CA19141

iNEAL

INTEGRATING NEANDERTAL LEGACY:
FROM PAST TO PRESENT

INTRODUCTION TO THE iNEAL ACTION

iNEAL SESSION AT THE EAA CONFERENCE

BUDAPEST, 31 AUG – 3 SEP 2022

iNEAL SPOTLIGHTS

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EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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IMPRESSUM

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GRAPHIC DESIGN
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This publication is based upon work from COST Action 19141 Integrating Neandertal Legacy: From Past to Present, supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION TO THE iNEAL ACTION

09 Welcome to the iNEAL
13 Action Leadership
14 Working group 1
17 Working group 2
18 Working group 3
21 Working group 4
22 Short term scientific missions
25 Science communication
26 Training schools

iNEAL SESSION AT THE EAA CONFERENCE
BUDAPEST, 31 August – 3 September 2022

33 Session #344 Abstract
35 Session Programme
39 Presentations 1 – 16

iNEAL SPOTLIGHTS

81 Updating Neanderthals
85 Neanderthal Museum Mettmann
89 Krapina Neanderthal Museum
93 iNEAL forthcoming Publications
95 European Neanderthal Route
98 iNEAL invites You to join the Action

Neandertals are the first human population that can be truly recognized as a pan-European phenomenon. Since the discovery in a small cave in the Neander valley in Germany in 1856 (thus giving us both scientific and colloquial name for this ancient group of humans) the sites with their skeletal remains and/or cultural finds have been discovered all over Europe (and parts of Asia) and cover a period of more than 250 000 years. This resulted in a vast accumulation of various types of data.

However, in over the 150 years of Neandertal research, scientific methods, technological and methodological aspects, theory and practices developed often at a different pace, and sometimes in different trajectories, in different countries. The result is that it is often difficult to evaluate and compare various datasets dealing with Neandertal legacy.

Likewise, for numerous reasons there are problems related to access to data and information for various sites and finds. In addition, research questions asked by different groups and scholars from not only different disciplines, but sometimes from same disciplines but different traditions and different countries often are difficult to compare, even if their goal may be the same. Recent decades saw a rapid rise in communication of scientists from, for example, former "Eastern" and those from the "Western Bloc". However, this is very much still based on individual connections and related to specific analyses and work. Thus, in order to compare data on various aspects of Neandertal legacy from Europe, it is crucial to build a long-term network of scientists that, in turn will help create a usable and inclusive, inter- and multidisciplinary database and data sharing platform for all interested in Neandertals.

In addition, iNEAL Action will promote dialogue between scientists (with special attention given to early career investigators), and invite scientists from all relevant fields and disciplines, beyond the core group (such as scientists interested in dating methods and chronology, paleoenvironmental analysis, palynology, trace analysis etc.). In such a way, datasets will be created with a specific purpose of inclusiveness, thus providing data from various disciplines that can be incorporated to create a more detailed picture of Neandertals in temporal and spatial dimensions.

Another important aspect of the iNEAL Action is promoting awareness among various stakeholder groups of the importance of Neandertal heritage as an asset in education, tourism as well as other broader socio-economic spheres. At present, a lot of effort is being invested in research, presentation and interpretation of Neandertal heritage sites and other tangible remains like museum exhibits, however, there is a palpable lack of networking at higher-order levels, as well as across the stakeholder spectrum, which this Action aims to remedy.

The intention is to build on the existing initiatives, including localized success stories in the heritage sector, like the Mettmann Neanderthal Museum, or the Krapina Neanderthal Museum, as regards musealised sites or interpretative centres and museums, to collaborative endeavours like the Ice Age Europe platform, which brings together a number of partners across Europe, even if its remit is somewhat broader in terms of temporal extent.

What all these efforts are lacking is the inclusion of stakeholders other than academia, i.e. those that would create a more tangible link with real life: local communities, local and regional governments, private sector, SME's, tourism sector etc., who have long been disenfranchised in matters of management of archaeological heritage in general, and Neandertals in particular. In education, primary and secondary-school curricula in many countries might greatly benefit from more elaborate and school-children friendly didactic tools, which are at the core of the Action's agenda.

In summary, iNEAL brings together a wide variety of researchers, both from different countries, as well as from different fields of research in order to:

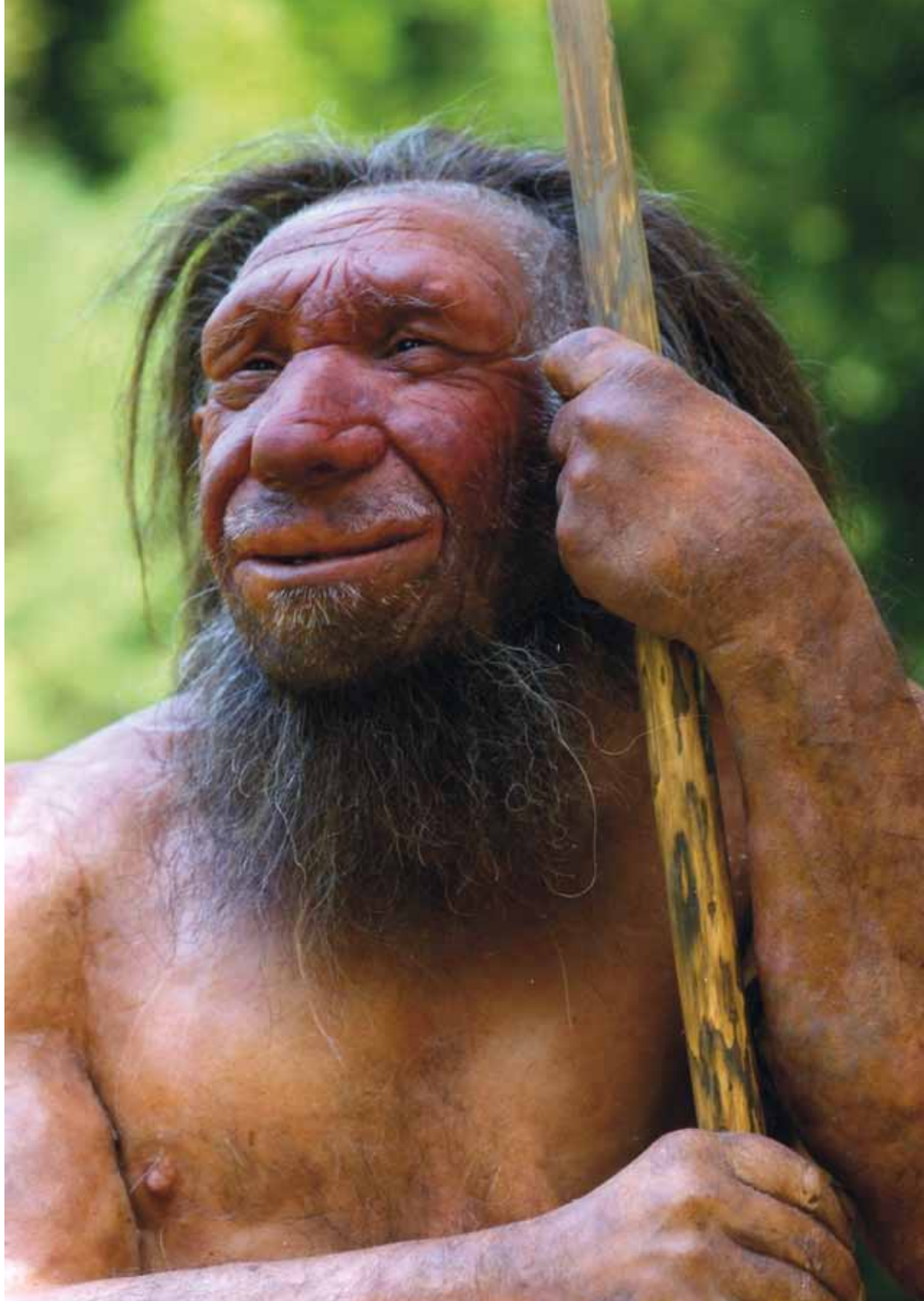
1. get a more detailed and much broader insight into various aspects of Neandertals (biology, including genomics, cultural aspects, geographic, environmental settings etc.) across space and over time;

2. create a data sharing platform, making it easier to detect data of interest, as well as identifying major gaps, resulting in new research questions, collaborations and projects;

3. stimulate international collaboration of scientists and create a wide network and platform for communication;

4. build a new outreach platform between scientists and scientific research and other interested parties (general public, small and medium enterprises, local communities, tourist workers etc.) creating a positive environment and basis for integrating Neandertal legacy into present;

5. address the career development of early career investigators. Through participation in working groups, a number of short-term scientific missions and training schools, they will get training in various disciplines and develop a firm understanding of specific current practices that will help them in their future research.



ACTION CHAIR

Ivor Janković
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Ivor Janković, scientific advisor at the Institute for Anthropological research in Zagreb, Croatia, is a paleoanthropologist and prehistoric archaeologist whose main interests include human biological and cultural adaptations during the Middle and Late Pleistocene. He received his M.A. in archaeology from the University of Zagreb, Croatia, in 2001 M.A. in anthropology from the Northern Illinois University, USA in 2003, and his PhD in prehistoric archaeology from the University of Zagreb in 2009. He is author of numerous scientific and professional papers and books, co-author of four museum exhibits, and a project leader of several research projects.

He taught classes on Human evolution at the University of Zagreb, and is an adjunct Full Professor at the Department of Anthropology at the University of Wyoming. For his work, he received the Award and Medal 'Dragutin Gorjanović-Kramberger' of the Croatian Anthropological Society, and the Award and Medal 'Josip Brunšmid' of the Croatian Archaeological Society.

ACTION VICE CHAIR

Stefano Benazzi
stefano.benazzi@unibo.it

Prof. Stefano Benazzi is a palaeoanthropologist and osteoarchaeologist specializing in Neanderthal and modern human paleobiology, and the application of digital methods to palaeoanthropology. He was awarded his Ph.D. at the University of Bologna in 2007 and since 2017 he is a full professor at the University of Bologna and director of the Laboratory of Osteoarchaeology and Paleoanthropology (BONES Lab).

Since 2018 he coordinates the Ph.D. programme in Cultural and Environmental Heritage at the University of Bologna and since 2022 he is a member of the Italian Ph.D. programme in Heritage Science.

LEADER
Katerina Harvati
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Prof. Katerina Harvati is a paleoanthropologist specializing in Neanderthal paleobiology, modern human origins and the application of 3-D geometric morphometric and virtual anthropology methods to palaeoanthropology. She was awarded her Ph.D. at CUNY in 2001 and since 2009 she is a full professor at the University of Tübingen and director of Palaeoanthropology. In 2020 she was appointed Professor II at the Centre for Early Sapiens Behaviour (SapienCE), University of Bergen, Norway as well as the President of the European Society of Human Evolution (ESHE).

Working Group 1 is dedicated to the fossil data, or to put it simply, to the physical remains of Neandertals. As such, this group will consist primarily (but not exclusively) of paleoanthropologists. Main topics that the WG 1 will be working on during the course of the Action are related to collecting and evaluating all relevant datasets on fossil finds in Europe and other regions inhabited by Neandertals. Further, special consideration will be given to all relevant fossil data on humans that either directly predate or postdate Neandertals. Such collected datasets will complement data collected and goals of other working groups (especially WG's 1-3). Among main tasks of the WG are exchange of knowledge and research experience on fossil data related to Neandertals from various sites and countries and creation of a data sharing platform that will include not all relevant dana on fossil remains, but also relevant literature and references.

Virtual reconstruction of the Apidima 2 Neanderthal specimen.
© K. Harvati

LEADER
Francesca Romagnoli
f.romagnoli2@gmail.com

Francesca Romagnoli is an Italian archaeologist specialised in the study of Neanderthal socio-economy and technological changes in Mediterranean regions, with a special focus on coastal adaptations. Her research ranges from (i) stone tool and shell past technologies (morpho-technical analysis, refitting, 3D geometric morphometric, and experimental archaeology), (ii) the relationships between human mobility, technological costs, and stone tool resources, (iii) the appearance of behavioural complexity in human evolution, to (iv) taphonomy, site formation processes, and intra-site geostatistics. She is also interested in theoretical and methodological approaches for archaeological narrative building in museums and outreach activities and in evaluating the social impact of research in Prehistory.

Working Group 2 is dedicated to behavioral aspects of Neandertals. However, to understand behavior, it is not enough to study the cultural data sensu stricto (or the remains of the tools Neandertals left behind). To understand complex behavioral patterns of Neandertals in the context of their time and geography, including the changing environmental conditions, we need experts of many trades, including archaeologists, archaeozoologists, dating experts, and many others. Therefore, this group is dedicated to collecting various and vast amounts of data from Europe and other regions that were once a part of the Neandertal world. This group closely collaborates with WG1 and WG3 as behavior, environment, population dynamics are all a part of a single story about these interesting prehistoric humans. In addition, the collected datasets will provide a starting point for many future projects and collaborations and help to bridge many biases that affected the state of research in different countries.

LEADER
Ron Pinhasi
ron.pinhasi@univie.ac.at

Dr. Ron Pinhasi is the Head of the Ancient DNA Lab. His research focuses on human evolution including fieldwork projects on the Middle-Upper Palaeolithic transition in the Caucasus. He held an ERC Starting Grant project (2011-2015) that focused on human genetic history, migrations and admixture, and developed the widely-used ancient DNA optimisation method from the petrous bone. His research mainly focuses on ancient DNA genomics of human populations across the world during the Late Pleistocene and Holocene with a strong link to physical anthropology and archaeology. He is also working on aDNA from sediments and pathogen aDNA as well as on the genomics of domesticated species and commensals. Since 2021 he is a full professor in Biological Anthropology, Department of Evolutionary Anthropology, University of Vienna.

Working Group 3 brings together primarily (but not exclusively) scientists involved with aDNA studies to discuss the daily growing genetic and genomic ancient DNA datasets and studies allowing members of WG to detect relevant issues that are complementary with goals described in RCO1, RCO2 and pursued by WG 1 and WG 2.

Task 3.1. Exchange knowledge and research experience on molecular data related to Neandertals from various sites and countries

Task 3.2. Creating a data sharing platform related to molecular data

Task 3.3. Sharing and uploading information on molecular data with links to freely available raw data sets and other relevant research to a data base sharing platform

Task 3.4. Proposing input on genomic aspects relevant for completion of tasks described in WG 4

LEADER
Sanjin Mihelić
smihelic@amz.hr

Sanjin Mihelić is an archaeologist and heritage professional with a twenty-year experience in cultural heritage management, currently serving as the Director of the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb and the President of the Iron Age Danube Route Association. He holds an MA degree in Public Archaeology from the University College London. An active member of a number of national and international archaeological and heritage organizations and associations, such as ICOMOS (ICAHM and ICTC) and ICOM, he is also the acting President of the Zagreb City Council for Museums, a member of the Management Boards of the Croatian History Museum; of the Croatian Museum Documentation Centre; and of the ICOMOS Croatia, respectively; a corresponding member of the German Archaeological Institute and a number of other heritage associations. He authored a number of exhibitions, managed dozens of excavation campaigns and is the main organizer of the 2020 Festival of EU Archaeology. He received the annual award of the Croatian Archaeological Society in 2009 for his project Archaeology and Tourism in Croatia.

Working group 4 consists primarily of researchers experienced in public dissemination of scientific data, museum specialists and other relevant interested parties. Other stakeholders, such as representatives of local government, SMEs, IT specialists, tourist workers, are strongly encouraged to join discussions and participate in symposia and public events organized by the group. Special attention is given to potential positive impacts different aspects of Neandertal heritage, like museum displays or archaeological sites may have on the socio-economic development of a given community through mediation of tourism. WG 4 also aims to develop a package of informational, educational and didactic tools to be used for communicating topics relating to various facets of Neandertal legacy.

WG4 tasks can be summarized as follows:

1. Exchange knowledge, experience and best practices on representation of archaeological and anthropological heritage
2. Pinpointing major problems and obstacles related to presentation and dissemination of sites and data
3. Pinpointing challenges related to presentation of Neandertal legacy to specific target groups
4. Proposing measures to better exploit, incorporate and realise potential and existing data fund to maximise impact in society.

SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS (STSM)

GRANT AWARD COORDINATOR
Florent Rivals
florent.rivals@icrea.cat

Florent Rivals is a paleobiologist with an interest in evolutionary paleoecology and the ecological context of evolution in Europe and the Near East. His research focuses on the impact of climate-driven environmental changes on large mammals through the reconstruction of paleodiets using dental microwear analyses.

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) are institutional visits aimed at supporting individual mobility, fostering collaboration between researchers. A STSM should specifically contribute to the scientific objectives of the COST Action, whilst simultaneously allowing those partaking in the missions to learn new techniques, gain access to specific materials, data, instruments and/or methods not available in their own institutions.

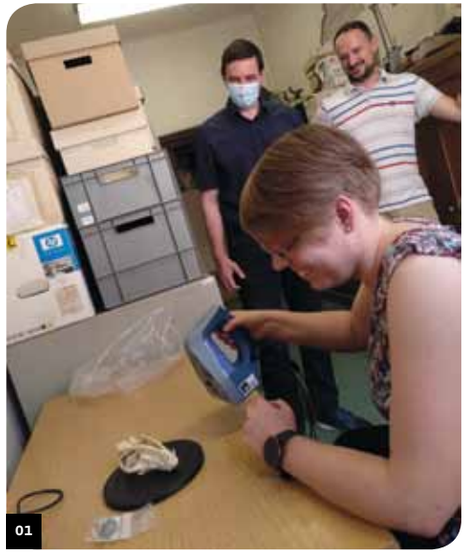
Short-Term Scientific Missions benefit to:

- STSM Grantee: receives funding for implementing a project with an international team and gains new knowledge or access to equipment or techniques.
- STSM Host: receives an international partner in their institution and can develop long lasting collaboration.

Eligibility criteria: STSM applicants must be engaged in an official research programme as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or can be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organisation or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing research. The participation of Early Career Investigators (i.e. an individual who is within a time span of up to 8 years from the date they obtained their PhD/doctorate) and ITC countries (see the list on the COST website) in STSM are particularly encouraged.

We encourage all of you, with an interest in Neandertals, to apply. For any question, contact the Grant Awarding Coordinator at:

florent.rivals@icrea.cat

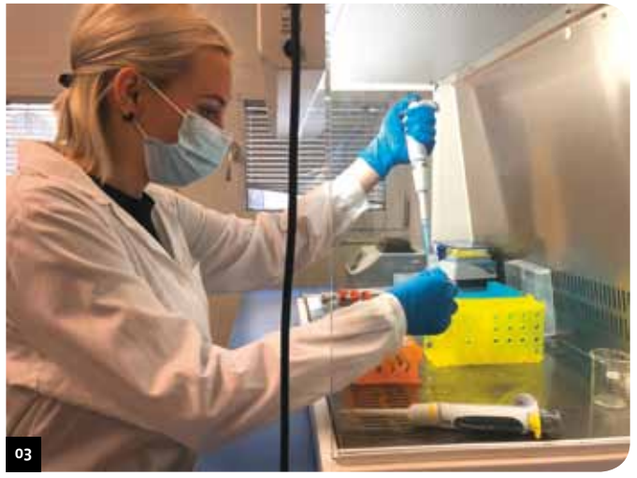


01

02

Meet some of the
iNEAL STSM Grantees:

01) Carolin Röding
02) Davide Delpiano
03) Lia Vidas



03

iNEAL
newsletter

Issue 3, July 2022

Welcome to the 3rd issue!

Dear reader,

The 3rd iNEAL newsletter is already in front of you, which we hope will reveal and illustrate the colourful and full of activities of the last six months of the Action. We are pleased that almost halfway through the Action the iNEAL community is constantly expanding and already unites participants from 29 countries. The wide range of opportunities, as well as the growing interest in them, only confirms the relevance of the pan-European phenomenon of Neanderthals.

In this newsletter you will find traditional sections with the latest scientific news and a variety of useful links - check out the News, Knowledge Box and Recommendations. This time we are pleased to introduce the Working Group 2 (WG2) – Cultural data, one of the main aims of which is the exchange of knowledge and research experience on cultural data related to Neandertals from various sites and countries. Also meet the leader of WG2, the Italian archaeologist - Francesca Romagnoli as well as our partners too - Department of Prehistory and Archaeology, Universidad Autónoma De Madrid-UAM.

Different countries, different topics but the common goal – to train early career investigators in various disciplines and develop an understanding of specific practices that will help them in their future research. More than 30 young researchers took part in the 3 training schools, 19 lecturers shared scientific knowledge, encouraged and motivated to explore, discover new topics and methods. This would not be possible without strong teams of Work Groups who also had the opportunity to meet, discuss and develop their activities.

Contents

Editorial 1
News 2
Get to know 8
Knowledge box 8
Partners in the spotlight 9
Visit 10
Recommendations 11
Looking forward 11
Impressum 12

It is important not only to be interested but also to participate! We are happy to remind you that iNEAL is an open and up-to-date community of new people, ideas, research and more. Let's meet at the EAA Annual Meeting in Budapest (31 August - 3 September) and visit session "Integrating Neandertal Legacy: New Opportunities for Cooperation" organized by iNEAL. Follow our news, be a part of our trainings and other events, expand your scientific activities with other opportunities offered by iNEAL!

Agnė Žilinskaitė, editor-in-chief

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3rd issue of iNEAL newsletter. See: https://inealcost.inantro.hr/publications-outputs/

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION MANAGER

Agnė Žilinskaitė

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Agnė Žilinskaitė is a lecturer and PhD student at Department of Archaeology, Faculty of History, Vilnius University, Lithuania, with a special interest in Stone and Bronze ages as well as economic and social innovations of prehistoric societies in the Baltic Sea Region. In 2016 appointed as Head of the Society of Lithuanian Archaeology. She has more than 15 years' experience of active involvement in a variety of academic and strategic management tasks, is a leader or manager of more than 50 national and international projects in the field of archaeology and cultural heritage.

Science Communication Manager coordinates the Action's dissemination activities to ensure good visibility of iNEAL. Dissemination takes various forms: first and foremost, a website of the Action, as the first and main point of reference for all activities undertaken by the Action, as well as social media channels, other written, oral communications, various types of events. This includes Training Schools announcements for public lectures, STSM calls, news and etc. In addition, iNEAL communication strategy seeks to establish a strong communication network, comprising both scientists working on various aspects of Neandertals, stakeholders and public, with the aim to create a wide network and platform for communication on different aspects of Neandertal heritage.

Training schools are an important element of every COST Action. They are designed to facilitate capacity building on a topic relevant to the Action theme through the delivery of intensive training on a new or emerging subject. They can also offer familiarisation with unique equipment or expertise and are typically, although not exclusively, considered to be for the benefit of ECI and PhD students.

Within the iNEAL, Training schools proved to be an extremely valuable tool that greatly contributed to fulfilling the objectives of the Action. Each of the four Working groups is tasked with organizing four training schools over the course of the Action, which makes it a total of sixteen over the course of the Action. Topics for WG1's Training Schools are related to Neandertal fossil record and evolution (e.g. geometric morphometric methods in palaeoanthropology, new techniques for analyses, new methods, comparisons of "traditional" vs. computer based methods and other relevant topics); topics for WG2's Training Schools focus on Neandertal cultural data (e.g. methods of lithic analyses, dating techniques, fieldworks methods and practice and other relevant topics); those of WG3 are related to Neandertal molecular data (e.g. ancient DNA methodology methods of dana collecting and analyses and problems and possibilities of this emerging field and other relevant topics), while those of WG4 focus on heritage valorization, cultural routes, education and tourism.

But, enough talking, let's visit Brno and Mettmann to take a closer look into two different iNEAL Training schools!

Follow iNEAL on Social media and read our Newsletter for fresh information about future Training Schools!

Technological variability at the transition between Middle to Upper Palaeolithic

Institute of Archaeology,
Czech Academy of Sciences in Brno,
Czech Republic
4–6 May 2022

The Training School was designed as a capacity-building endeavour aimed at bringing together an international team of researchers and students around a key topic in Neanderthal studies: the technological variability of last Neanderthals and first Homo sapiens. The participants discussed the main techno-typological characteristics of assemblages, the problems in their definition and interpretation, and the perspectives opened by recent researches. The School was organized as a three-day event, which involved lectures, discussions, workshops, and on-site presentations. During the School, the participants analysed archaeological materials and compared similarities and differences of techno-typological characteristics between different assemblages.

At the school participated 30 researchers, coming from 14 different countries. All the participants briefly presented their work and discussed problems and perspectives in the understanding and interpretation of 'transitional industries' in a very informal and pleasant working environment. Main presentations an discussion was handled by Petr Skrdla (Institute of Archaeology, Czech Academy of Sciencs, Czech Republic) who was the local organiser, Zsolt Mester (Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary), Adrian Nemergut (Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia), Omry Barzilai (Israel Antiquities Authority, Israel), Vitaly Usik (National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Ukraine), and Francesca Romagnoli (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain). Participants could therefore discuss the specificities of transitional industries across Eurasian regions.

Neanderthals in Education

Neanderthal Museum, Mettmann, Germany
26–28 April 2022

The second WG 4 Training school was masterfully organized by the professionals of the iconic Neanderthal Museum, Mettmann – Bärbel Auffermann, Beate Schneider, Till Knechtges and others.

The school was divided into three distinct sections, each of which covered a full day of training: during the first, the training focused on the Exhibition as a learning space; the second was dedicated to Programmes and the target group-specific approach, while the third centered on Digital learning in museums. The fifteen trainees, which came from eight different countries, were immersed in a highly interactive learning environment which constantly demanded active participation by all in thought-provoking workshops. It may not have been an easy task to build their own Neanderthal-themed exhibition let alone to develop one's own programme to bring the Stone Age to different target audiences, or any of the other tasks that were put before the trainees, but they responded in a more than commendable manner. And now, thanks to the Mettmann team, next time—in real life—they will find these tasks all the more easier to solve!

Other highlights of the training school definitely include ample wanderings around the outstanding eponymous museum and the visit to the original site of the Feldhofer Cave in the Neander Valley.

Attending the training school organized by the iNEAL was a very positive experience and I had a great time. Although the program was already promising, it turned out to be even better than expected. The opportunity of being able to learn in a museum setting and share ideas with other people from different fields and backgrounds but with the same goals has made it even more enriching. And being given firsthand the secrets of a museum and tips for a better dissemination of archaeological knowledge has been very constructive. The group activities were the best, as we were able to share different ideas and perceptions that led us to develop and improve creativity. After three days of brainstorming one feels the enthusiasm, more prepared and determined to bring closer the past from a variety of approaches and means to a wide audience.

Bárbara Rodríguez

Participant of the Training School

Integrating Neandertal Legacy

https://www.e-a-a.org/eaa2022

Session #344

LOCATION: R E245

New Opportunities for Cooperation

EAA BUDAPEST 2022 31 AUG – 03 SEPT

ABSTRACT

As a direct beneficiary of a century and a half's research on Neandertals, our present-day scholarly community has at its disposal a vast amount of data pertaining to an incredibly diverse spectrum of facets of this long-lost relative and predecessor of ours. However, during this long period, scientific methods, technological and methodological aspects, theory and practices have developed at different paces–and sometimes followed several trajectories–in different countries. As such, it can often be difficult to evaluate and compare various datasets dealing with Neandertal legacy, whether biological, cultural or other. Likewise, for numerous reasons, problems exist in relation to access to data and information for various sites and finds. In addition, the research questions asked by different groups and scholars from not only separate disciplines, but sometimes from the same disciplines but following diverse traditions, as well as from a variety of countries, are often difficult to compare, even if their goal is the same.

These overall shortcomings in Neandertal research and in the general management of Neandertal heritage have recently been addressed by an international initiative–a COST programme Action entitled 'Integrating Neandertal Legacy: From Past to Present'–which aims to create a long-term network of scientists with the goal of creating a usable and inclusive, inter- and multidisciplinary database and data sharing platform for all those interested in Neandertals.

As a follow up to the last year's EAA conference in Kiel, we would once again like to invite all those interested in different aspects of Neandertals and their legacy to join us with their presentations thereby contributing to bridging the geographic, linguistic, disciplinary-and-data specific gaps, as well as the issues created by the diverse traditions of different disciplines operating in various European countries.

We especially welcome contributions that offer proactive, realistic and feasible solutions that could lead to synergistic effects in research, management and valorisation of Neandertal heritage.

SATURDAY, 3RD SEPTEMBER 2022
11:00 – 18:30 CET
LOCATION: R E245

SESSION ORGANISERS
SANJIN MIHELIĆ
TAMARA LESKOVAR

EAA BUDAPEST 2022
SESSION #344

COST ACTION
INTEGRATING NEANDERTAL LEGACY:
NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION

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Tamara Leskovar
University of Ljubljana
Slovenia
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1ST BLOCK – 2 HOURS

11:00
Introduction

11:15
Condemi, Silvana *et al.*
Neandertal and Gravettian diets – a continuum or a revolution?

11:30
Rivals, Florent *et al.*
Interactions among Neanderthals, herbivores and carnivores: diet and ecological relationships in the Middle and Late Pleistocene

11:45
Discussion

12:00
Soressi, Marie *et al.*
The role of Neandertals in shaping Homo sapiens behavior and culture 50-40KA: extended workshops(s) for synthesizing transcontinental research

12:15
Verheyden, Sophie *et al.*
Mastering of underground areas by Neanderthals revealed by speleothems

12:30
Been, Ella & Barzilai, Omry
Neanderthal burial practices in Western Asia

12:45
Discussion

13:00
Lunch Break

SATURDAY, 3RD SEPTEMBER 2022
11:00 – 18:30 CET
LOCATION: R E245

SESSION ORGANISERS
SANJIN MIHELIĆ
TAMARA LESKOVAR

EAA BUDAPEST 2022
SESSION #344

COST ACTION
INTEGRATING NEANDERTAL LEGACY:
NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION

2ND BLOCK – 2 HOURS

14:00
Vasile, Stefan & Dumitrașcu, Valentin
New zooarchaeological data from La Adam Cave Palaeolithic site (Dobrogea, SE Romania)

14:15
Perreira, Telmo *et al.*
PaleoTejo, a Network for Neanderthal and Pre-Neanderthal investigation and heritage

14:30
Romagnoli, Francesca
Palaeolithic biases: some reflections on what is limiting Palaeolithic Archaeology in academia and archaeological museums. A Spanish perspective

14:45
Discussion

15:00
Röding, Carolin *et al.*
Neanderthal morphology and the frontal bone from Hahnöfersand, Germany

15:15
Škrdla, Peter *et al.*
Is Everything Lost? Re-excavation potential of old cave excavation depositsthe Issue of Masculinity

15:30
Kandel, Andrew *et al.*
New methods to explore old data. Applying modern techniques from data science to compare Neanderthal behavior between MIS6 and MIS5E

15:45
Discussion

16:00
Coffe break

3RD BLOCK – 2 HOURS

16:30
Peresani, Marco
Raptors claws, a Neanderthal brand: a discussion around shared practices across human communities in Southern Europe

16:45
Marciani, Giulia *et al.*
Disentangling Middle Palaeolithic techno-complexes without using labels

17:00
Peeters, Susan & Zwart, Hub
Neanderthals and 'Us': how the Golden Age of Neanderthal Research challenges human self-understanding

17:15
Discussion

17:30
Florindi, Silvia *et al.*
Take a walk on the virtual side of Neanderthals. Exhibitive solutions to travel inside Poggetti Vecchi (Central Italy)

17:45
Mihelić, Sanjin
Neandertals as stakeholders in cultural tourism: the story so far

18:00
Final discussion & wrap up

18:30
End of Session

NEANDERTAL AND GRAVETTIAN DIETS— A CONTINUUM OR A REVOLUTION?

SILVANA CONDEMI
CNRS, EFS, ADES, AIX-MARSEILLE UNIVERSITÉ, MARSEILLE, FRANCE

JEAN-LUC VOISIN
CNRS, EFS, ADES, AIX-MARSEILLE UNIVERSITÉ, MARSEILLE, FRANCE

ALEXANDRA VAUZELLE
CNRS, EFS, ADES, AIX-MARSEILLE UNIVERSITÉ, MARSEILLE, FRANCE

IVOR JANKOVIĆ
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03-09-2022 | 11:15h
SATURDAY | LOCATION: R E245

ABSTRACT

Recently, a number of stones from Gravettian contexts (ca 31 000 to 23 000 years BP) at archaeological sites have been recognized as grinding stones bearing traces of starch. This led to a proposal that the Gravettian people used wild grain flour, suggesting a change in diet (carbohydrate consumption) compared to earlier populations (Neandertals). If so, this would also be reflected in dental pathologies between these two human groups. Testing of this hypothesis is one of the main goals of the ANR* grant entitled "Starch4Sapiens" led by one of us (SC). The aim of this presentation is to present the oral health status of late Neandertal and Gravettian peoples. Results of the preliminary study show that teeth pathologies are present in both populations but have different etiologies. In Neandertals, hypoplastic defects are much more common than in Gravettian people, where periodontal diseases are prevailing. Interestingly, caries is very rarely seen in either group. Hypoplasia reflect stresses during dental growth, such as malnutrition, infection or fever. Low incidence of hypoplasia in Gravettian people could be interpreted as a more regular food intake compared to Neandertals, which is in accordance with the use of flour grain. Grains can be stored easily and thus allowed a more regular supply of food. However, the etiology of periodontal diseases need further study, as planned by this grant. Comparative work on Gravettian is supported by the Croatian Science Foundation Grant IP-04-2019. This work is in accordance and supports the goals of the COST Action CA 19141.,

KEYWORDS
Neandertals, Gravettian, diet, Pleistocene, dental health

*http://www.lcqb.upmc.fr/starch4sapiens/

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SILVANA CONDEMI, paleoanthropologist, is director of research at the CNRS, at the University of Aix-Marseille in France.

JEAN-LUC VOISIN focuses on two topics: the shoulder anatomy within genus *Homo*, with a special interest for the Neandertal one; Neandertals and their relationships with other Hominids.

ALEXANDRA VAUZELLE focuses on two things in particular: oral health and diet. Mostly in fossil populations with a particular interest in Neanderthals.

IVOR JANKOVIĆ is a prehistoric archaeologist and paleoanthropologist at the Institute for Anthropological Research in Zagreb, Croatia. His main interests are biological and cultural adaptation of Middle and Late Pleistocene hominins.

Florent Rivals
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Florent Rivals is a paleobiologist with an interest in evolutionary paleoecology and the ecological context of evolution in Europe and the Near East.

Hervé Bocherens is a paleobiologist who is investigating since more than 30 years the diet and ecology of Neanderthals using isotopic tracking.

Edgard Camarós is interested in the taphonomic analysis of hominin bones to reconstruct human behaviour in the past, and leads archaeological fieldwork in El Pendo (Cantabria, Spain).

Jordi Rosell Ardèvol is a zooarchaeologist and taphonomist who have worked mainly in the Middle Palaeolithic of Europe and the Near East.

ABSTRACT

Neanderthal ecology was strongly driven by the climatic and environmental context that occurred during the Middle and Late Pleistocene in Western Eurasia. They were living under widely fluctuating conditions which affected Neanderthal ecology, including subsistence, land-use patterns, social interactions and interactions with other organisms and with the environment. This presentation will focus on the latter aspect. Biological interactions are the relationships existing between organisms in a community within an ecosystem. Dietary traits of individuals and populations of both Neanderthals and animals, are essential for the reconstruction of biotic interactions among species. These kinds of dynamic relationships with other living species in a shared environment can be seen as a major influence in evolution and ecology, and the timing and type of interaction could have driven many aspects of Neanderthal behaviour.

This presentation is aimed at combining the different approaches to studying interactions between organisms or populations: dietary food webs of plants-animals (stable isotopes and tooth wear), animals-humans (stable isotopes) and more complex interactions between humans and other animals, mainly carnivores (based on taphonomy and zooarchaeology).

The main types of interactions that can be recorded in archaeological assemblages will be presented and discussed: competition and interaction between resources and consumers, including predation. Studies on the interaction between Neanderthals and animals are suggesting an important plasticity of Neanderthal behaviour in all the territories occupied and, therefore, a broad-spectrum ecological niche characterised by important relationships with a multitude of animals of a very diverse nature. Therefore, the question that must be addressed in the future is how to assess the degree of importance of the relationships determined by the overrepresentation of each species in the environment and the degree of interactions determined by specific Neanderthal cultural criteria (or similar).

Keywords

Resource partitioning, Competition, Dental microwear, Stable isotopes, Taphonomy, Zooarchaeology

INTERACTIONS AMONG NEANDERTHALS, HERBIVORES AND CARNIVORES— DIET AND ECOLOGICAL RELATIONSHIPS IN THE MIDDLE AND LATE PLEISTOCENE

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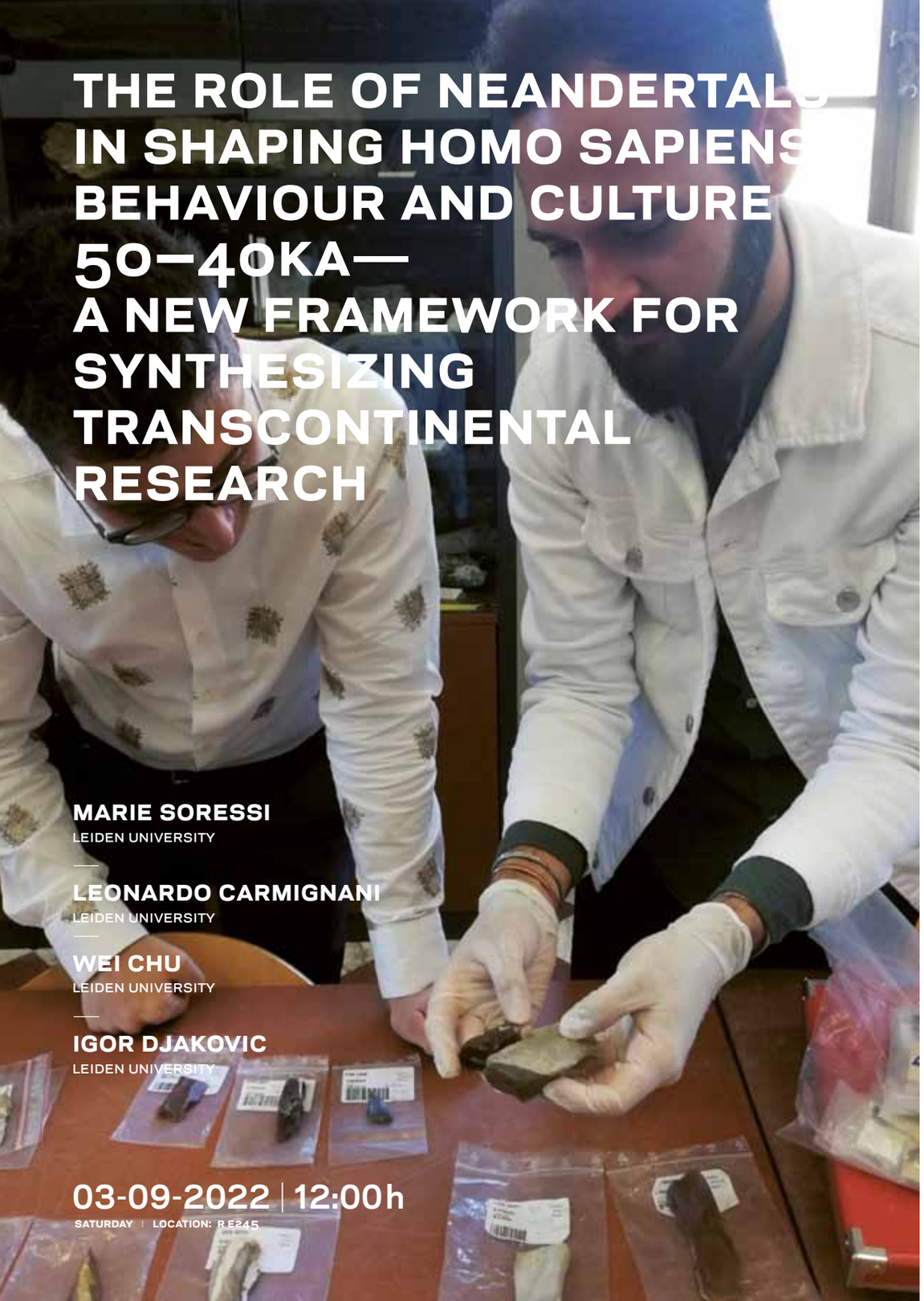
UNIVERSITAT ROVIRA I VIRGILI, TARRAGONA, SPAIN

03-09-2022 | 11:30h
SATURDAY | LOCATION: R E245



THE ROLE OF NEANDERTALS IN SHAPING HOMO SAPIENS BEHAVIOUR AND CULTURE 50–40KA— A NEW FRAMEWORK FOR SYNTHESIZING TRANSCONTINENTAL RESEARCH

MARIE SORESSI
LEIDEN UNIVERSITY

LEONARDO CARMIGNANI
LEIDEN UNIVERSITY

WEI CHU
LEIDEN UNIVERSITY

IGOR DJAKOVIC
LEIDEN UNIVERSITY

03-09-2022 | 12:00h
SATURDAY | LOCATION: R.E245

ABSTRACT

How frequent were interactions between incoming Homo sapiens and Neandertals in Eurasia 50-40,000 years ago? Only a theoretically well-informed investigation of material culture, combined with the identification of its makers and detailed analysis of site formation processes, can elucidate how past knowledge and ideas were exchanged. Here, archaeologists have much to contribute; however, they face several problems. The analysis of material culture corresponding to the Middle to Upper Paleolithic transition in Europe has been published in many different languages, and meaningful interpersonal opportunities to synthesize diverse, regionally segmented research have been rare.

Here, we propose the organization of a synthesis workshop to bring together the latest research, data, and perspectives on the final stage of Neandertals as a population in Europe, with the aim of paving the way to uncover evidence (or lack thereof) of Neandertal/Homo sapiens cultural interactions. In our minds, such a workshop would last one week, be located in a major European city, and gather researchers from across Europe. There will be time for reflection on the latest relevant findings, to discuss the quality and integrity of their geological context and their dating, and to evaluate their implications for our understanding of this timeframe. The broad goal is to identify if and how interactions between the different groups identified in Europe between 50 and 40,000 years ago were manifest. There will also be space to display artifacts and examine representative collection samples. Such a workshop could lead to the realization of a publication (for example an atlas) co-authored by the participants, and 3D scans of collections could be produced on the spot or offered in-house.

KEYWORDS
Neandertal, Interactions, Homo sapiens, europe, Middle Paleolithic, Transitional industries

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MARIE SORESSI is Professor of Hominin Diversity archaeology at Leiden University. She runs the Neandertal Legacy project that investigate contacts and interactions between late Neandertals and early modern humans in France, Italy and Romania.

LEONARDO CARMIGNANI is a junior post-doctoral researcher in the Neanderthal Legacy project in Leiden and an expert in Middle Palaeolithic lithic technology, especially blade productions in France and Italy.

WEI CHU is a senior postdoctoral researcher in the Neanderthal Legacy project in Leiden and an expert in field archaeology and lithic taphonomy with a focus on Eastern Europe.

IGOR DJAKOVIC is an early career researcher specialising on behaviours preserved in French Chatelperronian contexts and is a PhD candidate at Leiden University.

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Sophie Verheyden is geologist, researcher at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS). She mainly works on speleothems as archive for ancient climate, environment and anthropogenic traces. She currently co-leads the work in the Bruniquel Cave.

Jacques Jaubert focuses on the hand the Neanderthal peopling of Eurasia on the other hand the anthropization of the caves world: Cussac Cave (Dordogne), and recently Bruniquel cave (SW France).

Elena Marinova research interests are the long-term perspective on the human impact on the environment and how environmental constraints shaped human subsistence and development.

Maria Gurova conducts research in Prehistoric Archaeology with a focus on chipped-stone assemblages from Palaeolithic sites in Bulgaria, and more broadly on the Holocene sequences of the Balkans, Anatolia and Southern Levant (raw material, techno-typological and use-wear analysis).

ABSTRACT

Speleothems (stalagmites, stalactites, etc.) are one of the best datable terrestrial environmental archives. Currently routinely used in palaeoclimatic studies, the potential of these deposits in an archaeological context is however still poorly explored. Speleothems provide not only a precise (<0.5%) chronology for sedimentary deposits, including incorporated archaeological material, but also give some clues to the overall human behavior patterns in the cave environment. To illustrate this we present two case studies from the Mishin Kamik cave (Bulgaria) and Bruniquel cave (France). Flowstones of the Mishin Kamik cave, Bulgaria, allowed to date the cave deposits containing archaeological material to the period before 135 ka (Early Middle Paleolithic / EMP). This was achieved through the correlation of the sedimentary units covered by flow stone with the detailed profile of a nearby stalagmite. Additionally The speleothem offered a reliable chronological framework and context for reconstructing the time-span of an intriguing and unique bear skull accumulation of between 250 and 220 ka (MIS 7).
In the Bruniquel cave, France, a careful selection and dating of stalagmites covering broken stalagmite-bases provide information on the time of breakage and on the possible nearby origin of the stalagmites used in the 176 ka-old-early Neanderthal construction in the cave. The construction only contains stalagmites, while surrounding speleothems consist of broken stalagmites, stalactites and flowstones, some of them defined as 'speleofacts', i.e. broken and displaced speleothem pieces. A distinct geochemical signature of speleothems from different parts of the cave may bring additional information on the origin of the stalagmites and the extend of Neanderthal activities in this, a priori, hostile environment that before the dating of the Bruniquel structures was thought to be the exclusive playground of modern humans.

Keywords
palaeospeleology, Neanderthal, speleothem, cave, geochemistry

MASTERING OF UNDERGROUND AREAS BY NEANDERTHALS REVEALED BY SPELEOTHEMS

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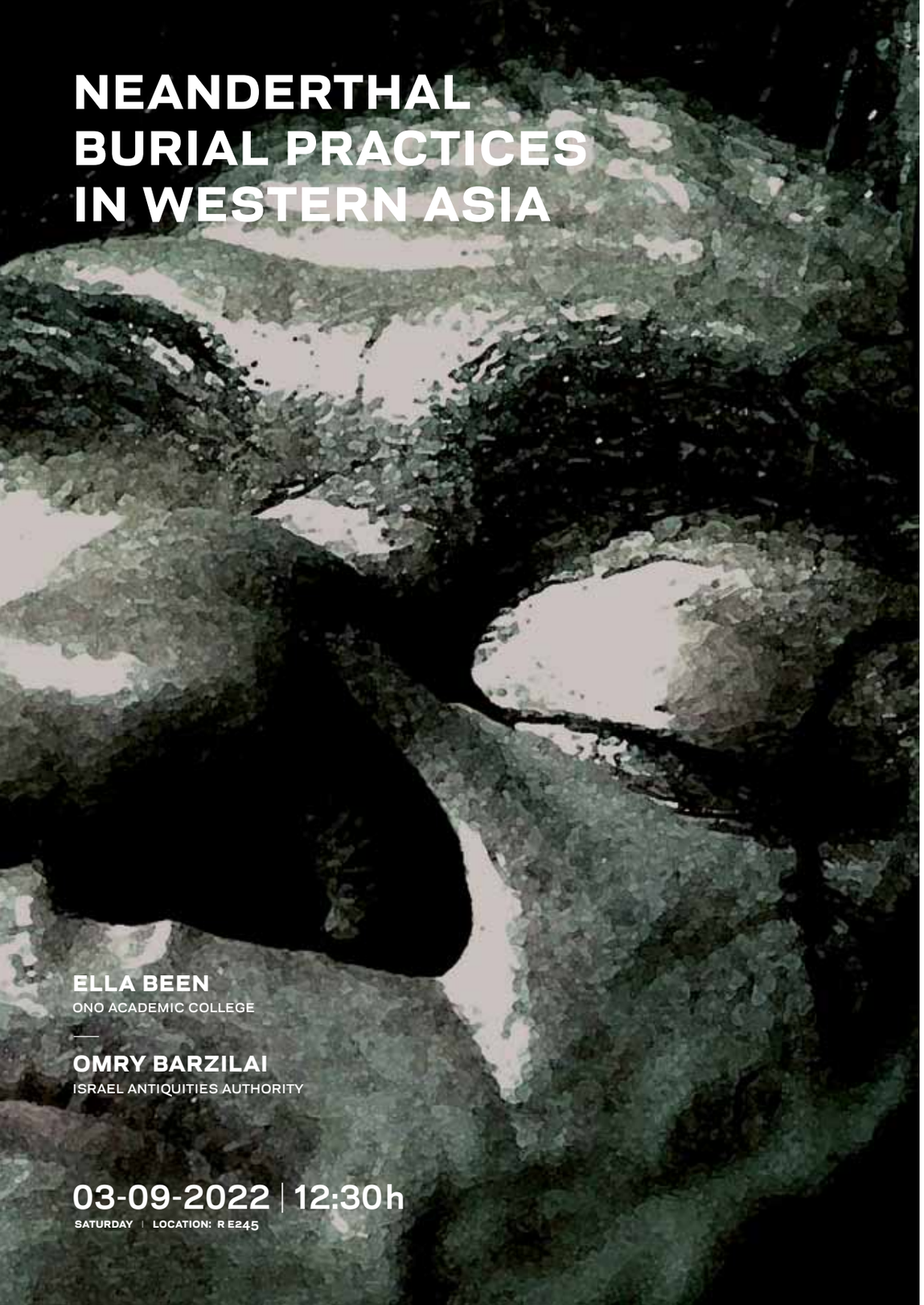
03-09-2022 | 12:15h
SATURDAY | LOCATION: R E245



ABSTRACT

The Middle Paleolithic of western Asia is one of the more complicated periods in human evolution as it hosts at least two hominin species– the archaic Homo sapiens and the Neanderthals. Anthropological and genetic studies indicate these populations arrived at the region in various dispersal events. The archaic Homo sapiens arrived from Africa during MIS 7 and MIS 5 whereas Neanderthals from Europe during MIS 4. These populations exploited similar resources in the same geographical niches and, in some cases, even inhabited the same caves. As such, the arrival of new populations to the Levant must have had an impact on territoriality. One of the most convincing expressions for land ownership in prehistory are the burials which were common for both populations.

This paper aims to review all published Neanderthal burials in western Asia. Emphasis will be made on incorporating Neanderthal anthropological and archaeological data which is carried under the framework of the COST Action program entitled 'Integrating Neandertal Legacy: From Past to Present'. The anthropological data will include the number of buried individuals at each location, body position (supine, side-lying, etc.), gender, age at death, and estimated height and weight for each specimen. The presence of a burial pit, any burial offerings/goods, and special positional remarks (such as - head resting on a square limestone) will also be included. The archaeological data will include characterization of the material cultural remains that were found in burial contexts (i.e., lithic assemblages, faunal remains, shells, ochre, etc.).

The presented material will be synthesized to form a coherent picture of the Neanderthal burial practices in western Asia which could be compared to the burial practices of archaic Homo sapiens. This work is expected to highlight similarities and differences between the two populations who shared western Asia during the Middle Paleolithic period.

Keywords
Middle Paleolithic, Levant, Neandertal, Archaic Homo sapiens

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Ella Been is the head of the Sports Therapy Department at Ono Academic College, and a lecturer at Sackler Faculty of Medicine Tel Aviv University. Her main interests are anatomy and paleoanthropology. Her research has focused on the evolution of erect posture and bipedality in hominins, with special emphasis on Neandertals.

Omry Barzilai is a senior prehistoric archaeologist, currently the head of the Archaeological Research Department in the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA). In the last decade Omry has directed several large-scale projects concerned with the transition from the Middle to Upper Paleolithic in the Levant. He is a skilled lithic specialist and has background in radiocarbon dating.

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Ștefan Vasile is a lecturer at the Faculty of Geology and Geophysics, University of Bucharest, Romania.
He specializes in vertebrate palaeontology, focusing on herpetofaunas and large mammals, following faunal shifts in relation to climate changes, and using vertebrate faunal assemblages to reconstruct palaeoenvironments, including those inhabited by humans during the Palaeolithic.

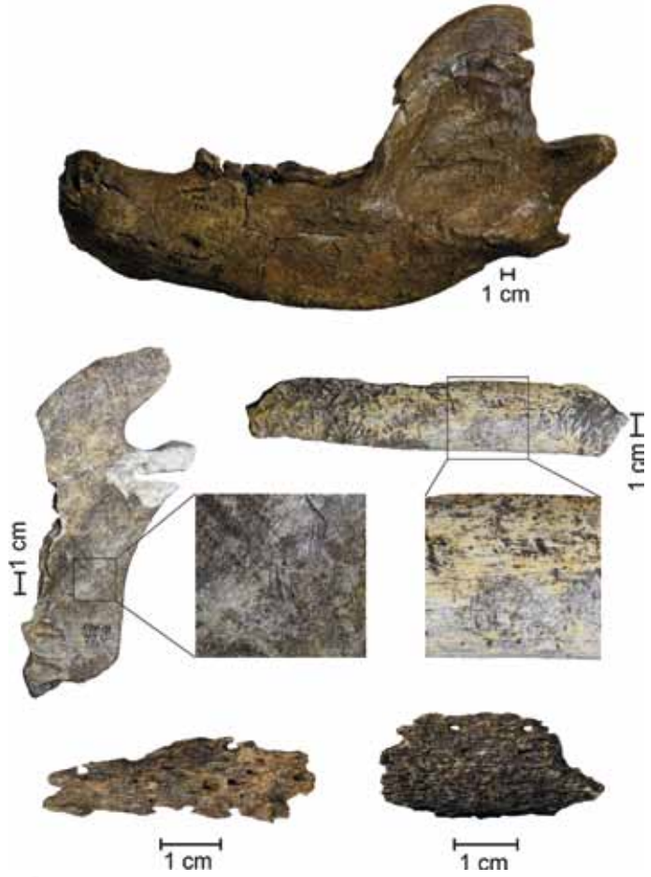
Valentin Dumitrașcu is a scientific researcher at the "Vasile Pârvan" Institute of Archaeology, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania.
His main field of activity is zooarchaeology, aiming to understand the human-animal interaction during the Palaeolithic: vertebrate hunting strategies and usage of animal parts by humans.

ABSTRACT

Accumulated between 151 and 55 ky BP, the cultural layer excavated in La Adam cave (SE Romania) yielded rare lithics, but numerous faunal remains. This study analysed the vertebrate faunal remains unearthed in recent excavations, aiming to assess their taxonomy, taphonomic, and anthropic modifications of the bones. The vertebrate remains were highly fragmented, only allowing taxonomic assessment for a relatively small fraction of specimens. Taphonomic modifications of the bones are very frequent, including signs of chemical corrosion and carnivore bite marks, as well as possible trampling, bone gnawing, and fungal activity. The cave appears to have been a shelter for carnivores, with cave bear remains dominating numerically. Other large carnivores, such as cave hyenas, most probably contributed to bone accumulation as well, with large and middle-sized ruminants being their most common prey. Human activity, most probably related to Neandertals, albeit scarce, is supported by the cut marks seen on several bones, and by the presence of a bone percutor/retoucher. Work supported by EEA grant 126/2018, contract no. 3/2019 - KARSTHIVES2 and by CNCS – UEFISCDI project number PN-III-P4-ID-PCE-2020-2282, within PNCDI III (both Ș.V.); and project PATCULT#RO (PN-III-P1-1.2-PCCDI-2017-0686 – V.D.).

Keywords
zooarchaeology, Palaeolithic, taphonomy, cave site

NEW ZOOARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA FROM LA ADAM CAVE PALAEOLITHIC SITE (DOBROGEA, SE ROMANIA)



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—

VALENTIN DUMITRAȘCU
ROMANIAN ACADEMY, "VASILE PÂRVAN" INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

03-09-2022 | 14:00h
SATURDAY | LOCATION: R E245

PALEOTEJO, A NETWORK FOR NEANDERTHAL AND PRE-NEANDERTHAL INVESTIGATION AND HERITAGE

TELMO PEREIRA
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MARGARIDA SALVADOR
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FRANCISCO HENRIQUES
ASSOCIAÇÃO DE ESTUDOS DO ALTO TEJO

JOÃO CANINAS
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LUIZ OOSTERBEEK
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PIERLUIGI ROSINA
INSTITUTO POLITÉCNICO DE TOMAR; CENTRO DE GEOCIÊNCIAS DA UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA, PORTUGAL

03-09-2022 | 14:15h
SATURDAY | LOCATION: R E245

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MARGARIDA SALVADOR is Archaeologist, middle school professor and researcher at the CPGP – Centro Português de Geohistória e Pré-história. Has decades of experience in field and laboratory work in Archaeology, particularly in Paleolithic sites, resulting in a dozen of papers. Specialist in outreach with young students and lithic technology.

LUÍS RAPOSO is President of ICOM Europe, former professor at Universidade Lusíada e Universidade de Lisboa, and director of the Museu Nacional de Arqueologia. Has more than 50 years of experience in field and laboratory work that resulted in the excavation of some of the most outstanding Acheulean and Mousterian sites of Portugal, resulting in over two and a half hundred works about Paleolithic, Heritage and Museums.

FERNANDA SOUSA is Archaeologist and researcher at the CPGP – Centro Português de Geohistória e Pré-história. Has decades of experience in field and laboratory work in Archaeology, particularly in Paleolithic sites, resulting in dozens of papers. Specialist in Archaeological Illustrator since 1995 and lithic technology.

SILVÉRIO FIGUEIREDO is Professor at the Instituto Politécnico de Tomar, researcher in CGeo-Centro de Geociências of the University of Coimbra, founder and president of CPGP – Centro Português de Geohistória e Pré-história. Is a specialist in paleontology, with two decades of investigation of Cretaceous and Pleistocene vertebrates.

PEDRO PROENÇA CUNHA is Full Professor at the Universidade de Coimbra and researcher at MARE – Centro de Ciências do Mar e do Ambiente. Specialist in geology and geomorphology has over three decades of experience that resulted in hundreds one papers about stratigraphy, sedimentology, geomorphology, neotectonics, geoarchaeology and OSL dating.

António Martins is Professor at the Universidade de Évora and researcher at the Instituto das Ciências da Terra. Geographer, expert in active tectonics, seismology, rotation processes, studies of Cenozoic evolution, geomorphological processes and cartography, absolute dating, fluvial terraces, flattening surfaces and GIS has over 40 years of experience that resulted in dozens of papers.

João Pedro Cunha-Ribeiro is Professor at the Universidade de Lisboa and researcher at Uniarq - Centro de Arqueologia da Universidade de Lisboa, former subdirector of Instituto Português de Arqueologia, Instituto Português do Património Arquitetónico e Arqueológico, and Direção Geral do Património Cultural. Archaeologist with four decades of experience on the study of the Acheulean and Heritage management.

Carlos Ferreira is Master's student in the Master of Archaeology at the Universidade de Lisboa and researcher in Uniarq - Centro de Arqueologia of the University of Lisbon. His investigation focuses on the technological aspects of the Acheulean, supervised by João Pedro Cunha-Ribeiro and Prof. Eduardo Méndez-Quintas.

Vânia Pirata is Master student at Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa in the course of History and Heritage focusing on Late Acheulean of the Tagus valley, supervised by Telmo Pereira. Has 15 years of experience in contract archaeology, resulting on the identification of dozens of Prehistoric sites in central and south Portugal.

Sara Garcês is Researcher in Instituto Politécnico de Tomar, CGeo-Centro de Geociências of the University of Coimbra and Earth and Memory Institute, co-coordinator of the FIRST-ART project. Specialist in Prehistoric open air and cave rock art and also on archaeometry and dating of prehistoric pigments.

Francisco Henriques, Anthropologist and Archaeologist, has more than 50 years of fieldwork experience that resulted on finding hundreds of Prehistoric sites across Portugal, on dozens of papers about archaeology and ethnography. He also mentoring hundreds of young archaeologists.

João Caninas, Doctor in Archaeology, is director of the Proença-a-Nova Archaeological Field Camp, manager of the contract archaeology firm EMERITA – Empresa Portuguesa de Arqueologia. Has more than 40 years of experience in archaeology that resulted in the identification of hundreds of new Prehistoric sites and dozens of papers.

Nelson J. Almeida is Researcher in Uniarq - Centro de Arqueologia of the University of Lisbon, and co-founder of the contract archaeology firm Earth's Legacy Cooperative. Receiver of several high-competitive grants. Is a specialist in zooarchaeology and taphonomy of Western Iberia contexts from hunter-gatherers to historical times.

Cristiana Ferreira is Researcher in CGeo-Centro de Geociências of the University of Coimbra, with large experience in contract archaeology. Receiver of several high-competitive grants. Is a specialist in archaeobotany, particularly focusing on palynological and anthracological, of Prehistoric contexts in Portugal and abroad.

Luiz Oosterbeek is Professor at the Instituto Politécnico de Tomar. Vicedirector of the CGeo-Centro de Geociências of the University of Coimbra. President of the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences. Former Secretary General of the UISPP. UNESCO chair holder “Humanities and Cultural Integrated Landscape management”.

Pierluigi Rosina is Professor at the Instituto Politécnico de Tomar and researcher in CGeo-Centro de Geociências of the University of Coimbra. Specialist in geoarchaeology, has coordinated and been team member of projects across Portugal, Spain, Angola, Senegal, Ethiopia, and Brazil, resulting in dozens of papers.

ABSTRACT

Since the 19th century, the Lower Tejo River (western Iberia) provide extensive evidence of Neanderthal occupation. However, due to the absence of long-term, well-funded projects and of fully-equipped research facilities, we still do not have a clear framework for the Neanderthal occupation of this crucial territory. Nowadays, probably more than ever, the increasing impact of urbanization and intensive agriculture potentiates the loss of already known and also the yet to find Paleolithic sites.

Recently, grounded on the extensive work performed by Prof. Luís Raposo for 50 years, and also of decades of work from other colleagues, it was possible to put in place a network project that will integrate previous and new data on the first human communities in Portugal, both pre-Neanderthal and Neanderthal.

In this contribution, we present the PaleoTejo project, highlighting the network of researchers and institutions, but also the strategy, goals and what has been achieved so far.

Keywords

Pre-Neanderthals, Neanderthals, Iberian Peninsula, Network Research

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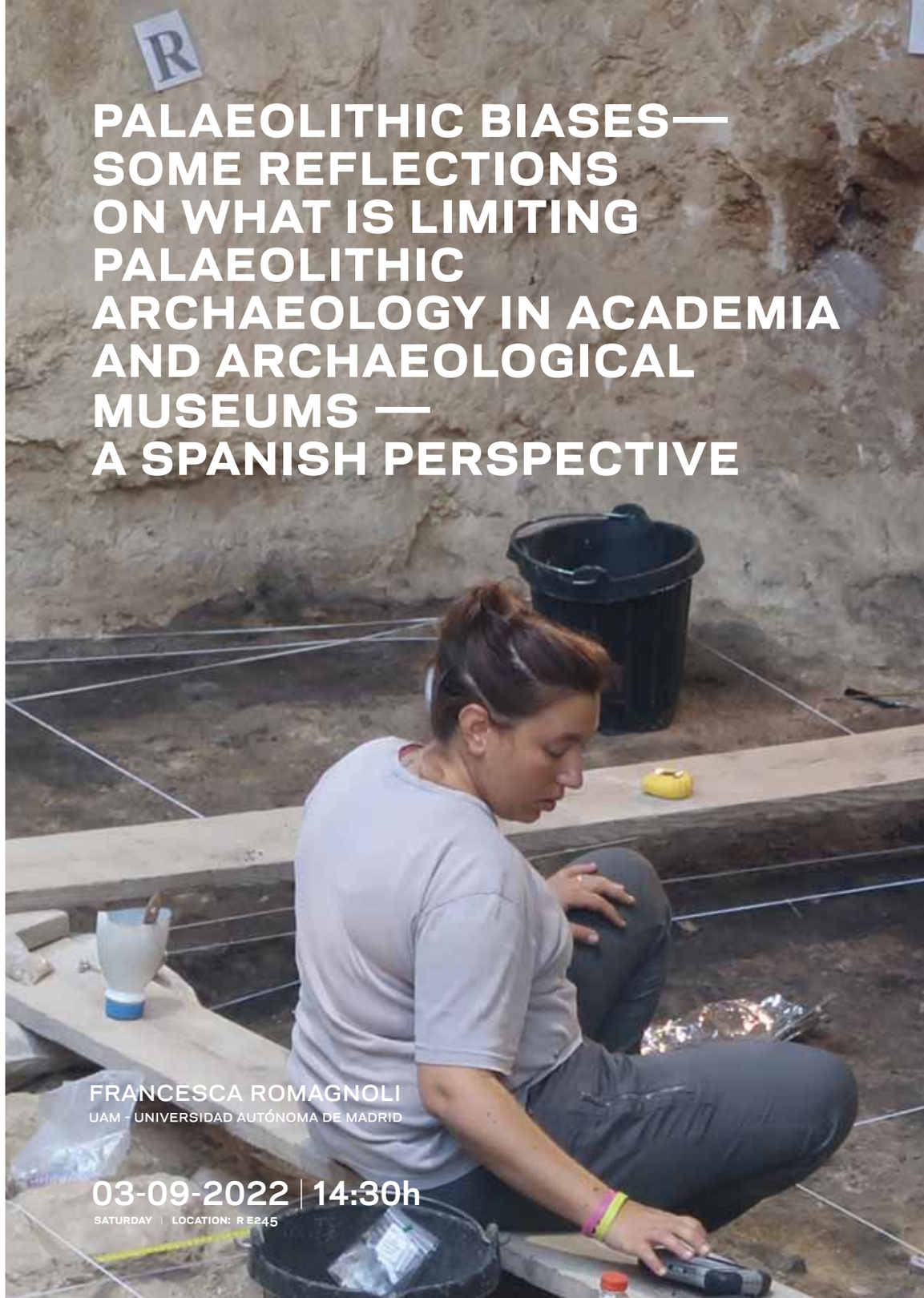
Francesca Romagnoli, International PhD with European mention (2012), is an Assistant Professor at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid in Spain. She is specialised in the study of Neanderthal socio-economy and the cultural expression of pre-Sapiens Palaeolithic hunter-gatherers across Mediterranean regions, with a special focus on coastal adaptations. She has published original research on Neanderthal shell technology, site formation processes, and the relationships between human mobility, technological costs, and stone tool resources. She has a special interest in methodological issues in the study of past technologies. She is also interested in the construction of archaeological narratives in museums and outreach activities

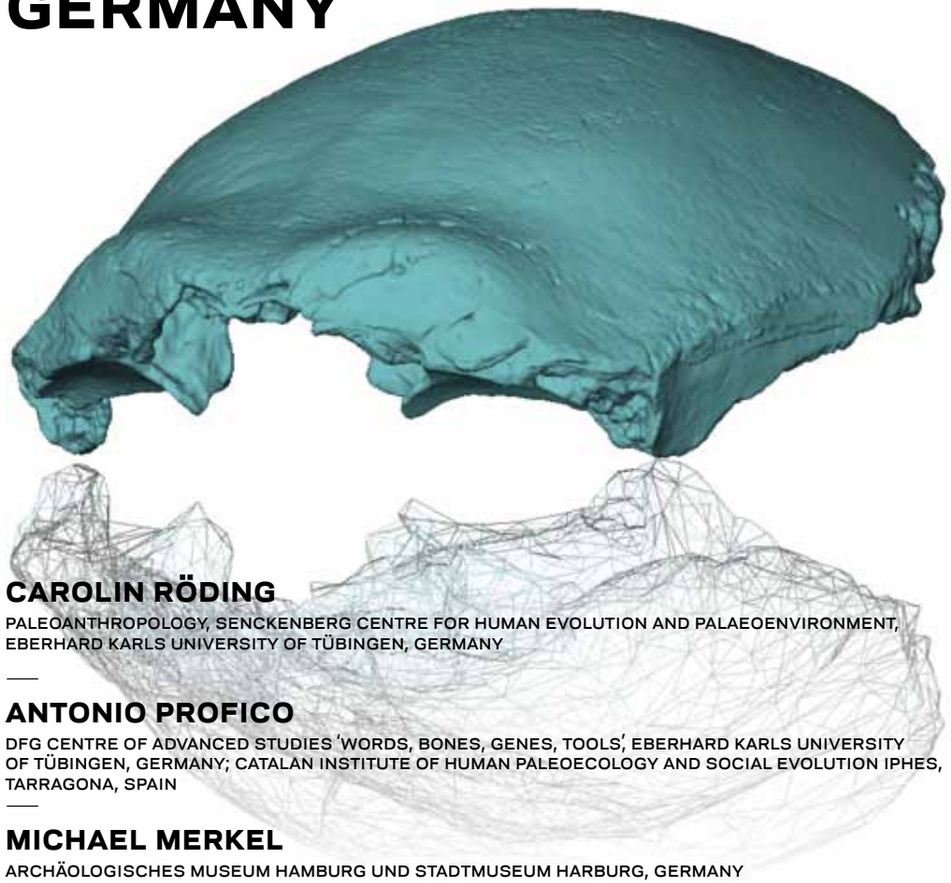
ABSTRACT

Paradigmatic biases in Palaeolithic Archaeology go back decades and have their roots in the conception of archaeology as anthropology or history, the debate about objectivity in humanities, and the discussion if archaeology is science. In Spain, where Archaeology is mainly included in Bachelor programmes in History and university departments are called 'Prehistory and Archaeology', these debates are still current. The way in which Palaeolithic has been taught and passed on, significantly affect the perception that large portions of students, academic colleagues, and the society have of ancient Prehistory. It is often seen as a long time in which everything -e.g. technology, cognition, and social dynamics- is extremely simple, and a time for which we cannot gain a proper knowledge because of little archaeological evidence and lack of written sources. It is astonishing to hear today these arguments in academia, and detecting the belief of many students that the knowledge of Prehistory has nothing to do with the understanding of the present, as though Palaeolithic archaeologists do not investigate how and why humans interact with other individuals, the environment and the objects. Furthermore, other issues affect the current idea of Palaeolithic people and life styles. On the one hand, there is a persistent bias in the way in which western societies approach 'diversity'. This generates a weird narrative by opposing 'us' Homo sapiens with 'the others' hominins, and 'primitive' hunter-gatherers with 'modern' producers. On the other hand, Prehistory is biased by the one-side focus that usually makes invisible all the diversity of gender as it is mediated by age, ethnicity, and sexuality. In this presentation, examples related to direct working experience will be presented discussing some thoughts that would stimulate a needed collective reflection on what is today the responsibility of Palaeolithic archaeologists to train (better) archaeologists, citizens and human beings.

Keywords
hunter-gatherers, Neanderthals, social archaeology, teaching, social education, scientific epistemology



NEANDERTHAL MORPHOLOGY AND THE FRONTAL BONE FROM HAHNÖFERSAND, GERMANY



CAROLIN RÖDING
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ANTONIO PROFICO
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MICHAEL MERKEL
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03-09-2022 | 15:00h
SATURDAY | LOCATION: R E245

ABSTRACT

In 1973 the sediments of the river Elbe near Hahnöfersand, Germany, yielded an enigmatic human frontal bone. This well-preserved frontal bone exhibits a rather prominent supraorbital region and a flat frontal squama, whose metric analyses showed affinities to Neanderthals (Bräuer, 1980). In contrast, other features are typical of Homo sapiens, like the supraorbital torus divided into lateral and medial portions. The frontal bone was interpreted as showing signs of hybridization between Neanderthals and modern humans due to this mix of features in combination with an initial dating to ca. 36 ka (e.g., Bräuer, 1980). However, later re-dating of the bone produced Mesolithic ages around 7500 B.P. and thereby, rendered previous interpretations implausible (Terberger, Street & Bräuer, 2001).
Here, we aim to objectively analyze the entire preserved ectocranial morphology of the frontal bone from Hahnöfersand in order to explore its affinities to Neanderthals and different modern human populations. Therefore, we employ the novel 3D shape comparative analysis based on surface registration. In this approach surface registration is coupled with an elastic iterative closest point algorithm to create a dataset of meshes with an identical number of corresponding vertices. Multivariate statistics are applied to Procrustes superimposed coordinates derived from the vertices of this dataset. This described method has a great potential for the study of hominin fossils as it allows to analyze the entire preserved morphology of isolated and fragmented remains based on a minimal number of homologous points.
This research was supported by the European Research Council (ERC CoG no. 724703) and the German Research Foundation (DFG FOR 2237).

Keywords
Neanderthal, frontal bone, surface registration

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Carolin Röding focuses on reconstructing and analyzing fragmentary Pleistocene hominin cranial and dental remains from the broader Mediterranean region in the framework of virtual anthropology and geometric morphometrics.

Antonio Profico is a biological anthropologist and morphometrician interested in human evolution and virtual anthropology. His research concerns the application of geometric morphometrics and multivariate statistics for the study of the human fossil record.

Michael Merkel focuses his archaeological interest on the Stone Age epochs of northern Germany. He has been working at the Archaeological Museum Hamburg (AMH) since 1997.

Katerina Harvati's broader research interests include primate and human evolution, evolutionary theory; the relationship between the phenotype, genetics, behavior, and the environment; and the paleoanthropology of South-East Europe.

Petr Škrdla
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Petr Škrdla is a Research Professor at the Institute of Archaeology (Brno, CZ). He is a Paleolithic archaeologist interested in a reconstruction of lithic technologies with a focus on the MP / UP transitional period, settlement strategies, and the development of predictive models aimed at discovery of new stratified sites.

Miroslav Králík is an Associate Professor at Masaryk University (Brno, CZ). He is a biological anthropologist and currently focuses mainly on human life history, ontogeny, prenatal programming and morphological markers of prenatal development. In the field of archaeology and prehistory, he deals with the analysis of mechanical traces on archaeological finds (traceology, use-wear, fingerprints).

Ladislav Nejman graduated with a PhD in archaeology at the Australian National University in 2006. He has conducted multidisciplinary research focusing on the Middle-Upper Palaeolithic transition in Central Europe with a particular focus on palaeoenvironments. He also specialises in lithic analysis and Australian Indigenous archaeology.

Ondřej Mlejnek is a researcher and coordinator at the Excellent Centre of Archaeometry (ERCA), which is a department of the Archaeological Centre in Olomouc (Czech Republic). He is also an executive editor of the Interdisciplinaria Archaeologica - Natural Sciences in Archaeology Journal and external teacher at the Institute of Archaeology at the Silesian University in Opava. Examples of his professional interests include archaeology of the Palaeolithic and Mesolitic periods, lithic analyses and settlement strategies of prehistoric people.

IS EVERYTHING LOST? RE-EXCAVATION POTENTIAL OF OLD CAVE EXCAVATION DEPOSITS

PETR ŠKRDLA
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LADISLAV NEJMAN
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DUNCAN WRIGHT
SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY, THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

MIROSLAV KRÁLÍK
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY, MASARYK UNIVERSITY, BRNO

ONDŘEJ MLEJNEK
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY, MASARYK UNIVERSITY, BRNO

JAROSLAV BARTÍK
INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE CAS, BRNO

03-09-2022 | 15:15h
SATURDAY | LOCATION: R E245

Jaroslav Bartík is a post-doc researcher at the Institute of Archaeology (Brno, CZ). In his professional interest, he focuses on the issue of exploitation and distribution of lithic raw materials, workshop areas and technological aspects of stone industry production during the Stone Age.

ABSTRACT

Most caves, including caves most suitable for human occupation, were excavated in Moravia as early as late 19th century and the first half of 20th century. Recently, we tested the re-excavation potential of discarded sediments from a spoil heap deposited near the entrance of Švédův stůl cave in Moravian Karst – a well-known site where a Neandertal jaw was found. B. Klíma removed all of the sediments (450 m3 in total) from the cave during several excavation seasons in the 1950s.

The current reexcavation of the spoil heap outside of Švédův stůl cave is aimed at finding lithic artefacts, human skeletal remains, personal ornaments, and other small finds lost during previous excavations as well as monitoring the stratigraphy for potential contexts. In an age in which archaeologists are increasingly attempting to balance their roles as cultural heritage educators and destroyers, and with respect to our volumetric capabilities, we were able to transport and wet-sieve only a small amount of sediments as we believe in more precise methodological attempts in the future.

Keywords
Neandertals, Moravian Karst, Švédův stůl cave, Re-excavation, Spoil-heap

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Andrew Kandel is a Paleolithic Archaeologist and specializes in the analysis of the cultural changes that occurred during the transition from the Middle to Upper Paleolithic in the Levant and Caucasus.

Claudia Groth is a Technical Assistant and specializes in the chemical processing of rock and soil samples, and the preparation of fossil and modern pollen, as well as phytoliths.

Michael Bolus is a Paleolithic Archaeologist and specializes in the archaeology of Neanderthals and early anatomically modern humans with a special focus on Europe.

Julia Hess is a Biologist and the administrative coordinator of ROCEEH. Her main focus is on maintaining ROCEEH's website, editing a newsletter, coordinating the budget and other administrative operations. She also enters genetic data into the ROAD database.

Angela Bruch is a Paleobotanist whose main research topic focuses on quantitative climate and vegetation reconstructions to better understand environmental dynamics and the availability of useful wild plants.

Christine Hertler is a Paleobiologist studying the interactions of Pleistocene humans with resources in their respective environments. She applies simulation approaches, particularly agent-based modelling.

NEW METHODS TO EXPLORE OLD DATA: APPLYING MODERN TECHNIQUES FROM DATA SCIENCE TO COMPARE NEANDERTHAL BEHAVIOR BETWEEN MIS6 AND MIS5E

ANDREW WILLIAM KANDEL
HEIDELBERGER AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN

MICHAEL BOLUS
HEIDELBERGER AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN

ANGELA A. BRUCH
HEIDELBERGER AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN

CHRISTINE HERTLER
HEIDELBERGER AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN

JULIA HESS
HEIDELBERGER AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN

ZARA KANAEVA
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MARIA MALINA
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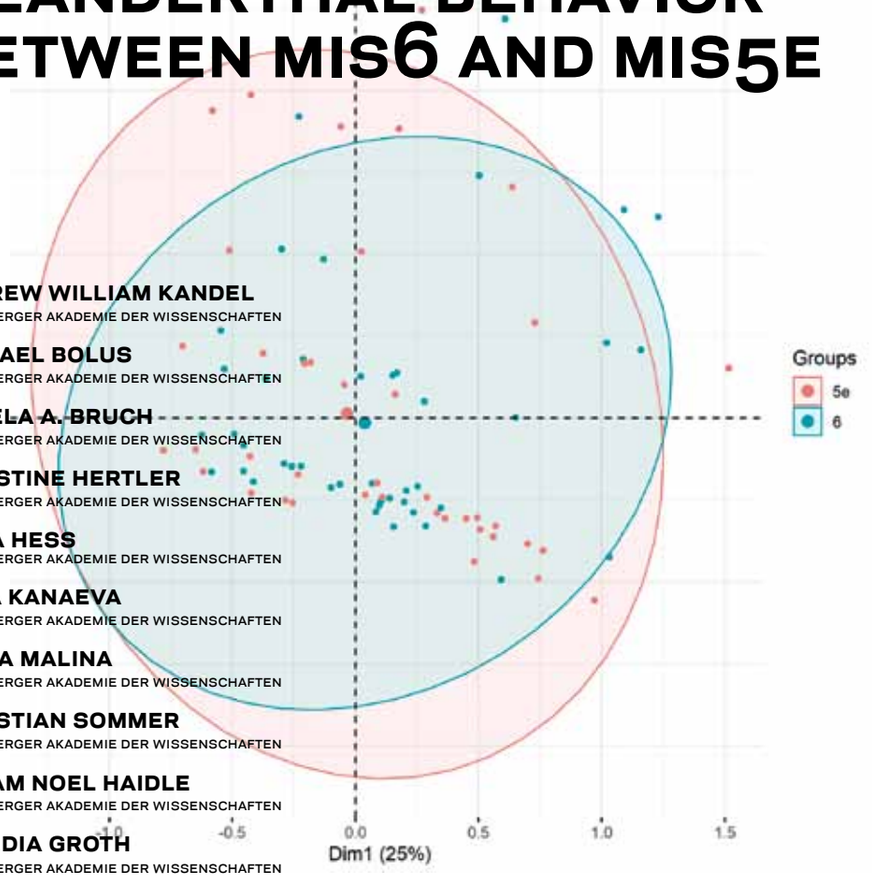
CHRISTIAN SOMMER
HEIDELBERGER AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN

MIRIAM NOEL HAIDLE
HEIDELBERGER AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN

CLAUDIA GROTH
HEIDELBERGER AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN



THE AUTHORS OF THIS PAPER COLLABORATE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE RESEARCH CENTER, "THE ROLE OF CULTURE IN THE EARLY EXPANSIONS OF HUMANS" (ROCEEH) SPONSORED BY THE HEIDELBERG ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE ROCEEH OUT OF AFRICA DATABASE (ROAD)

03-09-2022 | 15:30h

SATURDAY | LOCATION: R E245

Zara Kanaeva is a Programmer and a Database Specialist. Together with her colleagues, she administers and develops the ROAD database.

Miriam Haidle is the scientific coordinator of ROCEEH. As a Paleolithic Archaeologist and Paleoanthropologist, she specializes in the study of tool behavior and evidence for the evolution of cultural and cognitive capacities.

Maria Malina is an Excavation Technician and specializes in Paleolithic excavation projects in the Swabian Jura, field methods, data analysis and quality control of the ROAD database.

Christian Sommer is a Geographer who is interested in ancient landscapes and humans, and everything related to the analysis of spatial data. He specializes in the geomorphology of Late Pleistocene Southern Africa and global analyses using the ROAD database.

ABSTRACT

Here we present the results of a study that integrates information stored in the ROCEEH Out of Africa Database (ROAD). We examine whether climatic changes observed in Europe between the cooler period of MIS6 and the warmer conditions of MIS5e affected Neanderthal behavior. To address this question, we first examined which sites fit within the periods of interest. Next, we evaluated these sites to establish which ones provide well-dated contexts that lend themselves to such a study. Then, we processed the data and extracted information about stone artifacts and other cultural materials, faunal and botanical remains as well as indications about the climate.

Finally, we used the extracted datasets to test whether the fundamental environmental change between MIS6 and MIS 5e is reflected in Neanderthal behavior through variations in mobility behavior, changes in preference for certain artifacts, or the overall composition of the assemblages. We assessed these questions by applying and validating established archaeological indicators for mobility (e.g. tool diversity, specialization index, tool-flake-core ratio, artifact density, prey diversity), performing statistical analyses (e.g. independence, correlation, Multiple Correspondence Analysis) and borrowing sensitive tools for data discovery from machine learning (e.g. Frequent Pattern Analysis). Our preliminary results indicate an overall stability in the archaeological record with only nuances of technological change during these climatic phases. In sum, we conclude that the Neanderthal tool kit was versatile and offered its users the flexibility to sustain themselves in a changing environment without the need for substantial technological adaption.

Keywords

Neanderthals, cultural behavior, mobility, glacial/interglacial cycles, statistical analysis, stone artifacts

THE ROLE OF CULTURE IN EARLY EXPANSIONS OF HUMANS

RAPTORS CLAWS, A NEANDERTHAL BRAND: A DISCUSSION AROUND SHARED PRACTICES ACROSS HUMAN COMMUNITIES IN SOUTHERN EUROPE

MARCO PERESANI

UNIVERSITY OF FERRARA, DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES, PREHISTORIC AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL SCIENCES UNITDEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL, INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY AND GEOENGINEERING

03-09-2022 | 16:30h

SATURDAY | LOCATION: R E245

Marco Peresani

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Marco Peresani coordinates archaeological research on the Middle and Upper Palaeolithic in Mediterranean Europe, particularly the north of Italy and the Alps, with a focus on the Neanderthal – Sapiens bio-cultural substitution and Late-Glacial hunter-gatherers.

ABSTRACT

Neanderthals' attention to the aesthetic or uniqueness of certain materials of biological nature is also attested by the use of raptors pedal phalanges, despite the ephemeral occurrence with which these items are discovered in the archaeological deposits across Western Eurasia. The most well-known findings are isolated, cut-marked pedal phalanges of golden eagle, white-tailed eagle, cinereous vulture, other birds of prey, as well as swan found in France, Italy and Croatia in contexts covering a time interval of 100 to 45 ka BP. All these posterior phalanges bear disarticulation striations showing the successful removal of the claw from the toe using lithic tools to cut into the thick skin, the stratum corneum and severing the strong ligaments and tendons. Because claws are not directly compatible with human consumption, they may have served in a limited range of actions, likely symbolically oriented. Furthermore, the presence of diagnostic wear, in addition to the remnants of a string and of traces of ochre has been observed on the Krapina items.

An attractive hypothesis is a Neanderthals' ornamental use thanks to their length and curvature, and possibly their suspension in different ways, a feature for such elements observed in the present-day ethnographic records like tinkling pendants, suspended in isolation or still connected to the entire foot. This interpretation of pedal phalanges' use has also been supported from the over-representation of raptor feet bones bearing comparable traces ascribable to their deliberate removal, recorded for more recent periods of the Upper Palaeolithic in Europe and the Near-East. As striking case, the recent discovery of notched or unnotched eagle pedal phalanges in Initial Upper Palaeolithic contexts sheds light and fuels discussion on the occurrence of shared traditional practices between the late Pleistocene Neanderthals and early modern humans in Southern Europe and the Mediterranean rim.

Keywords

Pedal phalanx, Anthropic modification, Ornament, Neanderthal, Homo sapiens, Europe

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Giulia Marciani is a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Cultural Heritage, University of Bologna and a collaborator at the Research Unit of Prehistory and Anthropology, University of Siena. Her primary research interest is disentangling the role of technology -especially lithic- in the Middle to Upper Palaeolithic transition in southern Europe and the first peopling of Brazil.

Andrew Kandel is a Paleolithic Archaeologist in the Research Center "The Role of Culture in the Early Expansions of Humans" of the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities. He specializes in the analysis of cultural changes that occurred during the transition from the Middle to Upper Paleolithic in the Levant and Caucasus.

Alice Leplongeon is a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Archaeology, University of Leuven. She is a Palaeolithic archaeologist interested in studying changes or persistence in human technical behaviours and human-environment interactions in Africa during the last 50,000 years

Fabio Negrino is Associate Professor at the Department of Antiquities, Philosophy and History of the University of Genoa. His field of research is mainly focused on Italian Middle-Upper Palaeolithic, but also on Neolithic and Copper Age. He has published different papers, paying attention to the lithic production systems.

Eugenio Bortolini is a Tenured Researcher at HUMANE (Human Ecology and Archaeology), Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, IMF, CSIC (Barcelona). He is an archaeologist with a strong interest in the application and development of quantitative methods to explore mechanisms of cultural transmission in both archaeological and contemporary contexts.

Annamaria Ronchitelli is Senior professor at the University of Siena. She represents Italy in the International Union of the Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences. Since 1976 she has been directing research and excavation in several Middle and Upper Palaeolithic sites in Italy. Her main research interests are concerned with lithic studies and Palaeolithic living floors.

DISENTANGLING MIDDLE PALAEOLITHIC TECHNO-COMPLEXES WITHOUT USING LABELS

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STEFANO BENAZZI
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA, DIPARTIMENTO DI BENI CULTURALI

03-09-2022 | 16:45h
SATURDAY | LOCATION: R E245

Julien Riel-Salvatore is Full Professor and Chair of the Département d'anthropologie at Université de Montréal. His research focuses on the human-environment interface of key transitions in our species' history, notably the transition from the Middle to the Upper Paleolithic and the shift to agriculture (the Neolithic Revolution).

Adriana Moroni is a prehistoric archaeologist and paleoanthropologist at the Department of Physical Sciences, Earth and Environment of the University of Siena, Siena, Italy. Presently her main interests are focused on human behaviour during the Middle to Upper Palaeolithic transition and the evolution of Upper Palaeolithic hunting technologies in Southern Italy.

Stefano Benazzi is a Full Professor in Physical Anthropology at the Department of Cultural Heritage, University of Bologna, with special interests in Paleoanthropology and Osteoarchaeology. He is particularly keen to develop and apply computer-based methods for studying human remains and to assess the relationship between function and morphology in human and non-human primate bones and teeth.

ABSTRACT

Evaluating and comparing various datasets is a pressing issue in Palaeolithic archaeology. These processes become even more problematic when observations are recorded across a wide spatio-temporal transect, with differential research intensities and research goals, as in the case of research on the Middle Palaeolithic of Eurasia. Different approaches arose from a variety of epistemological backgrounds. These generated marginally comparable – if not irreconcilable – outputs in terms of documentation and questions. Nonetheless, the data collected over the past century, offer a remarkable opportunity for exploring and trying to explain the development and demise of Neanderthal groups across Europe and Asia.

Our current work aims to address questions concerning the development of an integrated approach to comparatively study this considerable amount of empirical evidence at a broad spatial and temporal scale of observation, while controlling for problems arising from: a) different epistemological perspectives; and b) different labels or “NASTIES” (named stone tool industries) characterising published datasets. Here we present a study comprising 67 layers from 29 different sites dating to the end of the Middle Palaeolithic of Europe and the Near East. Preliminary results show that our approach makes it possible to effectively compare contexts through different descriptive systems, as well as new and published data, and to use the proposed systematics to present novel insights on the European Middle Palaeolithic.

Keywords
Middle Palaeolithic, Neanderthal, NASTIES (named stone tool industries), Lithic

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Susan Peeters is a PhD researcher within the Erasmus School of Philosophy (Erasmus University, the Netherlands) and the Institute for Science in Society (Radboud University, the Netherlands). She holds a master's degree in Biological Psychology and in Behavioural Biology. During her studies she focussed on primate behaviour and how these 'proximate others' reflect views about ourselves. In her PhD project she shifted her focus to palaeoanthropology, notably Neanderthal research, aspiring to illuminate implicit assumptions underlying our idea and ideal of humanness, and challenge the anthropocentric and androcentric framework.

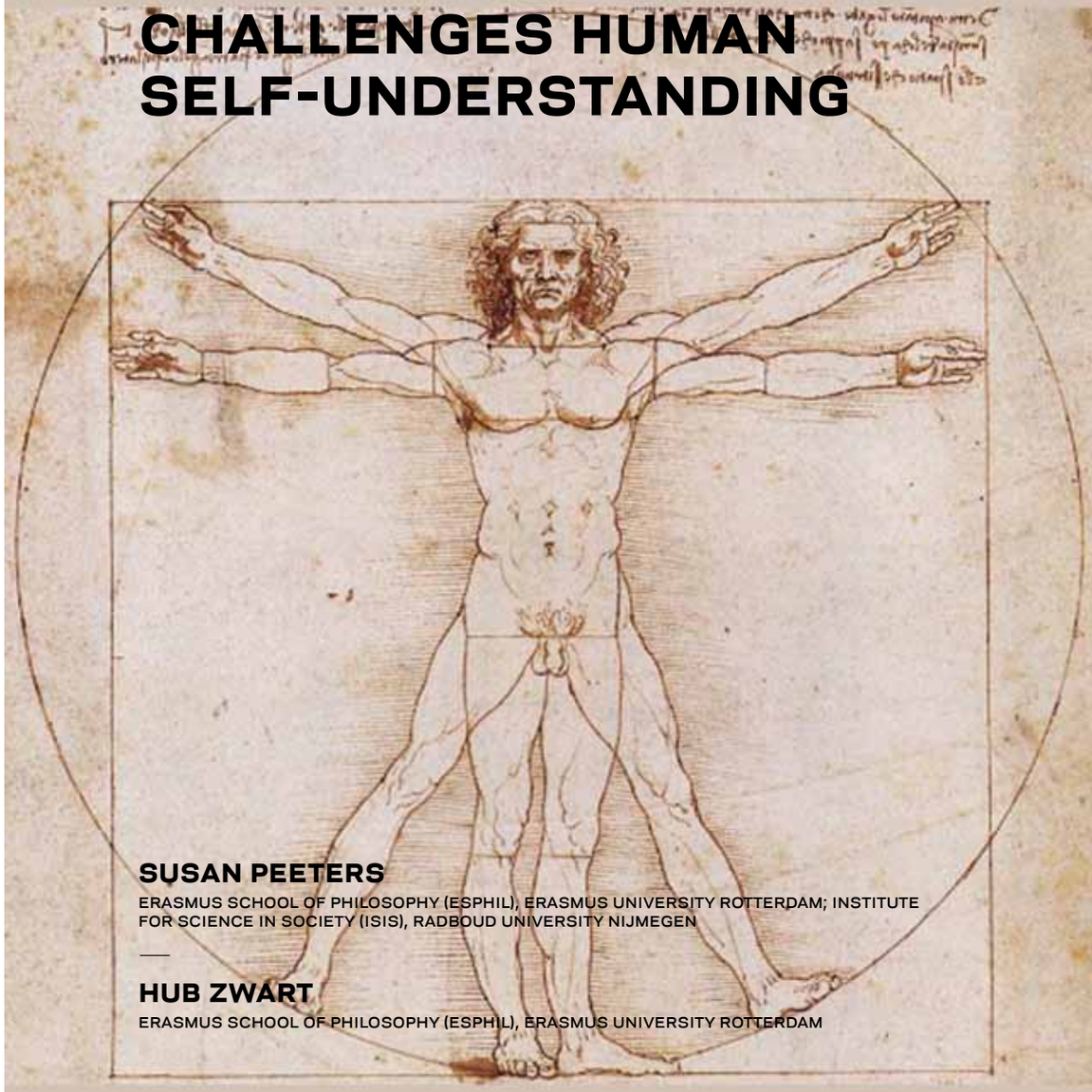
Hub Zwart studied philosophy and psychology at Radboud University Nijmegen and defended his thesis in 1993 (cum laude). In 2000 he became full Professor of Philosophy at the Faculty of Science RU Nijmegen. In 2018, he was appointed as professor of philosophy of science and dean of Erasmus School of Philosophy in Rotterdam.
His research develops a philosophical (dialectical) perspective on contemporary technoscience within the broader context of contemporary culture.

ABSTRACT

Our image of Neanderthals is changing rapidly, and this affects long-standing views about ourselves. Neanderthals (our most proximate other) serve as a mirror to reconsider who we are. They are more like us than other early humans, but the guiding conviction was that they were different. Precisely this (genetic, behavioural, cultural) difference allegedly confirmed our exceptionality. The overall trend was to frame humans as favoured evolutionary "winners", whose alleged "superiority" led to the demise of Neanderthals. Research is rapidly questioning this. Allegedly unique markers of humanness are redefined and it becomes increasingly difficult to single out specific human characteristics as decisive. In the face of the current global environmental crisis, this triggers us to reconsider the story of our evolutionary narrative. Although the scientific image of Neanderthals has dramatically shifted, research still tends to focus on anatomical, genetic, psychic and cultural differences between "them" (Homo neanderthalensis) and "us" (Homo sapiens). Our interdisciplinary project combines insights from palaeolithic archaeology, philosophy, and post-colonial gender studies to analyse how transitions in Neanderthal research challenge our self-understanding, reopening the question: what makes us human?

Keywords
Neanderthal research, Palaeoanthropology, Philosophical anthropology, Philosophy of science

NEANDERTHALS AND "US": HOW THE GOLDEN AGE OF NEANDERTHAL RESEARCH CHALLENGES HUMAN SELF-UNDERSTANDING



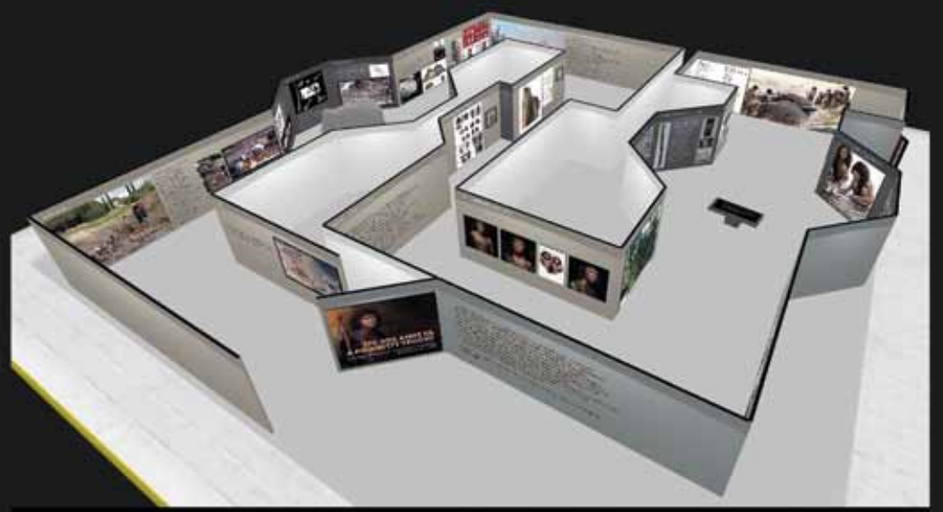
SUSAN PEETERS
ERASMUS SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY (ESPHIL), ERASMUS UNIVERSITY ROTTERDAM; INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE IN SOCIETY (ISIS), RADBOUD UNIVERSITY NIJMEGEN

—

HUB ZWART
ERASMUS SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY (ESPHIL), ERASMUS UNIVERSITY ROTTERDAM

03-09-2022 | 17:00h
SATURDAY | LOCATION: R E245

TAKE A WALK ON THE VIRTUAL SIDE OF NEANDERTHALS. EXHIBITIVE SOLUTIONS TO TRAVEL INSIDE POGGETTI VECCHI (CENTRAL ITALY)



SILVIA FLORINDI
CYPRUS INSTITUTE – STARC; ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI PREISTORIA E PROTOSTORIA

BIANCAMARIA ARANGUREN
SOPRINTENDENZA ARCHEOLOGIA BELLE ARTI E PAESAGGIO PER LE PROVINCE DI SIENA, GROSSETO, AREZZO (RETIRED)

DANIELA PUZIO
ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI PREISTORIA E PROTOSTORIA

ANNA REVEDIN
ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI PREISTORIA E PROTOSTORIA

03-09-2022 | 17:30h
SATURDAY | LOCATION: R E245

Silvia Florindi
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SILVIA FLORINDI coordinates the activities of the IIPP and works on projects regarding heritage dissemination. She is a PhD candidate at the Cyprus Institute - STARC (Nicosia, Cyprus) and her research project is focused on 3D modeling and use-wear analysis of Palaeolithic Ground Stone Tools in Eurasia.

BIANCAMARIA ARANGUREN is an executive board member of IIPP and was Archeologist of the Italian Ministry of Culture until 2018. She has carried out extensive fieldwork in Tuscany and directed the excavations of Poggetti Vecchi (Grosseto, Italy), coordinating the overall study of the site.

DANIELA PUZIO has a position at IIPP as a documentary and photographic heritage curator. She earned a post-graduate degree in Prehistoric Archaeology at the University of Pisa in 2020. Her research interests comprise the prehistoric rock art in Ethiopia and the study of starch remains on Palaeolithic Ground Stones.

ANNA REVEDIN is director of Istituto Italiano di Preistoria e Protostoria (IIPP). Since 2007 she has been coordinating the IIPP research project PLUS_P (Plant Use in the Palaeolithic) and since 2012 she participates in the project NEWA (Neanderthal Wooden Artefacts).

ABSTRACT

Poggetti Vecchi (Grosseto, central Italy) is a Middle Pleistocene site dated to around 170 k y.a. with remains of Palaeoloxodon antiquus and artifacts referred to early Neanderthals, comprising the extraordinary wooden tools. The site is also an exceptional case-study for the reconstruction of a peculiar thermal ecosystem at the beginning of MIS6.

The site was entirely excavated during a preventive archaeology campaign in 2012. The materials found - faunal bones, lithic, bone and wooden tools – are still waiting for a permanent exhibitive venue.

The variety of the archaeological, paleonthological and paleobothanical remains, togheter with the specific environmental context are particolarly suitable to communicate different topics to a generic public: for example the men-environment relation during climate crisis, the complexity of the prehistoric research, specific issues on restoration and conservation of the remains.

In the frame of the research project of the Istituto Italiano di Preistoria e Protostoria, we present the virtual exhibition “170,000 years ago at Poggetti Vecchi. Neanderthal and elephants in the Tuscan Maremma, the climate challenge".

The virtual tour aims to engage the public in the climate change topic through the human history, by means of innovative scientific methods and the artistic suggestions given by Tom Björklund’s illustrations.

Since the physical space is becoming less and less available, while digital technologies became of common use in everyday life, we sobstitute the real space with a digital one, to enhance the visitors’ experience and a valorisation of this extraordinary heritage.

KEYWORDS
Middle Palaeolithic, Virtual exhibition, Heritage valorisation

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Sanjin Mihelić is an archaeologist and heritage professional with a twenty-year experience in cultural heritage management, currently serving as the Director of the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb and the President of the *Iron Age Danube Route Association*.

ABSTRACT

One of the salient features of the recent COST programme initiative—or Action—entitled Integrating Neandertal Legacy: From Past to Present (abbreviated as iNEAL) is the wish to fully appraise the wide spectrum of present-day perspectives on Neandertals, from the public appreciation of their role as long-gone partial ancestors of modern Eurasian populations to the valorisation of their legacy in broader cultural terms, including for instance the cultural tourism angle.

Within the iNEAL special attention is awarded to potential positive impacts different aspects of Neandertal heritage, like museum displays or archaeological sites may have on the socio-economic development of a given community through mediation of tourism. This perspective underscores the public and touristic attractiveness of tangible and intangible aspects of the Neandertal story, while exhibits and heritage sites are considered as tourist resources. Consequently, their management and valorisation for purposes of tourism enter the domain of destination management, as a continuous process in which tourism industry, administration at various levels, and other stakeholders develop a destination with a view to fulfil a shared vision of its future. In addition to this, the Action seeks to develop a package of informational, educational and didactic tools to be used for communicating topics relating to various facets of Neandertal legacy. The package will be designed to cater for different publics, from general public, schools, civil society and local communities, tourism sector, heritage institutions, small and medium enterprises, and all others interested in these topics. This paper aims to present and discuss the philosophy behind this key feature of the iNEAL Action, as well as the work done so far.

Keywords
Neandertals, Cultural tourism, Education, Management, Heritage valorisation

NEANDERTALS AS STAKEHOLDERS IN CULTURAL TOURISM: THE STORY SO FAR

SANJIN MIHELIĆ
ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM IN ZAGREB

CA19141

iNEAL

INTEGRATING NEANDERTAL LEGACY:
FROM PAST TO PRESENT

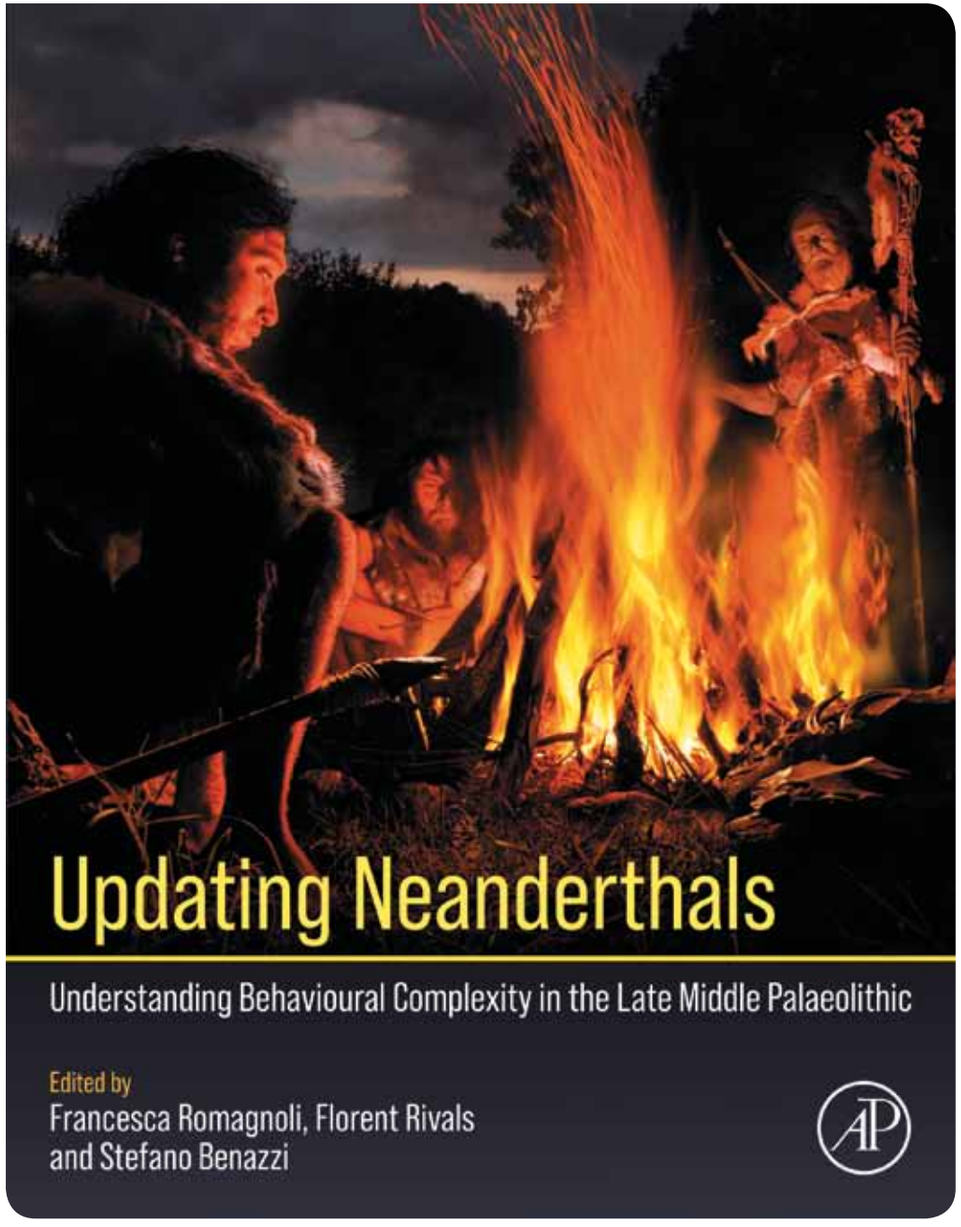
iNEAL SPOTLIGHTS

FOLLOW OUR RECCOMENDATIONS FOR

IMPORTANT PUBLICATIONS ON NEANDERTHALS
—BOTH THOSE HOT OFF THE PRESSES
AS WELL AS FORTHCOMING ONES

GREAT MUSEUMS TO VISIT

INITIATIVES TO JOIN



UPDATING NEANDERTHALS

UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOURAL COMPLEXITY IN THE LATE MIDDLE PALAEOLITHIC

Edited by:

Francesca Romagnoli
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ISBN: 9780128214282
PUB DATE: July 01, 2022
FORMAT: Paperback & eBook
TRIM: 6w x 9h
PAGES: c. 380 Approx. 100 illustrations

Provides an updated and synthetic overview of Late Pleistocene populations

KEY FEATURES

- Offers a comprehensive update on the variability and diversity of Neanderthal behaviours during the Late Pleistocene;
- Presents an interdisciplinary reconstruction of Neanderthals by assessing archaeology, palaeontology, paleoecology, palaeoanthropology, genetics and cognition;
- Critically reviews the reliability of archaeological data and the theoretical and methodological advances of the last 30 years;
- Discusses the most debated Neanderthal themes, such as genetics, diet, socio-economy and art.

DESCRIPTION

Updating Neanderthals: Understanding Behavioural Complexity in the Late Middle Palaeolithic provides the most up-to-date and comprehensive knowledge of Neanderthals who lived throughout the European and Asian continents. Focusing on the last phase of Neanderthal settlements and behaviours in Europe, the Levant and across Asian regions, the book synthesises historical information about the study of Middle Palaeolithic populations and presents the current debates about their biology, subsistence, technology, and social and cognitive behaviours.

Written by international experts on the Middle Palaeolithic who have conducted innovative studies in the last three decades, the book explores the diversity and variability of human adaptations and behaviours in the changing climate and environment of the Late Pleistocene, and the relationships between these behaviours, demography, and cognitive capabilities. The book also discusses theoretical issues and evidences how novel methods have improved our knowledge of human evolution. It also explores the new findings about the Denisovans and the arrival of Homo sapiens and explores the implications of interaction between different human populations. The complete multidisciplinary approach includes archaeology, paleoecology, genetics, and paleoanthropology, transcending a 'case study approach' to present Neanderthals in the most complete way.

Updating Neanderthals: Understanding Behavioural Complexity in the Late Middle Palaeolithic is a reference for researchers, students, and advanced amateurs in prehistory, archaeology, human evolution studies, evolutionary psychology, paleoecology, and cultural evolution.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Updating Neanderthals: Taking stock of more than 160 years of studies

2. The climatic and environmental context of the Late Pleistocene

3. Diet and ecological interactions in the Middle and Late Pleistocene

4. Different species on the horizon: The Denisova hominins

5. Neanderthal: Anatomy, genes, and evolution

6. The Neanderthal brain: Biological and cognitive evolution

7. Selection versus opportunism: A view from Neanderthal subsistence strategies

8. Small animal use by Neanderthals

9. The use of plants by Neanderthals as food, medicine, and raw materials

10. Neanderthal technological variability: A wide-ranging geographical perspective on the final Middle Palaeolithic

11. The organisation of living spaces in Neanderthal campsites

12. Fire among Neanderthals

13. "Art": Neanderthal symbolic graphic behaviour

14. Spiritual and symbolic activities of Neanderthals

15. Beyond European boundaries: Neanderthals in the Armenian Highlands and the Caucasus

16. Methodological advances in Neanderthal identification, phylogeny, chronology, mobility, climate, and diet

17. The arrival of Homo sapiens in the Near East and Europe

Foreword by Nicholas J. Conard.

https://www.elsevier.com/books/updating-neanderthals/romagnoli/978-0-12-821428-2

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NEANDERTHAL
MUSEUM

NEANDERTHAL MUSEUM
METTMANN

Where one of Europe's most popular and contemporary museums now stands, the most famous German was discovered over 160 years ago: the Neanderthal. This site of world history provides the setting for a journey through human history - from the beginnings in the African savannahs more than six million years ago to the present day.

The lifelike reconstruction of the famous Neanderthal "Mr. N", is just one of the many highlights. The permanent exhibition tells you about life and survival in the Ice Age and encounters between different human species that live on in us to this day. With the 2021 update for the 25th anniversary, the exhibition was expanded to include the topic "Humans and Climate". In the new exhibition area, among other things, you can see the cute mammoth baby "Tinka".

Alongside the permanent exhibition and the changing special exhibitions, a colourful programme of activities, guided tours, birthday events and workshops for all ages awaits you.

More information and tickets are available on:
neanderthal.de

Neanderthal Museum
Talstraße 300
D – 40822 Mettmann

Tel: 02104 9797-0
museum@neanderthal.de

opening hours

TUESDAY – SUNDAY
10 am – 6 pm

KRANEAMUS
MUZEJ
KRAPINSKIH
NEANDERTALACA

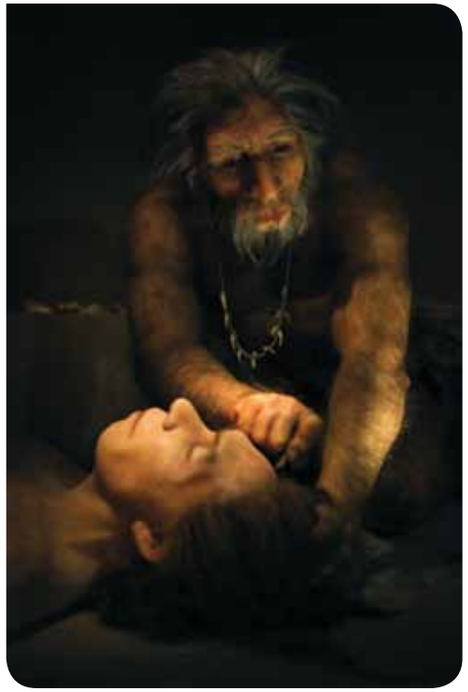
EUROPEAN
HERITAGE LABEL

KRAPINA NEANDERTHAL MUSEUM

A new European museum opened in 2010 at an iconic place of European prehistory, next to the ancient habitat of the Krapina prehistoric man, which will bring you back to the world of the Neanderthals and our primitive beginnings with it multimedia content.

The Krapina Neanderthal Museum is located near the world famous site of 'Hušnjakovo', where Dragutin Gorjanović Kramberger discovered the Krapina prehistoric man in 1899. Some nine hundred human fossil bones were found in the cave's sandstone deposits, which were 8 meters high. This is the largest and most abundant collection of Neanderthal fossils collected at a single site. The bones belong to the remains of several dozen individuals, both male and female, from 2 to 40 years of age.

The Museum's architecture evokes the habitat of the prehistoric man: the Museum building is incorporated in the surrounding countryside, nestled between two hills, with only the front, coated with yellow Miocene sand, visible. The interior of the Museum is made of concrete, and is made to mimic stone, thus reinforcing the effect of a prehistoric habitat, while the visitor, just like the Neanderthal man used to, can observe the surroundings.



Krapina Neanderthal Museum
Šetalište Vilibalda Sluge bb
HR–49000, Krapina

Tel: +385 49 371 491
mkn@mhz.hr

opening hours

TUESDAY – FRIDAY
9 am – 5 pm
last entry at 4 pm

SATURDAY – SUNDAY
10 am – 6 pm
last entry at 5 pm

iNEAL FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

In the coming years iNEAL aims to present to the public several new publications – and here we single out a series of **Handbooks of Best Practice**, focusing on:

- Management of Neanderthal Heritage
- Presentation of Neanderthals
- Creation of Cultural Routes
- Valorisation of Neanderthal Heritage in Tourism

For more information please contact:
smihelic@amz.hr

THE INITIATIVE TO ESTABLISH THE **EUROPEAN NEANDERTHAL ROUTE**

Among iNEAL's objectives, here we single out the initiative to establish a **European Neanderthal Route**, with a long-term goal to be certified as a Cultural Route of the Council of Europe, as the greatest marker of excellence where cultural routes are considered.

Cultural routes generally function as networks of stakeholders interested in joint management, valorisation and promotion of specific cultural and/or natural phenomena, often covering large distances. The model has gained prominence in the past few decades, particularly following the launch of the Council of Europe's programme of cultural routes and the certification of the first routes in late 1980's and early 1990's. To date, the programme has certified several dozen cultural routes – as of 2022, a total of 48.

A European cultural route is eligible for certification by the Council of Europe if it satisfies the following criteria:

- involve a theme that is representative of European values and common to at least three countries in Europe;
- be the subject of transnational, multidisciplinary scientific research;
- enhance European memory, history and heritage and contribute to interpretation of Europe's present-day diversity;
- support cultural and educational exchanges for young people;
- develop exemplary and innovative projects in the field of cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development;
- develop tourist products and services aimed at different groups.

More information about the Council of Europe's Programme on Cultural Routes is available on:

https://www.coe.int/en/web/cultural-routes

The European Neanderthal Route **Initiative** is open to all persons and entities who share the vision to establish the **European Neanderthal Route** and are willing to participate in the creation and organization of a broad network of stakeholders interested in the preservation, promotion, presentation, management and valorisation of Neanderthal heritage across the continent.

For more information please contact:

smihelic@amz.hr

ACTION DETAILS

MoU	044/20
CSO Approval date	24/03/2020
Start date	15/10/2020
End date	14/10/2024

- https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA19141/
- http://inealcost.inantro.hr/

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

- Read the Project Description: Memorandum of Understanding https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA19141/#tabs|Name:overview
- Inform the Action Chair of your interest: ivor@inantro.hr
- Apply to join your Working Groups of interest

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