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## **CONFERENCE ON ARCHAEOMUSICOLOGY**

**Representations of Musicians  
in the Coroplastic Art of the Ancient World:  
Iconography, Ritual Contexts, and Functions**

**organized by Angela Bellia and Clemente Marconi**

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## **Choral Songs of Girls in Preclassical Sparta:**

### **Poetic Performance, Rhythmical Rituals, Musical Arts, Gendered Identities**

The culture of song and dance in ancient Greece, particularly in preclassical Sparta, offers many melic poems that correspond to choral songs ritually performed on the occasion of the different stages of an educational *cursus*—be it erotic, religious and social—of an initiatory function. To the various rhythms of a performance sung and danced (vocal rhythm, rhythm within the musical melody, metrical rhythm corresponding to a choreography and a set of gestures), one must add the rhythm of the annual religious and civic calendar. This rhythm is composed of the cultic festivals into which are inserted the rituals associated with the different stages leading young men and girls from an instable adolescence to mature adulthood. This rhythm, both in song and ritual *cursus*, can be highlighted in the reading of a partheneion song composed by the poet Alcman in Sparta for musical and ritual performance by a chorus of young women.

**Claude Calame** is Emeritus Director of Studies at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (Centre AnHiMA: Anthropology and History of the Ancient Worlds), Paris. Formerly he was Professor of Greek language and literature at the University of Lausanne. He also taught at the universities of Urbino and Siena in Italy, and at Yale University. In English he has published *The Craft of Poetic Speech in Ancient Greece* (Ithaca, London, 1995), *The Poetics of Eros in Ancient Greece* (Princeton, 1999), *Choruses of Young Women in Ancient Greece* (Lanham, Boulder, New York, Oxford, 2001<sup>2</sup>), *Masks of Authority. Fiction and Pragmatics in Ancient Greek Poetics* (Ithaca, London, 2005), *Poetic and Performative Memory in Ancient Greece* (Washington DC – Cambridge MA, 2009), *Greek Mythology. Poetics, Pragmatics and Fiction* (Cambridge, 2009).

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## **Musician Dwarves in Ancient Mesopotamia and Elam**

A number of terracotta plaques of the early second millennium BCE in Babylonia and Elam depict craftsmen engaged in their activity, among them a number of lyre, lute and harp players. These images provide excellent information concerning the shape and construction technique of these instruments. Their archaeological contexts are unknown and their function and meaning unclear: they may have been dedicated to the gods by musician votaries wishing to leave their mark; or by non-musicians in order to perpetuate the celebration of rituals accompanied by such musical instruments.

Most of these plaques, created from a single mold pressed into fresh clay, depict the figures in profile, conforming to standard Mesopotamian iconography. A smaller group, however, show a figure seen frontally, a common visual device for the depiction of supra human and magical figures. Not only is the head presented in frontal view, but the whole body is as well, each leg extending outwards with flexed knees, boldly displaying the sexual parts. The proportions of the different components of the body - the overlarge head and the shortened, distorted legs - are diagnostic traits of nanism, or dwarves, who were rumored in popular belief to possess extra natural sexual power. In the later visual arts of the ancient world, these traits would be borrowed for the depiction of such fantastic figures as the wild man Humbaba in Mesopotamia, Bes in Egypt and the Levant, and the Gorgon in Greece. A significant number of these terracotta dwarf figures of Mesopotamia and Elam are musicians: they are engaged in playing a lute, while their bent legs are shown in the

movement of dance, an illustration of the Biblical passage where David danced before the Ark, flexing his knees (II Samuel 6, 15).

These representations of dwarves are early illustrations of the ambiguous status - both positive and repulsive - enjoyed by music and musicians in the ancient world, examples of which are to be found in later grotesque representations of musicians from the Graeco-Roman world.

**Annie Caubet** is Honorary Curator at the Louvre Museum and headed the Department of Ancient Near Eastern Antiquities at the Louvre from 1988 to 2005. She curated numerous special exhibitions at the Louvre and at other museums, most recently *Zervos et l'art des Cyclades*, Zervos Museum, Vezelay, 2011. She is also a professor at the École du Louvre. She is a recent recipient of a Mellon Fellowship at the Metropolitan Museum of Art for 2013-2014 and a Glassman-Holland Fellowship at the W.F. Albright Institute in Jerusalem for 2010-2011. Her research interests have centered on the French excavation of Kition Bamboula (Cyprus) under the directorship of Marguerite Yon, in collaboration with Sabine Fourrier, Olivier Callot, and Yves Calvet. She has published numerous articles and books on aspects of ancient Near Eastern art and archaeology, with particular attention to faience, ivory, precious stones, coroplastic material. Her latest papers on the archaeology of music appeared in S. Emerit (ed.) *Le statut du musicien*, Le Caire 2013 and in J. Goodnick Westenholz, Y. Maurey, E. Seroussi, (éds.), "Music in Antiquity. The Near East and the Mediterranean, Yuval Studies of the Jewish Music Research Center VIII, Berlin, 2014. Her coroplastic interests are reflected in her role as editor for *L'art des modeleurs d'argile: antiquités de Chypre. Musée du Louvre. Coroplastique* (by Sabine Fourrier, Anne Queyrel, and Frieda Vandenabeele, Paris, 1998) and *Les figurines de Suse. Musée du Louvre* (by Laurianne Martinez-Sève, Paris, 2002).

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### **The Monkeys of Yotkan and Their Musical Instruments: Iconographical Explorations**

A large sample of striking terracotta figurines (ca. third-sixth centuries CE) come from Khotan, the ancient Buddhist kingdom on the branch of the Silk Road that ran along the southern edge of the Taklamakan desert (modern Xianjiang, China). These sculptures came to the attention of European archeologists Sven Hedin and Aurel Stein at the turn of the twentieth century, during their explorations of the southern oases of the Tarim basin. With the spring floods often exposing the archeological layers of what had been the capital of the kingdom, Yotkan, these figures came to be sold by local peddlers in the bazaar. Some of these figurines may once have served ritual functions, particularly in the case of monkeys depicted engaged in explicit sexual games, and those playing various musical instruments (several types of drums, short-necked lutes, and panpipes).

This paper argues that, while actual monkeys were never found in the Tarim basin, the musical dimension of these small figurines strengthens the existing theory that the Khotan terracottas have a direct correspondence to Gandharan art, the Hellenistic-Buddhist synthesis created early in the first millennium CE in the cultural spheres of the Kushan Empire. On the one hand, the monkey motif seems to relate to Buddhist Jataka stories, hence harkening back to a possible Indian origin. On the other hand, most of the musical instruments these protagonists handle, particularly the short-necked lute and certain types of drums, are characteristic not of the Indian, but the Gandharan musical repertoire

disseminated throughout the Kushan empire. As such, “the monkeys of Yotkan” stand witness to the intense cultural cosmopolitanism that marked the history of the Tarim basin in the first part of the millennium CE.

**Gabriela Currie** is Associate Professor of Musicology at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Her research interests encompass a broad range of subjects including medieval music thought in the Latin, Byzantine, and Islamic worlds; the intersection of music, religion, philosophy, science, and visual arts in pre- and early-modern European cultures; and pre- and early-modern Byzantine and Eurasian music iconography. She is the author of *The Play of Meanings, Aribo's De musica and the Hermeneutics of Musical Thought* (Lanham, 2005), and of numerous articles that have appeared in scholarly journals, as well as edited collections. Current work includes a monograph study on mathematics, natural philosophy, theories of sound, and musical cosmologies at the crossroads of late scholastic thought; and several projects under the theoretical umbrella of pre-modern global intersections and patterns of Eurasian intercultural exchange.

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### **The Terracotta Figurines with Stringed Instruments from the Sanctuary of Apollo Clarios**

The sanctuary of Apollo Clarios is located in Turkey, within the borders of modern Ahmetbeyli in the province of Izmir, situated in what was known in antiquity as Ionia. The establishment of the sanctuary is dated to the thirteenth century BCE, and it was in continuous use up until the late Roman period. The sanctuary, which was dedicated to Apollo, the god of the oracular arts, received large quantities of figurines as votive offerings from the sub-Mycenean period until the Hellenistic period. Among those figurines, the representations of musicians carrying stringed instruments in their left hands have a special importance. The instruments carried include the lyra, the kithara, and the barbitos. The figurine corpus, which was mass-produced, reflects an internal stylistic progression. It is believed that the figurines played an important role in the cultic activities of the sanctuary from the second half of the sixth century BCE to the Hellenistic period. The three instruments represented differ from each other by means of their function and physical structure. In this study, the iconographic and stylistic meanings of the figurines will be discussed, the differences of the instruments will be illustrated, and the functions of the figurines in the context of the sanctuary will be examined.

**Elçin Doğan Gürbüz** is an assistant professor of classical archaeology at Ege University in Izmir, Turkey, in the department of Tourism Guidance, where she has been a faculty member since 2012. She received her B.S. and M.D. in the Department of Classical Archaeology, also from Ege University, before completing her Ph.D. with a thesis titled *The Terracotta Figurines of Claros and their Evolution in the Scope of Cults*. In recent years she has been involved in several excavation projects and has been a co-director of the Claros excavation. Her research interests are terracotta figurines, iconography and cults. As she is also a professional tour guide, she gives lectures on applied tour guiding and also on archaeological topics, such as ancient settlements, the history of Anatolia and the ancient civilizations in Asia Minor.

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### **Performing Music in Phoenician and Punic Rituals: A Coroplastic Approach**

The aim of the paper is to present and analyze a sample of Phoenician and Punic (seventh-second centuries BCE) terracotta representations of musicians from selected areas of the western Mediterranean (Iberia, Ibiza, and Carthage). The analysis of these depictions consist of three steps. The first step is a description of the instruments represented and the bodily gestures that accompany the practice of performing music with certain instruments. Second, the contextualization of these images within their chronological and geographical framework will be considered in order to shed some light into both the presence of music in rituals and its possible use in association with ritual performances. Finally, the issue of gender will be considered, as these representations are mostly of female figures. The paper will argue that playing music was an empowering activity for certain Phoenician and Punic women.

**Agnès Garcia-Ventura** was awarded her Ph.D. by the Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona in 2012 with a thesis on the textile production of Ur III in Mesopotamia. She received a Material Text Cultures Research Fellowship at the Collaborative Research Centre 933, Rupert Charles University in Heidelberg (November 2012-May 2013). She also worked for one academic year as assistant professor at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (2013-2014). Since October 2014 she has been Beatriu de Pinós Fellow at La Sapienza University in Rome. Her main areas of interest are gender studies (especially their application to Assyriology), historiography of ancient Near Eastern studies in Spain, the organization of work in Mesopotamia, and ancient musical performance (in both Mesopotamia and the Phoenician and Punic contexts).

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**Mireia López-Bertran** is currently Beatriu de Pinós/Marie Curie Fellow at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona (Spain). She received her Ph.D. degree in History from the Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona, Spain) in 2007. Her dissertation focused on Phoenician and Punic rituals in rural landscapes. Between 2010 and 2012 she was postdoctoral fellow with the Spanish Ministry of Education and Culture—FECYT and Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Glasgow, where she carried out a project about Phoenician and Punic clay human figurines. She specializes in the Phoenician and Punic sites of the ancient Mediterranean, with research interests in embodiment, rituals, and gender.

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### **Rethinking Female Figurines from Rabbath-Ammon and Beyond**

Among the small finds from the Iron Age II that have been discovered on the Citadel of Rabbath-Ammon were fragments of more than sixty female terracotta figurines (Database Franco-German Figurines Project). Twenty-five percent of these mass-produced figurines are represented playing a decorated frame drum. These female musicians, with their big almond-shaped eyes, are nude or half-nude, have long curled hair, and most often wear jewelry. When the lower body and the legs are preserved, the figurines' decorated girdles as well as their multiple anklets are visible, the latter supposedly accentuating the rhythm of

the drums by a dancing gesture. The pubic region is also strongly emphasized. The female musicians are typologically identical, but their physical appearance and the quality of the clay differ. To the south of the Rabbath-Ammon region (Wadi ath-Thamad, Karak) similar or identical female musicians have been found that were attached on both sides of the entrance of ceramic shrine models. This fact proves the cultic function of these figurines. Their significance has still to be explained, yet it is highly probable that they were linked to the cult of the god El.

**Regine Hunziker-Rodewald** received her degrees from the universities of Zurich, Berne and Tubingen, and is professor of Old Testament Studies and the History of the ancient Near East at the Faculty of Protestant Theology of the University of Strasbourg. She is director of the joint French-German project focusing on the female terracotta figurines of Iron Age II Jordan (FGFP). She also is leading a research seminar in collaboration with the TEO (Territoires et Empires d'Orient, UMR 7044-Archimède) Strasbourg team on the female figurines of the ancient Near East, Egypt, Nubia, and the Mediterranean from the second and first millennium BCE and is a member of the Organizing Committee of the International Colloquium "Nude Female Figurines. Ancient Near East, Egypt, Nubia, Mediterranean (Neolithic period – third century CE). Comparative and Contextual Studies," to be held on June 25-26, 2015 at the University of Strasbourg.

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### **Eros Mousikos**

Departing from two terracotta statuettes in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art that represent Eros playing the kithara and the tambourine (MMA 17.230.46 and 06.1069 respectively), this paper will explore the iconography of Eros playing instruments and its possible meanings and ritual functions. Although flying Nikai and Erotes are among the most popular terracottas in the late Classical and Hellenistic period, this particular class of statuettes has not received closer attention. Since most are found in tombs, the paper will examine how the figure of Eros as a musician operates within the general framework of depictions of musical performance and dance in a funerary context.

**Kyriaki Karoglou** is assistant curator of Greek and Roman Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Previously, she held internships at the Getty Museum, The Princeton Art Museum, and the Athens Acropolis Museum and participated in numerous excavations and surveys in the Mediterranean. Currently she is involved in the planning of an international loan exhibition organized by the Greek and Roman Department of the Metropolitan Museum entitled *Pergamon and the Art of the Hellenistic Kingdoms*, that is scheduled for spring 2016. Kiki did her undergraduate studies at the University of Athens, and received her Ph.D. from Princeton University with a dissertation on votive plaques dedicated in Attic sanctuaries of the Archaic and Classical periods, the basis for her monograph on *Attic Pinakes. Votive Images in Clay* (Oxford, 2010). She is a recipient of many fellowships and grants and has taught courses on Greek sculpture and Greek and Roman art and archaeology at the University of Toronto and The College of New Jersey. Her research focuses on ancient Greek art with an emphasis on sculpture and the iconography of ritual.

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## **The Social Roles of Musicians in the Moche World: An Iconographic Analysis of Their Attributes in the Middle Moche Period's Ritual Pottery**

The Moche inhabited the north coast of Peru during the Andean Early Intermediate Period (0 - 700 CE). One of the most distinctive features of Moche ritual pottery is the depiction of highly ranked individuals usually described as priests, warriors, deities, and supernatural beings. They are mainly present upon Middle Moche period vessels (100 – 400 CE), which were probably produced in the context of deep social and political transformation. Supposedly, this was a time marked by the rise in social standing of some of the southern Moche valley's elites. It was precisely during this period that a large number of musicians, playing a great variety of sound instruments, were recurrently depicted in artifacts such as figurines, whistles, stirrup spout bottles and jars. Interestingly, in many cases, they appear carrying similar attributes of high status individuals or garments of important supernatural beings. The similarity of the attributes carried by musicians and empowered individuals are easily recognized in the iconography of the ceramic archaeological vessels or in funerary contexts.

Detailed iconographic analysis shows us that the musicians are present in most of the important ritual and political thematic scenes of the Moche iconography. They seem to maintain a very close relationship with the protagonists of the Moche world's visual narratives, such as the Presentation Theme, the Bicephalus Arch Theme, the Burial Theme, and others. The focus of this presentation is depictions of musicians who play panpipes, drums and rattles: these images are compared with high-ranking characters depicted in Moche art, in order to identify the instrument players' respective social roles in Moche society.

**Daniela La Chioma Silvestre Villalva** is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Archaeology of the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, University of São Paulo, Brazil. She holds a graduation in History (2007) and a Master's in Archaeology (2012) from the University of São Paulo, both degrees in Pre-Columbian studies, with a specialization in Andean art and archaeology. Her research focuses on iconographic representations of sound, music, and its players in Andean Art; emphasizing their social, political, and religious roles and the symbolic meaning of the instruments in Andean and Amerindian cosmovisions. One of her iconographic analyses of Nasca musicians became a chapter in Matthias Stöckli & Arnd Adje Both, *Flower World: Music Archaeology of the Americas*, II (Berlin, 2013). In her Ph.D. research she is currently studying the political-religious roles of musicians in the northern coast of Peru, specifically in the Middle Moche period, based on a databank of more than 800 images of musicians, all depicted in Moche pottery. She has been doing fieldwork in Peruvian archaeological projects and studies of Peruvian museum's collections since 2007, as well as participating in seminars and conferences in Brazil, Europe, and Peru.

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## ***The Representation of Musicians in the Archaic Architectural Terracottas from Etruria and Central Italy***

This paper will consider the representation of musicians in Etruscan architectural terracottas from sacred buildings, and in particular those of Poggio Civitate (Murlo 580 – 575 BCE), Tuscania (Ara del Tufo 560 – 550 BCE and Aquarossa 570-560 BCE), and Tarquinia (560 – 550 BCE), and further comparisons will be made to those of the Rome-

Veio-Velletri decorative system. All these architectural terracottas present a similar iconography: a banquet of reclining banqueters entertained by standing musicians and dancers who face those being entertained. These motifs are associated with clay representations of military themes, such as soldiers standing or on horseback, an iconography that finds its origins in Greek and Near Eastern terracottas from the Orientalizing period (720 – 580 BCE). These were widely disseminated in the Mediterranean and found fertile ground in Etruria, which became the main recipient of Greek culture in all its different forms in Italy.

The purpose of this paper is to investigate the forms and the loci where these representations appeared in Etruscan culture. Through comparisons with paintings found in the associated necropoleis, the prevalent forms in which the theme was diffused will be shown, along with the role of musicians in Etruscan culture, identifying the continuity and the differences in respect to the Greek models.

Ultimately, this highlights how the representations of musicians were absorbed by Etruscans in the late Orientalizing period and affirmed in the Archaic period. Yet this will also show how the Etruscans, even with their propensity for the imitation of Greek models, unconsciously made changes to the theme of the musician due to their different cultural background.

**Sara Marandola** graduated in 2006 with a Masters Degree in Classical Archeology at the University La Sapienza in Rome, with a thesis on Survey and Technical Analysis of Ancient Monuments. Since 2007 she has collaborated with the Superintendence for Archeological Heritage of Lazio, as a freelancer, carrying out supervisor activities on preventive archeological sites in Southern Lazio, in the province of Frosinone and Latina. Since 2012 she has also collaborated with the University of Cassino, cataloging and studying their Roman period ceramic material coming from the archeological site of Fabrateria Nova (San Giovanni Incarico – FR), and digitalizing technical notes related to the surrounding territory. In July 2014 she graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Architecture, in the field of the Restoration and Conservation of Architectural Heritage, and began her collaboration with the German Archeological Institute in Rome, concerning the geographical documentation of the Fabrateria Nova excavations.

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**Donata Sarracino** graduated in 2006 from the University La Sapienza in Rome in Archaeology, with a thesis in Etruscology and Italic Antiquities. In 2012 she obtained a Ph.D. in Archaeology, with a specialization in Etruscology at La Sapienza. Currently, she is a researcher at La Sapienza (Department of Classical Studies), and is working on the project *Veii, the Power and the Sacred*, for the departments of Etruscology and Italic Antiquities. She also collaborates with the Superintendence for Archaeological Heritage of Lazio and the Superintendence for Archaeological Heritage of Rome for the catalogue, inventory, and study of archaeological materials.

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### **Gods, Men, Turtles: Terracotta Lyre-Players in Etruscan Votive Deposits**

This paper discusses terracotta figurines of the Hellenistic period representing lyre-players in southern Etruria, with special regard given to the sacred contexts where they were found. At Caere, lyre-players alone or with accompanying auloi-players are at times

represented in connection with scenes of sacrifice and goddesses; in these cases the musicians are presumably to be interpreted as human assistants taking part in a ritual context. It is worth noting that according to the classical literary sources the Etruscans accompanied every such activity with music. In other cases, single figures of lyre-players have been interpreted as representations of Apollo. The variant representing a nude youth holding a lyre in his left hand and a pick in his right is widespread in Veii, Falerii (a seated version appears at Santa Marinella), and a less common type wearing a mantle on his hips and a bulla is known at Caere and Vulci. One might wonder whether these figurines always represent the god, or at times show worshippers as musicians, possibly assimilated to Apollo himself. Moreover, other visual sources show that the lyre was also considered a tool for divination in Etruria, fit for mythological prophets. It is therefore possible that in votive contexts such figurines allude to local divinatory practices. Finally, the paper will briefly address the occurrence of terracotta figurines representing turtles in Etruria, often in connection with cults of Apollo, as at Pyrgi and Veii. Scholars usually consider this animal associated with Greek female deities, and in particular Aphrodite. It is more likely, however, that the dedication of terracotta turtles in Etruria alluded to the myth of the invention of the lyre which involved Apollo and Hermes, considering the finding of turtle-shells among votive offerings in Etruscan tombs and sacred places.

**Daniele Federico Maras** completed his studies at La Sapienza University in Rome, receiving a Ph.D. in archaeology in 2002. He taught Etruscan and Italic epigraphy in the same university from 2006 to 2010. Since 2010 he has been a member of the Board of Teachers for the Ph.D. in Linguistic History of the Ancient Mediterranean at the University IULM of Milan. He is corresponding member of the Pontificia Accademia Romana di Archeologia, member of the Società Italiana di Storia delle Religioni, and has been a visiting scholar at the University of Massachusetts Amherst (2011), a Margo Tytus visiting scholar fellow at the University of Cincinnati (2014), an associate research scholar, Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America at Columbia University (2014-2015), and a Samuel H. Kress lecturer of the Archaeological Institute of America (2015-2016). His main research fields are Etruscan religion, with special regard to sacred inscriptions and mythological representations, the early spread of writing, and the history of Pre-Roman Italy. Apart from a number of articles and contributions in journals and edited volumes, he is author of the volumes *Il dono votivo. Gli dei e il sacro nelle iscrizioni etrusche di culto* (Pisa-Roma, 2009), and, with Giovanni Colonna, *Corpus Inscriptionum Etruscarum*, II.1.5 (Pisa-Roma, 2006).  
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### **Musical Performance, Society and Politics in Early First Millennium BCE Cyprus: Coroplastic and other Visual Evidence**

Cyprus is an eastern Mediterranean island with a very distinct historical trajectory between insularity and connectivity, self-sufficiency and cosmopolitanism, continuity and change. Towards the end of the second millennium BCE, Cyprus seems to have suffered less from the crisis that swept most other regions in the eastern Mediterranean. Thus, the island retained its centrality in sea-routes and cultural exchange networks, particularly with the West, as well as a high degree of continuity in institutions, economy, and religion. Cypriot musical culture also remained prosperous; coroplastic products dating to the Early Iron Age, in particular, provide rare insights into an early horizon of musical activity in a period

when other Mediterranean cultures were experiencing a “Dark Age”, or the initial recovery from it.

The present paper provides an overview of Cypro-Geometric and Cypro-Archaic coroplastic (and other) representations of musical performance, exploring the different types of musicians, musical instruments, playing techniques and contexts of music making. A special focus is placed on the continuities and discontinuities from the Bronze Age, the connections to the contemporary East and West, and the intertwining of musical practices with war, the human body and the supernatural. Overall, Cypriot musical practices are placed in the wider context of strategies for the construction of social identities and the legitimation of political authority in the formative period of the historical kingdoms of Cyprus.

**Manolis Mikrakis** is a lecturer in Ancient and Medieval Art at the School of Architecture, National Technical University of Athens. He has collaborated on archaeological excavations in the Aegean and Cyprus, as well as in the development of exhibitions focusing on Aegean interactions with the eastern Mediterranean. After studying archaeology, history of art, and ancient history at the universities of Athens, Vienna, and Cambridge, he received his Ph.D. in classical archaeology from the University of Heidelberg in 2006 with a thesis on Bronze Age and Early Iron Age representations of musical instruments in the Aegean and Cyprus. For his research, he received grants from the State of Baden-Württemberg, Germany, and the Society of the Friends of Music, Athens. His publications are focused on the late second and early first millennium BCE cultures of the Aegean and Cyprus, their interactions with Egypt and the Near East, and the role of music and related practices of performance and feasting in these cultures. Manolis has also been active in the field of digital cultural heritage, working for the Directorate of the National Archive of Monuments at the Greek Ministry of Culture and for the Department of Antiquities, Cyprus on the development of information systems for the digitization of antiquities.

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### **Tympanon and Syrinx:**

#### **A Musical Metaphor within the System of Ritual Practice and Belief at Metaponto**

Nestled in an arbor between clusters of grapes hang a tympanon and a syrinx. Beneath this arc of fruit and musical instruments, a female figure and the goat-god Pan prance together over rocky ground. She holds a cornucopia laden with cakes and produce of the earth. He clasps a volute crater of impressive dimension laden, no doubt, with wine. Why did the artisan include the musical instruments in an image that was to be cast in clay, mechanically, over and over again, in order to provide the residents of Metaponto with affordable terracotta reliefs to serve as votive gifts to the deities whose shrines punctuated the urban and rural landscape of this Italiote city-state in late fourth and early third centuries BCE?

In formulating a response to this question, attention focuses first on the possible significance of the musical instruments within the pictorial narrative of the dancing couple represented in the terracotta plaques and then moves on to an examination of the varied contexts of public and private rite where the plaques were employed by the local population. Consideration is given to not only how the reliefs themselves served as instruments in the performance of a ritual act, but also how their imagery may allude to (1)

the performance of other rites and (2) associated mythic narratives within the context of the cults where the plaques served a religious purpose. An investigation of the larger system of ritual acts and underlying myths casts penetrating light on the deeper meaning of the tympanon and syrinx at Metaponto and may better illuminate the local artisan's motives for fashioning the musical instruments in the midst of a grape arbor that shades a mythic dancing floor.

**Rebecca Miller Ammerman** is Professor of The Classics at Colgate University in Hamilton, New York. She took her undergraduate degree in Classical and Near Eastern Art and Archaeology at Bryn Mawr College and completed her Ph.D. at the University of Michigan. She served as an NEH Fellow at the American Academy in Rome in 1990-91 and an Elizabeth A. Whitehead Visiting Professor at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens in 2008-09. Her research concerns ritual practice and the archaeology of Magna Graecia with a specific focus on terracotta statuettes and relief plaques. Research at Paestum has resulted in her book *The Sanctuary of Santa Venera at Paestum II. The Votive Terracottas* (Ann Arbor, 2002), and she is also studying of the vast corpus of votive terracottas from the northern urban sanctuary dedicated to Athena. At Metaponto, her research concerns terracotta figurines and plaques recovered during the field survey and many excavations conducted by the Institute of Classical Archaeology of the University of Texas. Currently, she is preparing publications of the terracottas from the spring sanctuary at Pantanello and the kiln site of San Angelo Vecchio at Metaponto.

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#### **The Masks of the Dead: Music, Theater, and Burial Customs at Lipara in the Fourth to Third Centuries BCE**

Lipara, on the the largest of the Aeolian islands, settled in c. 580 BCE by colonists from Cyprus and Rhodes, was the last among the Sicilian apoikiai to be founded. Thanks to the work of Luigi Bernabò Brea and Madeleine Cavalier, who extensively surveyed and excavated the island after World War II, this polis has become one of the most studied among the Western Greek colonies, and one of the most important sites for Mediterranean prehistory and protohistory. In addition to significant examples of figured pottery, important findings from the Liparean necropolis at contrada Diana include miniature clay theatrical masks and statuettes directly inspired by theatrical performances. These are unique in the ancient world for their quantity and quality. Among the burial goods from Lipara, the subject matter of the theatrical votive coroplastic objects can often be identified, and in some cases, especially for the tragic masks, linked to a specific drama. This raises important questions about the nature of the theatrical performances that took place in Lipari in the fourth to third centuries BCE. Furthermore, the excavations by Bernabò Brea and Cavalier near contrada Diana uncovered the remains of a suburban sanctuary, which they tentatively attributed to Demeter and Kore. The votive pits found there revealed a large number of terracottas related to theater, as well as a large quantity of pottery bearing religious subjects. Among these are many thousands of votive pinakes depicting female figures holding or playing both aulos and tympanon. These pinakes, together with the other terracottas and figured pottery with musical subject from Contrada Diana, raise the question of what type of music was performed in the small but thriving Doric colony of Lipara, which, as a firm ally of Syracuse and strategically located for

control of the straits of Messina, twice resisted attack by the Athenian fleet during the Peloponnesian War.

**Alessandro Pagliara** received his qualification as professor of ancient history in 2012. He teaches Roman history at Tuscia University, Viterbo, and history of Sicily and Magna Graecia at the American University of Rome. He is currently working as a research scholar for Sapienza University in Rome on a project involving ancient theater. Having received his degree in Greek history in 1993 from Sapienza, he went on to earn a Ph.D. in ancient history in 2000 from the University of Perugia and another in ancient, medieval, and Renaissance studies in 2012 from the Italian Institute of Human Sciences in Florence. He has collaborated with Luigi Bernabò Brea and the Regional Aeolian Archeological Museum of Lipari (1993-1999), and has been teaching and/or researching at the universities of Macerata (2000-2008), Sydney (2005), Columbia, NYU (2005), Roma Tre (2009-2011), and Turin (2012-2014).

Besides his articles on the ethnography of pre-Roman Italy, Greek colonization in Sicily, ancient musical theory, Christian epigraphy, and rhetoric in Late Antiquity, he has published monographs on the Aeolian Islands in Greek and Roman times (Palermo, 1995), Christian and Late Antique Sicily (Rome, 2006; Macerata, 2009), Renaissance and Humanistic reception of the Emperor Julian's works (Rome, 2010) and, in particular, his panegyric orations written as Caesar of Constantius II (Alessandria, 2012). He is currently preparing a commented edition of Julian's Second Panegyric on Constantius II (or. III Bidez).

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### **Musicians and Monkeys: Ancient Near Eastern Clay Plaques Displaying Musicians and their Socio-Cultural Role**

Considering the importance of music in the Ancient Near East, archaeological and textual remains help to visualize the manifold aspects of musical life in both private and public domains, as well as in the secular and religious-cultural realms. Musicians and singers (Sumerian NAR, Akkadian *nâru*) were in the service of the palace or temple and played an important role in the oral transmission of literary texts, including epics, hymns, or prayers. This paper will address the wide range of the musicians' social status including the privileged royal singers as well as the less privileged musicians of temple households and those living at the fringes of society.

Observations made thanks to the rich textual evidence of the ancient Near East from the third to the first millennium BCE will be compared with and linked to the information drawn from the archaeological artifacts themselves. This paper will specifically focus on the numerous ancient Near Eastern clay plaques, some of which show musicians together with animals that have been interpreted as an allegory for unprofitable art. Special emphasis will be given to musicians represented as, and together with, monkeys, a *topos* with a long literary tradition in Mesopotamia that has provoked a number of modern interpretations. The image of the "poor musician" is also reflected in the cuneiform sources drawn from different literary genres, which provide a fascinating insight into the lives of less privileged musicians and singers. Apart from their functional properties in everyday life, this paper will address more closely the social positions of singers in ancient Near Eastern society including their organization and relationship to other professional groups.

**Regine Pruzsinszky** (Ph.D. University of Vienna 2000, Habilitation University of Vienna 2008) is Professor in Assyriology at the Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg (Germany). Her research interests include the social positions of musicians in the ancient Near East, Mesopotamian chronology, late Bronze Age Syria, and onomastics. She is the author of *Die Personennamen der Texte aus Emar* (Bethesda, 2003), and *Mesopotamian Chronology of the 2nd Millennium BCE, An Introduction to the Textual Evidence and Related Chronological Issues* (Wien, 2009). Among other edited books she has edited a volume on *Musicians and the Tradition of Literature in the Ancient Near East, Proceedings of the Vienna-workshop in September 2007* (Wien, 2010) together with Dahlia Shehata.

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### **The Sistrum on Terracottas: Human Instrument or Divine Attribute?**

While many Classical terracotta figurines represent musicians playing idiophones, such as crotals or castanets, the presence of the Greco-Roman sistrum seems very specific. It appears in the coroplastical repertoire as an exclusively divine attribute, never played by a human being, unlike other instruments such as the harp or the aulos. However, archeological data (about 200 objects or amulets) has confirmed that the sistrum, derived from a Pharaonic prototype, was a real and audible item used by individuals in Isiac ceremonies during the Hellenistic and Roman periods.

It is of interest to note that no word in ancient Greek or Latin refers to a “sistrum player” as a musician. The latter is more often named as a “sistrum holder.” Yet, is this individual a musician, a priest, or a simple devotee? The coroplastic corpus only presents a specific vision of it in the domestic context—a part of Isis’ image—but it is not sufficient to understand the sistrum as a musical instrument in ancient society.

An exploration of other types of sources is clearly necessary to understand the status of the sistrum player and his perception by Greco-Roman society. Without being a musical instrument per se, the sistrum embodies a dimension of sound that exceeds the simple reproduction of the Goddess’s image. According to iconographic and literary sources, the object seems rather to be understood more as a marker of identity than as a normal instrument.

**Arnaud Saura-Ziegelmeier** is currently a Ph.D. student in Sciences de l’Antiquité (supervised by Pr. Laurent Bricault) at the University of Toulouse Jean Jaurès, where he has studied history and sociology. He also studied musicology at the Regional Conservatory of Toulouse. His thesis focuses on the Isiac sistrum, an idiophone used in the Greco-Roman world during the ceremonies of Isis, goddess native of Egypt. For this purpose, the typology and organology of this instrument, its meanings, and its ancient and modern interpretations are all taken into account. More generally, his researches focus on ancient music, but also on the links between antiquity and eighteenth to twentieth centuries musical history.

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## Poster Session

### **Terracotta Figurines of Musicians in the National Archaeological Museum in Athens**

In the National Archaeological Museum in Athens are housed terracotta figurines of musicians from Attica, Euboea, Boeotia, the Aegean islands and various regions in Greece, as well as from sites in western Asia Minor, modern Turkey, such as Myrina and Smyrna. Examples include figurines of Eros and youths with lyres, flutes and cymbals, of Pan with pipes, female figurines with kitharas, tympana and other. They are dated in the late Classical and Hellenistic periods. These figurines can be studied in a number of ways. Their connection to graves or sanctuaries underscores popular religious beliefs and occasionally illustrates stories from myth. Their study also helps us gain insights into the standard types of string, wind and percussion musical instruments used in all regions in these periods, as well as of garment types often worn by figures of divine musicians, such as Apollo, or mortal ones.

In this poster a first presentation of some figurine types found in central Greece and Asia Minor grouped per site contexts and musical instruments will be attempted with the purpose of gaining information on aspects of music as performed and enjoyed by the ancients, especially as part of cultic and communal activities. Excavation and site information will be supplied, where available, to help distinguish types of figurines found in graves, sanctuaries or domestic spaces. A final part of the presentation will focus on aspects of music education in antiquity. This subject is illustrated, among other instances, by a number of terracotta figurine groups of the National Archaeological Museum that were found in graves in Euboea and other Greek sites.

As a whole this presentation aims at a first selective examination of terracotta figurine types of musicians found in central Greece and parts of Asia Minor that are dated from the late 4<sup>th</sup> to the early 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE.

**Maria Chidioglou** was born in Istanbul, Turkey. She is an archaeologist of the Greek Archaeological Service since 1994. She holds a Bachelor's degree on History and Archaeology from the University of Athens and a Ph.D. degree from the same University. Her Ph.D. thesis "Ancient Karystia in Euboea – A contribution to the history and archaeology of the region from Geometric to Roman Imperial times" is a synopsis of data gathered during salvage excavations and survey work she conducted in southern Euboea in the years from 1994 to 2005, when she worked in the relevant Ephorate of Antiquities. From 2005 to 2010 she worked in the Department of Archaeological Sites, Monuments and Archaeological Research of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture in Athens. As of 2010 she works in the National Archaeological Museum in Athens.

Her main research interests include terracotta figurines, pottery of the Archaic to the Hellenistic period and topographical issues of the ancient cities of Euboea. She has participated (2005-2015) in a number of joint Archaeological Research Programs in Southern Euboea. She has presented papers in Greek, English and French in a number of Archaeological Conferences in Greece and abroad (Italy, France, Turkey and Austria) and published articles in journals and Conference Proceedings on archaeological finds of Euboea, including articles on terracotta figurines in the National Archaeological Museum. She has a daughter named Christina.

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### **Terracottas with Representations of Musicians from Adranon (Sicily)**

Amongst the rich and diversified coroplastic production of Adranon (the ancient city in the Simeto valley founded by Dionysius the Elder from Syracuse, according to the historical tradition), are a number of figurines with representations of musicians dating to between the fourth and the beginning of the third centuries BCE, now housed in the local regional museum. These are statuettes featuring a woman playing the aulos or tympanon, as well as small pinakes with three standing figures, often interpreted as nymphs, also portrayed in the act of playing an instrument. The circumstances of the discovery of a number of these terracottas remain unknown. Their assumed origin from the ancient town of Adranon is likely but not certain.

There is only one pinax coming from a sufficiently documented context. It was part of a votive deposit related to the cult of Demeter and Kore found, between December 1913 and January 1914, in the courtyard of the former Monastery of Jesus and Mary near the main square of the modern town. This pinax is now in the Paolo Orsi Regional Archaeological Museum in Syracuse.

Finally, another related group of terracottas comes from excavations carried out in recent decades in the area of the ancient settlement itself. This set of materials provides the most interesting information towards a proper contextualization of the terracottas as a whole.

This poster is therefore aimed at updating scholarship on the Adranon terracotta corpus, presenting some unpublished samples coming from the excavations of 1995. At the same time, analyzing the known and supposed contexts of discovery, one can establish the possible relationships between this class of terracotta figurines and the cults practiced at ancient Adranon.

**Gioconda Lamagna** began her career at the Archaeological Superintendency of Salerno, Avellino, and Benevento, dealing with the protection and the investigation of several Samnite centers, including ancient Caudium. After being transferred to the Cultural Heritage Superintendency of Catania, she was in charge of managing the regional museum of Adrano for many years, including its recent, new installation. During her years at the Superintendency of Catania she has also dealt with the protection and the scientific investigation of several sites in the province of Catania, supervising excavation campaigns in the Simeto valley (Greek city of Adranon, archaic indigenous centres of Mendolito, and Civita di Paternò) and in the Caltagirone area (Caltagirone, Monte Balchino, Piano dei Casazzi). She has taken part in various scientific seminars—both at the national and the international level—publishing extensively in scientific journals. She has also participated in multimedia publications, promoting also the realization of the official website for Adrano's regional museum. From 2010 to 2013 she has been director of the “Parco archeologico della Valle del Simeto,” and since the end of 2013 she has been the director of the Regional Archaeological Museum Paolo Orsi at Syracuse.

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### **Grotesque, Burlesque and Obscene Features in Greek Clay Figurines of Musicians and Dancers**

During the archaeological campaigns conducted by the University of Florence at the site of the Achaean colony of Kaulonia, a terracotta mold was found under a collapsed house of

the Classical period. It depicts a nude, bald, and rather grotesque character with a slender figure, highly emphasized genitalia, and a semi-open mouth. The figure holds a plectrum in his right hand and a kithara in his left. The subject finds interesting comparison in a few examples dating between the fifth and the fourth centuries BCE from the Kabirion of Thebes, but also from Locris, Attica, and other Boeotian centers. These figures, which have strong magical and propitiatory connotations, have significant links to Hellenistic representations of similar caricatured grotesques with obscene features of a broader and more complex meaning.

**Lucia Lepore** is Former Senior Research Fellow and Aggregate Professor at the University of Florence, specialized in the archeology of Magna Graecia and the methodology of archeological research. As a representative of international agreements for cultural and scientific collaboration, she has collaborated with various institutions and also is a member of Italian and foreign associations. Administrative projects include the organization of exhibitions, seminars and conferences, among which the most recent is the exhibition *Kaulonia, the City of the Amazon Kleite: The Excavations of the University of Florence in Monasterace Marina*, at the National Archaeological Museum (Florence, 2013-2014). Other activities include the scientific direction of the archaeological campaigns conducted by the University of Florence at San Marco di Monasterace Marina (Reggio Calabria); at Locri (Reggio Calabria); at Li Castelli di Manduria (Taranto); at Fiesole (Florence); at Antella (Bagno a Ripoli, Florence); and in Florence, as well as the collaboration in the archaeological campaigns conducted by the Archeological Superintendency of Calabria at Crotona, by the Archeological Superintendency of Tuscany at Artimino (Carmignano, Prato), Frascole (Dicomano, Florence), Castellina di Quinto (Sesto Fiorentino, Florence).  
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### **Goddesses, Worshipers, Musicians and Dancers from Lipari and Stromboli**

Lipari is known for its rich production of terracotta figurines and vases of the Hellenistic period. The numerous and illuminating studies on this material by Luigi Bernabò Brea and Madeleine Cavalier have formed the basis for additional studies by several authors, who also have added to these studies the finds from Stromboli. As a result, one can now explore more fully the musical iconography presented by these vases and figurines and the role that music and dance seem to have played in daily life and in funerary ritual.

This presentation will consider the classes of musical instruments that are depicted which might relate to the cults of certain gods, such as Aphrodite, Artemis, Demeter, Kore, Apollo, and Dionysus, and explore certain rites attested by pinakes and by figurines of dancers who also sometimes carry musical instruments. From this, one may relate these objects to the cultural practice of the pre-nuptial *kosmesis* and to mythological practice of the sacrifices performed by the *nynfai*/brides and their companions.

This review will also take into account the results of the more recent research that has focused on similar material from Sicily and Magna Graecia, thus presenting the Liparian material in the light of these more recent discussions.

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### **Cybele, Dionysus and the Tympanum: The Role of Musicians in Ecstasy**

A type of clay figurine from Taranto represents a standing woman who holds a tympanum in her hand. This iconography may be interpreted as a female musician, similar to those who, playing the tympanum, the aulos, or the cymbals, took part in the rites honoring the goddess Cybele that were widespread in ancient Italy. According to the myth, it was Dionysus himself who invented this musical instrument, in order to produce ecstasy in those who danced at its rhythm. The tympanum was used along with the cymbals in the cult of the Magna Mater. Important attestations come from the sanctuary of Bitalemi, at Gela, from that of Malophoros, at Selinunte, and from the Palatine. The cult of Cybele was likely present also at Elea. To understand the importance of the tympanum in these rites, the ancient literary sources are helpful, as is Catullus (*Carmina docta*, 63). It appears that both tympanum and cymbals were instrumental in giving a Dionysian character to these rites. In particular, the Hellenistic clay figurines attest that the words of ancient authors are correct in stating that the tympanum was the “instrument of ecstasy” par excellence.

**Aura Piccioni**, after graduating from the University of Roma Tor Vergata (2011), attended an advanced training course at the Scuola Archeologica Italiana of Athens. She is currently undertaking her Ph.D. study at the Institute of Classical Archaeology of Regensburg University, where she is developing a project (*Häusliche Kulte in Unteritalien und Etrurien*) regarding domestic cult in Southern Italy and Etruria during the Archaic and Classical periods, under the supervision of Prof. D. Steuernagel. She is also serving as research assistant to Prof. Steuernagel, preparing a catalogue of the archaeological collection owned by the university. She has presented as a speaker at conferences held at the universities of Bonn, Regensburg, Breslau, Rome (Tor Vergata), Sydney, and Heidelberg. Some of her essays are currently in press.

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### **Tortoise Shell Lyres from Gordion: the Domestic Context of Music and Ritual in 7<sup>th</sup> century Phrygia.**

The Phrygians, a people who flourished in central Anatolia during the first millennium B.C.E. had one of the richest and most influential musical cultures in antiquity. Despite the significance of Phrygian music, it is known almost entirely through Greek and Roman texts and iconography, which give the impression that the aulos was preferred to such an extent that stringed instruments were excluded. The archaeological discovery of tortoise shell lyres in a house from the first quarter of the 7<sup>th</sup> century B.C.E. at the Phrygian capital Gordion clarifies the sound and instrumentation of music in Phrygia. Stone figurines in related contexts prompt the further conclusion that lyres accompanied domestic worship of the goddess Matar, the Phrygian predecessor of Cybele. More finds of lyre fragments in residential zones of the site suggest that the household was a key environment for musical development in Phrygia. A mold-made figurine of Cybele with a tympanum appears in a house from Gordion during the Hellenistic period, and gives a glimpse of the continuity of domestic musical rituals at the site over a 500 year period.

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