way home. Field school students also attended evening lectures given by guest speakers as well as the AAP directors. The lectures, held at the local high school, exemplified the multidisciplinary focus of AAP with wide-ranging topics including chemistry and its applications in archaeology, ancient Cypriot metallurgical practices, and the study and excavation of human remains. As a result, students not only learned about archaeological methodology and practice, but also theory and its interdisciplinary application in such fields as Art History, Classics and Anthropology.

The Athienou Archaeological Project is a wonderful experience for both field school students and staff alike. With its focus on undergraduate field training and archaeological/scholarly research, the AAP is an excellent opportunity for any undergraduate interested in learning about the archaeology of Cyprus and the ancient Mediterranean.

James A. Johnson MS Candidate Department of Anthropology University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee



The Athienou Archaeological Project website:

http://www1.davidson.edu/academic/classics/ Toumazou/AAP/index.html

#### News and Notes

#### **AIA Receives Winckelmann Medal**

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is proud to announce that it has been named the recipient of the prestigious Winckelmann Medal of the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut (German Archaeological Institute, DAI). AIA President and Milwaukee Society member Jane C. Waldbaum received notification of the award from DAI President Hermann Parzinger.

The medal is the highest honor bestowed by the DAI on other organizations or distinguished individuals and is awarded very rarely. Only nine medals have been awarded since 1929; the AIA is the first recipient since 1979. The DAI is a sister organization of the AIA. Founded in 1829, the DAI now has departments in Rome, Athens, Cairo, Istanbul, Madrid, Baghdad, Damascus, Sana'a and Tehran as well as in Germany. It conducts excavations in both hemispheres, sponsors many prestigious publication series, and houses a network of research libraries and photo archives.



Johann Joachim Winckelmann, c. 1755, oil on canvas by Anton Raphael Mengs.

The medal, named for Johannes Winckelmann (1717-1768), the founder of ancient art history, is presented for "the extraordinary scientific achievements and merits" of the AIA and its professional members. Jane Waldbaum will travel to Berlin in November 2004 to receive the award on behalf of the AIA during ceremonies honoring the 175th anniversary of the DAI.



#### Helen Byers Bernstein (1928 – June 29, 2004)

#### By Alice Kehoe

AIA-Milwaukee will sorely miss one of our faithful members, Dr. Helen Bernstein. She was the gray-haired woman, always practically dressed in a dark knit shirt and slacks, intently listening to our lecturers and invariably raising her hand afterward to ask stimulating questions. She enjoyed our receptions, and frequently contributed a treat related to the lecture topic, such as pistachio nuts if the subject was the Middle East. Frugal though she was, on a limited pension, she made supporting AIA through membership a priority, and gave her grandchildren subscriptions to DIG, the children's version of Archaeology Magazine.

Helen was born in Indiana, daughter of a career army man. Exceptionally bright, she was accepted as a graduate student in the Indiana University genetics laboratory of Hermann Muller, a Nobel Prize winner. A fellow student was James Watson, co-discoverer of the double-helix structure of DNA. Helen completed her Ph.D. in genetics in England, where she met and married Alec Bernstein, a medical researcher. Alec accepted a faculty position in the Medical College, then part of Marquette University, and the couple moved to Milwaukee, where Helen decided to devote her energies to bringing up five children: this involved her in Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Hartford Avenue PTA, all benefiting from her wide knowledge of science and nature, and talent for conveying that to children. Tragically, Alec died suddenly when the youngest child was only eight. Helen taught introductory courses in UWM's Biology department but found caring for her lively incompatible with pursuing family the laboratory research in genetics that would have qualified her for full-time appointment. In her later years, the children grown, Helen

enjoyed playing in early-music ensembles, singing in Plymouth Church choir, crossword puzzles, and, increasingly, AIA. Her enthusiasm for the enrichment AIA brings was a precious part of our meetings.



#### **Upcoming Events**

The Trojan War: The Sources Behind the Scenes Art · Archaeology · Cinema · Literature · Myth

#### September 17-18, 2004 University of Wisconsin Memorial Union and Elvehjem Museum of Art Madison, Wisconsin

This symposium will examine various aspects and the enduring allure of the Trojan War. Presentations include the history and archaeology of Troy, and the interpretation of Trojan legends in film.

Registration is not required, and this symposium is free and open to the public. More information can be found at http://classics.lss.wisc.edu/troy/home.htm or contact Cheryl Arn: clarn@wisc.edu or 608-262-2041.









#### **Imperial Cities, A Symposium**

Friday, December 3, 2004 3pm, Room 118, Curtin Hall, UWM Campus

The Center for 21st Century Studies is pleased to present a symposium featuring two distinguished speakers:

**Sue Alcock** (University of Michigan): "Making Sure You Know Whom to Kill: Spatial Strategies in Roman Imperial Cities"



**Michael Herzfeld** (Harvard University): "Fabricating Cultural Authority: Eccentric Angles on Urbanity and Western Identity"



This program is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact the Center for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Studies, 414-229-4141 or http:// www.21st.uwm.edu

#### 106<sup>th</sup> AIA Annual Meeting

January 6 – 9, 2005 Boston, Massachusetts Sheraton Boston Hotel

Mark your calendars for this year's AIA annual meeting. Programs will include speakers and activities for scholarly and general audiences, and two teacher workshops on the archaeology of ancient China and the ancient Romans.

Registration and additional information can be found on the AIA website: http://www.archaeological.org



## A IA - Milwaukee S ociety Lecture Calendar

Dr. R. Ross Holloway, The Emperor Maxentius and the Arch of Constantine in Rome Please note that this lecture takes place on a Tuesday evening from 6:00-7:30pm in Room 131 of Merrill Hall, 2512 East Hartford Avenue, on the UW-Milwaukee campus.
Dr. William Saturno, Murals, Myths, and the Origins of Maya Civilization
Dr. Hélène Wallaert-Pêtre, Pottery Making in Northern Cameroon

### All lectures will take place at 3pm in room G90 of Sabin Hall on the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee campus unless otherwise noted. Sabin Hall is located at 3413 N. Downer Ave.

AIA-Milwaukee Society is pleased to announce that Dr. Jack Davis will present *The Palace of Nestor at Pylos: Current Research* on April 10, 2005, as part of the spring lecture series. Details about this and other events will be forthcoming in the next issue of *The Artifact*.

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