

uncovered. Such additional information about the provenience of the objects in these cases allows the reader to appreciate the material not in isolation, but within the wider archaeological landscape of the early agora.

Interspersed throughout the ‘Tour of the Museum’ section are informative inserts on topics aimed to supplement the visitor’s knowledge of the artefacts on display. Subjects include: working with marble, burials, pottery production, ostracism, life at home, and wells. Each of these themes are explored in mini essays that help to place the museum material within the wider context of life in ancient Athens. Moreover, these essays encourage the reader to appreciate how material culture can be used as evidence for understanding ancient practices.

What makes this guidebook stand out is that Gawlinski presents her own approach to touring the museum. Rather than suggesting the visitor explore the ground floor in its entirety before moving to the upper floor, Gawlinski encourages one to move through the terrace, colonnade, and area of shops on the ground floor then move to the upper floor before finishing their visit at the museum gallery. This is good advice as the artefacts in the museum gallery are organised chronologically. After viewing the models of the ancient city on the upper floor, having the visitor finish their tour of the museum in the gallery enables them to associate the objects they encounter here with the sites they previously saw in miniature. This viewing experience increases the visitor’s spatial awareness of the artefacts in the gallery and enables them to relate the objects to their original context in the agora. Overall, the route Gawlinski provides improves the experience of any visitor to the Agora Museum because the recommendation comes from an individual who not only has spent significant time in this space, but also has experience with the material found in the museum. Indeed, the authority of the author is expressed whimsically by a photograph of Gawlinski emerging from an ancient well (p. 186).

There is, however, one area where this museum guide could improve and that is by including a site map of the agora. Whenever Gawlinski mentions a particular structure in the agora (i.e. the Temple of Apollo Patroos, Royal Stoa, etc.) she provides the corresponding number of the monument from the general plan of the agora found in Camp’s site guide. Even if a visitor to both the site and the museum has both guides, the absence of a site map in the museum guide is slightly impractical for the reader. Since these monuments are referred to frequently in Gawlinski’s guide, a visitor might

find it cumbersome to have to flip back and forth between the two books while touring the museum.

The foreword to the guidebook, written by John McKesson Camp II, explains that this museum guide is meant as a companion to the 5th edition of Camp’s *Athenian Agora Site Guide*. The two books are intended to work in tandem to supplement a visit to the agora site and museum. Gawlinski’s guidebook, however, works quite well as a stand-alone piece due to its comprehensive approach to the material and its potential to reach a broad audience. Overall, this guidebook complements any trip to the Agora Museum as it is informative and concise. It is also practical for travel because it is compact and portable so that museum goers can easily carry it as they tour the reconstructed stoa. Finally, regarding audience, the depth of Gawlinski’s artefact descriptions satisfy both academics and non-specialists alike, and the writing style, while having an educated tone, avoids using excessive jargon, which encourages a wider readership for this excellent guidebook.

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**Pietro Maria Militello and Hakan Öñiz (eds) *SOMA 2011. Proceedings of the 15th Symposium on Mediterranean Archaeology, held at the University of Catania 3-5 March 2011* (British Archaeological Reports International Series 2695. Two volumes). pp. ix+1090, 1235 b/w illustrations and tables. 2015. Oxford: Archaeopress. ISBN 978-1-40731-344-3 paperback £125.**

This 2-volume publication presents the proceedings of the 15th Symposium on Mediterranean Archaeology (SOMA), held at the University of Catania on 3–5 March 2011, and publishes 134 contributions, mainly from PhD students and early career researchers.

The papers are primarily sub-divided into thematic groups and a broad geographical subdivision has been adopted throughout to accommodate, according to the editors, the variety of material and approaches presented.

*Volume One* is divided into two parts – Part I focuses on the *Prehistory and Protohistory of Europe and Anatolia* and Part II on the *History and Archaeology*

of the Classical World I. The volume opens with Kolankaya-Bostancı's essay on the socio-economic background of early exchange relationships between the widely dispersed Palaeolithic hunter-gatherer groups and the role of exchange for understanding social structures of this period (pp. 3-9), and with Suchowska-Ducke on understanding cross-cultural communication in the European Bronze Age with a case study on the Mycenaeans and their northern neighbours (pp. 11-19).<sup>1</sup> It is not clear though why the editors did not include this paper in the *Greece* section). The rest of Part I is arranged in broad geographical themes (Anatolia, Europe, Greece, Italy and Sicily) followed by a section on *Archaeology and Sciences*.

The section on *Anatolia* begins with two papers by Yılmaz: first, a brief, albeit useful, discussion of the introduction of advanced metal technology, the operation of local workshops and the use of new alloys in central Anatolia towards the end of the EBA (pp. 21-22) and second, a well-researched assessment of the typological and chronological implications of survey finds from Külünlü, Larisa-Limantepe and Coloniae-Aktaşovası in dating Troy I (pp. 27-34). Popescu and Băjenaru successfully re-evaluate and challenge the role of bone artefacts with wave-band decoration in reconstructing the contacts between the Middle Danube area and the Aegean-Anatolian world (pp. 35-42). Ökse *et al.*'s work focuses on the domestic and spiritual spheres of MBA Salat Tepe in the Upper Tigris region with studies on the 2nd mill. outdoor pyrotechnique installations (pp. 43-49) and on the incantation rituals that were practised at the MBA site using some modern ethnological parallels (pp. 51-58) respectively. Çınardalı-Karaaslan's essay contributes to the reconstruction of LBA glass trade in the region with a case study on the faience, frit and glass objects from the graves at Panaztepe, in the Izmir region of west Anatolia (pp. 59-64).<sup>2</sup> Two short papers in this volume advance knowledge of the Iron Age kingdom of Urartu in the Armenian Highlands. Ekici's research traces the origin of a group of Urartian metal finds from the Karaman Archaeological Museum to the assemblage of ca. 2000 bronze plaques from an Urartian building that was looted in 1971 in the village of Giyimli (Gürpınar) in the Van (pp. 65-70), while Özfiat's presentation of the Middle Iron Age material from the survey in the Çaldıran region sets out to reconstruct settlement patterns, building techniques and the material culture across the region during this period (pp. 71-79).

Focus then shifts to Europe. By discussing bone and antler as raw material for anvil manufacture in Histria, Romania, Beldiman and Sztancs illustrate complex interconnections between traditions extending over a long period of time. Discussed are bone and antler processing, the use/re-use of the artefacts that resulted from this, ancient crafts and the agrarian economy at the contact between iron technology (iron smelting, manufacture of iron tools), and the cultivation of cereals in antiquity in the regions around the Black Sea (pp. 81-88).<sup>3</sup> Joaquinito and Ribeiro present an interesting case on the conscious choice of specific types of geometrical microliths in the Tagus Valley, Portugal, and then go on – less successfully, though, mainly because the findings are presented in a very short section only – to associate Sicilian Mesolithic sites with the wider lithic industry of the period based on the study of geometrical microliths (pp. 89-92). Rivera Groennou and Alarcón García put forward an insightful reconstruction of daily life and social relations in the Argaric settlement at Peñalosa in Spain which has the potential to work as a model for the study of prehistoric societies (pp. 93-99).

The section on prehistoric Greece begins with two papers focusing on spatiality and regionality – from a close-focus approach to settlement patterns and distribution in the LBA and EIA Mesara region on Crete (Anzalone, pp. 101-109) to the manipulation of the Minoan funerary space in the Agiopharango Valley (Déderix, pp. 111-120). It sounds rather impossible to have a section on Minoan Crete without at least one paper on Linear A and this is purposefully fulfilled by Militello's study on a group of eccentric Linear A tablets from Ayia Triada that recorded provisions for banquets (pp. 121-126). Pottery in its local and regional context is discussed by Ballan and Palmieri. Although Ballan's preliminary study of fine grey burnished ware lacks recently updated bibliographical references,<sup>4</sup> it is still a welcome addition to the ongoing research on the distribution and contextualisation of this class of decorated pottery in Greece and the wider Mediterranean region (pp. 127-133). Finally, Palmieri's work on local ceramic production in Protogeometric and Geometric Kos fills a lacuna in the study of pottery production and the organisation of pottery workshops in the EIA Dodecanese (pp. 135-141).

Moving on to the central Mediterranean, in addition to the short excavation reports on the EBA settlement near Ragusa (Cardinale *et al.*, pp.

<sup>1</sup> This paper forms part of the [now closed] *Forging Identities* network.

<sup>2</sup> For an extended version of this paper, see Çınardalı-Karaaslan 2012.

<sup>3</sup> For an extended version of this paper, see Beldiman *et al.* 2014.

<sup>4</sup> For example, the relevant papers in Philippa-Touchais *et al.* 2010.

227-231) and on the Copper Age-Early Bronze Age site of Piano dei Casazzi (Alberghina, pp. 249-252) which supplement the existing corpus of pre- and proto-historic communities on Sicily, the rest of the section comprises studies ranging from settlement patterns and the organisation of space, to aspects of material culture in the region such as chordophones, ceramics, lithics and trade goods, and domestic installations. More specifically, Cadeddu's study highlights the hierarchical relationship between Nuraghic settlements and illustrates the usefulness of integrating interdisciplinary scientific methodologies into the study of Sardinia's cultural heritage (pp. 143-153). The archaeology of caves is an interesting aspect of Mediterranean prehistory and Cultrera's paper on the Upper Palaeolithic to Bronze Age caves of the Hyblean Mountains on Sicily not only stresses their importance in the context of prehistoric occupation dynamics, subsistence strategies and funerary cults but also presents them as 'a reliable indicator of the socio-political, economical and religious level of progress of the indigenous communities' throughout prehistory (pp. 217-225). The use of space in domestic and settlement contexts on Sicily is knowledgeably addressed by Cannizzaro and Martinelli's interdisciplinary research on Neolithic combustion structures in the province of Messina (pp. 175-183), by Montesana's reconstruction of the living space in the EBA village of Coste Di Santa Febronia with reference to the site's storage areas and pottery distribution (pp. 259-264), and by Vacirca's preliminary examination of the Late Copper Age phase in Rocchinella di Mineo (pp. 233-238). In this context, Alberti's work further complements scholarly discourses on the relationship between material culture patterning and its spatial dimensions with a useful evaluation of Aeolian MBA settlement contexts (pp. 185-195). Evaluations of specific pottery styles such as the MBA large storage jars (Veca, pp. 239-248) and LBA decorated footed bowls (Grasso and Cirino, pp. 203-210) from Sicily are useful in emphasising local choices in pottery manufacture and in reconstructing functional activities in past communities.

Moving on to material culture and overseas interactions, Bracchitta's consideration of lithic exchanges between the Aeolian Islands and Malta using the Late Neolithic site in Licodia Eubea as a case study, adds further evidence to the assessment of the operation of bidirectional networks in the prehistoric central Mediterranean (pp. 197-202). The evidence on the operation of widespread and multi-directional exchange relationships between the central Mediterranean and early Mycenaean Greece is further supported by the presence of bronze balance-scales of Aegean type in the EBA

necropolis at Castelluccio, Sicily (Crispino and Cultraro, pp. 211-216). The benefits of applying ceramic ethnoarchaeometry in understanding the production, distribution and consumption of ceramics in the past are competently demonstrated by Tsantini *et al.* (pp. 155-160) and by Montana *et al.* (pp. 253-258) with case studies from Sardinia and Sicily respectively. These two studies could have been incorporated in the *Archaeology and Sciences* section which presents varied research on the application of GIS in detecting Late Prehistoric settlement patterns and models in the Ripoll River basin in Catalonia, Spain (Gómez, pp. 265-272), on working patterns in the technical transformation sequence of the Bronze Age osseous material industry at Motilla del Azuer in central Iberia (Altamirano García, pp. 273-284), and on the chemical and palaeobotanical investigation of birch resin in the context of contacts, exchange and mobility of Bronze Age Sicilian communities (Montesana *et al.*, pp. 285-289).

Part II of Volume 1 focuses on the *Archaeology of the Classical World*. A geographical division has been followed: Greece and the Mediterranean, the East, the West and Africa, Sicily and Italy. Starting with Greek archaeology, Giudice *et al.* present – in a condensed text but using fifteen instructive tables – the framework reference for Attic figured pottery shapes (c. 635-300 BC) in terms of global production and of their distribution across the Mediterranean during the time this class of pottery was produced (pp. 293-311). Moderato's paper carefully considers the urbanisation process of the Hellenistic walled towns of Thesprotia by placing it under the lens of archaeological data and historical literary sources (pp. 313-320). Cannistraci's work sets to satisfactorily challenge the function of the stoa 'as a self-enclosed building with a fixed and intended function' with a focus on the agora of Mantinea in southern Greece (pp. 329-334).

Even though included in the section on the archaeology of Greece, Eren's study fits with the East-focusing papers as it contextualises the 7th century BC Ionian sanctuaries within their wider Mediterranean context (pp. 321-329) and adds a fresh insight into the study of the religious landscape in this part of the Mediterranean world. Based on iconographical evidence Baldiran's research furthers the study of religious and funerary practices in Lykaonia based on the cult of Zeus in the region (pp. 417-420) and on the stone sarcophagi from Seydişehir (pp. 361-377). Similarly, Ogus uses the evidence from two unusual fragmentary sarcophagi from Aphrodisias, Caria, to illuminate aspects of the sarcophagus trade and trading practices, itinerant sculptors and of

local culture and social history (pp. 335-347). The contributions on Hellenistic to Roman pottery assemblages add valuable information both on local production and foreign influences and on imports and trade interaction (Korkmaz and Doğanay, pp. 349-360; Corritore, pp. 421-430). Under the scope of interaction fit well the results of the coastal and underwater investigations of Lake Kucukcekmece in 2010, in particular the identification of two natural harbours and a road of Roman date (Oniz *et al.*, pp. 407-410). Ersoy and Çelik's paper on the excavations at Smyrna discusses briefly the ancient city's acropolis (the centre of religious and defence importance), the agora and the residential quarters at the Altıpark and Basmane areas, thus offering a useful reconstruction of their function and character during the Roman and Byzantine periods (pp. 411-415). Their paper also sets the background for Yolaçan's comprehensive analysis of the Roman civil basilica in the Smyrna Agora (pp. 399-405). Mancuso's preliminary publication of the MAIKE excavation campaign at the Roman theatre at Kyme, Turkey is an excellent example of how monuments may be researched and managed to benefit public engagement (pp. 391-398).<sup>5</sup> Further, preliminary results on MAIKE's campaigns at Kyme are published in Sudano's very brief outline of the excavations at parts of the Geometric and the Archaic to Late Antique necropolises (pp. 431-433). Finally, Ekici's publication of a Late to Sub-Geometric chamber tomb at Mengefe in the province of Muğla is a welcome addition to the study of funerary practices in Caria during this period (pp. 435-438).

The section on the archaeology of the West and Africa begins with Lechenault's brief but excellent contribution on Corsica's role in the Tyrrhenian 'traffic' and its economic, cultural and social impact on the native communities during the Iron Age (pp. 439-443). Within the sphere of cultural interaction, Ribeiro *et al.* discuss insightfully the ethnographical and archaeological evidence (hypogea, equestrian statue, 'treasure' of Punic and Hellenic coins, inscription) for the possible presence of Phoenicians in the Azores archipelago (pp. 453-459). The mid-6th century BC date for the genesis and development of the first complex societies in the north-eastern Iberian Peninsula is challenged convincingly by García i Rubert *et al.* who, based on the evidence from the Sant Jaume Complex in Alcanar, Spain, propose instead that the first isolated hierarchical societies in the region emerged in the 7th century BC and that a dynamic social and residential segregation developed throughout the century (pp.

445-452). The discussion of the villa of Sa Mesquida provides useful insights into the function of villas and the Roman occupation of Mallorca around the beginning of the Augustan period and contributes to the discussion of the Roman occupation of the Mediterranean countryside (Mas Florit *et al.*, pp. 461-466).

The section concludes with three papers on Roman Libya. Two of them focus on the province of Leptis Magna, in particular the Anonymous Decumanus Temple: the study of the lamps from the temple complements the study of trademarks in the reconstruction of trade and production in the Mediterranean in Republican and Imperial times (Riso, pp. 467-474), whereas that on the temple's wall paintings sheds light on the pictorial production of the little known Flavian to early Antonine period and allows for some preliminary conclusions about the life cycle of these wall paintings (Cinquemani, pp. 475-481). Finally, Trapani's comprehensive study of the containers filled with a hoard of c. 108,000 coins from Misurata contextualises them within the Libyan ceramic repertoire and highlights the site's importance in Imperial times (pp. 483-493).

The next section presents research on Sicilian and Italian archaeology. Speciale (pp. 495-505) discusses gender archaeology in the Mediterranean by contextualising the Early Iron Age male burials in the necropolis of Macchiabate in southern Italy, with some interesting observations on their connections to kin groups and on the presence of 'different' male outfits alongside male gender markers such as weapons and tools. Equally interesting is Panvini's analysis of the elite burials from the Monte Castellazzo Necropolis on Sicily, in particular the infant and female burials in tombs 1 and 9 respectively (pp. 543-555). Ceramic material from funerary contexts can be an excellent indicator for contacts and interaction between indigenous peoples and foreign cultures and this is clearly reflected by the Sikelo-Geometric pottery from the Archaic necropolis at Licaodia Euboea (Camera, pp. 511-516). Last but not least, Congiu's interesting observations on the findings from Piazza Cappuccini in the area of Quartiere Borgo further the study of the topography and organisation of the necropoleis of Gela and supplements the research already conducted at the site since the early 20th century (pp. 529-533).

Another set of papers deals with monumental and non-monumental architecture, building techniques, settlement patterns and specialised structures on Sicily, and how these may be used to highlight external influences and/or the choices of indigenous communities. The reconstruction

<sup>5</sup> For a fuller publication of the 2006-2011 campaign, St. Mancuso, 2012. *Studi su Kyme Eolica V: Il teatro, attività delle campagne di scavo 2006-2011*. Soveria Mannelli Rubbettino.



and dating of fortification structures is not always straightforward and Bongiorno's study sets out to provide a credible chronology for the fortified settlement at Mura Pregne (pp. 507-509). The discovery of a mud-brick workshop at the sanctuary of the Divine Palikoi contributes to the study of the historical context of mud-brick construction in domestic and public architecture in the Sicilian hinterland between the 6th and 4th century BC and of the use of a Sicilian unit of measure for mud-bricks in the 4th century BC (Maniscalco and McConnell, pp. 517-521). In addition to producing construction material, ancient Sicilians exploited the local physical features for housing purposes. Two instructive examples of rupestal architecture come from the centres of Leontinoi (a Naxian colony) and Montagna Di Ramacca, which were in contact with each other; it has been shown by Nicotra and Verde that the rock architecture from the two sites shared some common architectural features but not without variations (pp. 523-528). One of the most intriguing contributions in this volume is Aktüre's research on the Roman theatres in Sicily (pp. 593-601); adopting Braudel's three planes of historical times Aktüre interprets the geographic distribution of ancient theatres in Roman Sicily based on the structural hierarchies that were inherent to the network of cities that emerged in the Mediterranean under Roman rule, changing the settlement pattern on Sicily especially through the establishment of *coloniae* on the northern and eastern coasts of the island. Buscemi's reassessment of the topographical significance of the S. Lorenzo Vecchio monumental complex in Sicily during its earlier phase has led her to identify it as Macrobius' *Apollonion*, a border sanctuary with a political function and symbolism tied to the reinforcement of Syracuse's presence in the south-eastern part of the island from Classical to Hellenistic times (pp. 535-542). Moving on from extra-urban to suburban places of worship in Syracusan territory, Cottonaro discusses a female clay bust from the suburban Valle Ruscello Shrine in the Piazza Armerina which he re-dates to the early 4th century BC based on the stylistic similarities with other specimens from the island (pp. 557-561).

The final group of papers in this section concerns cultural interaction, trade and warfare. Quercia and Foxhall explore adeptly the use of loom weights and cooking ware in pre-Roman Lucania in southern Italy, focusing on how the indigenous communities of Hellenistic Lucania reacted towards Greek material culture, from fully adopting (i.e. Greek culinary repertoire and its related vessels) to resisting it (i.e. indigenous loom weight of pyramidal type *versus* the Greek Hellenistic *oscillum*) – this paper stems from within the *Tracing Networks. Craft Traditions in the ancient Mediterranean and Beyond* research project (pp.

563-573). Based on archaeological and epigraphical evidence Stefanile's paper reconstructs the flow of *gentes* from Campania to the Iberian peninsula during the 2nd and 1st century BC, and of the commercial maritime routes planned for trading Italic products in the new western markets and for the export of metals, foodstuffs (e.g. salted fish and fish sauce, honey) and perishable goods such as hides and rope, and also possibly slaves from the newly conquered Western lands (pp. 585-591). On the other hand, Gimeno investigates another aspect of Italo-Iberian relations with reference to the Roman naval warfare in Iberia during the Second Punic War (pp. 575-583). At a regional level, the operation of a fish-processing plant in Milazzo and the trade of salted fish and fish sauce between Sicily and Italy during the early Imperial period are neatly discussed by Ollà (pp. 603-608). Moving beyond sea routes, Palazzo's research highlights a rather understudied aspect of movement and interaction in the past, i.e. the operation of inland road network systems, and proposes the possible existence of two types of route (the internal route *Tranpeloritana* and another one along dry riverbeds) in the Peloritani region in north-eastern Sicily (pp. 609-614).

*Volume II* is divided into two main parts: Part III on the *History and Archaeology of the Classical World II* (continuing from the final section of Volume I) and Part IV on *Byzantine and Medieval Archaeology and History, Museography and Historiography*. Part III takes a thematic approach (iconography and artistic production, history, numismatics and archaeological science) whereas in Part IV the editors introduced geographical and thematic divisions.

In the *Iconography and Artistic Production* section, Yildirim advances existing scholarship on both the 'Seven Sages' decorative theme and the dating and innovations of the Lyrbian/Seleucian mosaic by comparing and contrasting it with examples from Torre Annunziata, Sarsina, Cologne, Baalbek and Apamea (pp. 617-629). Pace uses the iconography of Hermes Kriophoros in 5th century BC Sicily and Magna Graecia (Gela, Agrigento, Poggio dell' Aquila and Terravecchia di Grammichele) to successfully discuss Locrian influences on artistic production and, more importantly, male frequentation and rites of passage connected to manhood and adulthood in sanctuaries of Persephone, e.g. at Locri and Francavilla (pp. 627-632). Chillemi's discussion of the 'genre scene' figurines from the votive deposit at the Saint François square in Catania illustrates clearly the effects of the *koinè* influences and regional preferences in the choice of subjects and also the connection between everyday activities and the realm of the sacred in the archaic period (pp. 639-649). Granata's short paper on the

Hellenistic plastic vases from Sicily provides a comprehensive account of the provenance of the 'Magenta Ware', possible production centres, the wider (than previously believed) distribution of this kind of ware on the island, and its relationship with coroplastic, and calls for a redefinition of its typological, technological, chronological and functional characteristics in Sicily and beyond (pp. 651-655). Russo's well-researched contribution discusses the ritual deposition of an obsidian arrowhead as a residual amulet relic in a votive deposit under the high altar of the sub-urban Veii's sanctuary, reconstructs the object's biography, and proposes its connection with the early signs of sacred activity, governed by a primordial Mother Goddess, on the Portonaccio terrace during the Villanovan I period (pp. 661-675). Within the context of artistic production, Poggio proposes new dates for both the origins of *lorica segmentata* (the segmented cuirass which in popular culture has come to be viewed as a symbol of the Roman legions) in the Augustan era and the end of its production in the Middle Ages as a consequence of the transformation of Late Antique urban society (pp. 633-637). Finally, the topic whether and how the choice of mythological imagery in monumental tombs may reflect the wider cultural framework of and/or the choice of local rulers in the 4th century BC eastern Mediterranean, is treated – in some measure and lacking illustration – by Poggio's discussion of the Heröon at Trysa in Lycia with comparisons drawn from the Nereid Monument, the Heröon at Limyra and the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus (pp. 657-659).<sup>6</sup>

The next section is devoted to 'History' despite the fact that the section's title does not always reflect its contents. The section begins with Yamaç's useful synthesis of the iconographical evidence for the introduction of the cult of Dionysus in Antioch on the Orontes after the Roman occupation of the city and for its influence upon the rise of Christianity (pp. 677-683). The theme of economy and trade is treated by Trabucco, Santagati, Girtzi, Gradante and Consoli. More specifically, Trabucco's paper on attic weights (pp. 691-694) and Consoli's discussion of the two agorai of the Piraeus (pp. 749-755) provide useful insights into the workings of the markets in classical Attica. Santagati discusses *sitodosiai* and *euergesiai* from Sicily, thus contributing to the discussion about the economic and political associations between agricultural surplus and international relations in the ancient Mediterranean (pp. 695-697). Focusing on literary sources and archaeological data on *Thracia Pontica*, Girtzi attempts an interesting comparison between

two seemingly different Greek cities in the region, Histria (Ionian; a colony of Miletus) and Kallatis (a colony of Heracleia; Dorian), and ascertains that they in fact shared more similarities (namely, physical location, settlement hierarchy, economic and administrative practices, cults) than differences including retaining regular trading contacts with other cities in the region (pp. 709-716).

Epigraphy and proverbs are significant sources of information for our understanding of cultural interaction and of the operation of economy and trade in the ancient world. Raccaia makes excellent use of the ancient Greek proverbs in the collections of the 2nd century AD paroemiographoi Zenobius and Diogenianus and advances scholarship on ship construction, navigation, trade (emporion, salt trade) and taxation-forms (pp. 685-690). Based on historiographical sources and linguistic analysis, Sudano challenges the model of an evolutionary and unilateral process of Hellenisation in Sicily by suggesting instead that the development of a Sicilian self-identity during the 6th-3rd century BC was the result of fluid frontiers (at least in the case of the northern Iblea frontier), continuous personal mobility and the conscious adoption of the Greek language (or, at least, elements of it) by the indigenous populations (pp. 699-708). On a related note, Marques' research seeks to contextualise the background of human interaction and mobility in the Roman Mediterranean by considering Graecized anthroponyms with a geographic nature – in this case the *prouincia Aegyptus* – in Roman *Hispania* (pp. 723-729). Further, in his stimulating paper Gregoratti brings to the proscenium the presence of the Parthians across the Mediterranean Imperial territory and provides interesting insights into the Roman propagandistic descriptions of them as 'inferior, and their kingdom as barbaric and primitive' (pp. 731-735). The role of professional groups in understanding the social, political and economic dynamics of Roman and Early Christian Mediterranean communities is emphasised by Gradante's discussion of the impact the professional *collegia* had on municipal life and the Romanisation of the Western Provinces (pp. 717-722), and by Falzone's study of the relationship between the topographical distribution of the Sicilian inscriptions about bishops, presbyters and deacons, the Late Roman road system and the subsequent Christianisation of the island (pp. 737-747). Moving on to personal and family identities, Ciccozzi *et al.* use two (previously unpublished) epigraphs from the Aquila Province to advance knowledge of the cismontane Vestini and local onomastics, and to exalt the local importance of the *gentes* of the Octavidii and Opsii and their links to Roman society (pp. 757-761).

<sup>6</sup> For more recent and relevant analyses of the Heröa at Trysa and Limyra, see Landskron 2016; Şare 2013.

Trends of recent research on numismatics and emerging perspectives on the chronology, minting and circulation of coins, and on regional patterns in the adoption of Greek monetary practices in southern Italy and Sicily are discussed by Puglisi, Sole, Mancini and Camilleri *et al.* More specifically, the systematic study of the depiction of marine fauna on Sicilian coinage of the Greek period (as part of the *Lexicon Iconographicum Numismaticae*) has allowed Puglisi not only to identify marine species that may have been present in the coasts of the island during that period, but more importantly, to detect the possible inheritance of more ancient imagery, often linked to local identities or part of a wider cultural *koiné*, as this may be inferred from comparisons with contemporary Mediterranean numismatic collections (pp. 763-778). According to Sole, the indigenous communities of the Caltanissetta province in the Sicilian hinterland did not regularly strike coins with types related to their own ethnicity (thus opposing the transmission of Greek monetary practices which, however, they adopted at a later stage) and their market economy was based on the use of weighed metal context; coins were largely treated as worthless pieces of metal even during the 4th century BC, as suggested by the 'mixed' hoard of coins, pieces of *aes rude* and fragmentary bronze objects from Monte Raffè (Sole, pp. 779-787). Along a similar line of argument, Mancini shows that although the local economies in the central Adriatic Apennines did not require the use of coins in great quantity during the 5th century BC, from the 4th century onwards Greek and Hellenistic coins penetrated the region along river valleys and main ancient roads as a result of inter-regional exchanges (pp. 789-791). Camilleri *et al.*'s systematic investigation of Messapian coinage highlights local minting practices with reference to their historical context, whereas the computerised archive 'Thesaurus-Archives' has the potential to advance the study of coins in Puglia (pp. 793-803). Finally, the way chance finds may illuminate the commercial and economic history of the ancient Mediterranean is demonstrated by Di Stefano *et al.* in their treatment of the 3rd century AD 'Six Emperors' Coin Hoard' from the Bay of Camarina in Sicily (pp. 805-808).

Part III concludes with four papers on archaeological science (three on ceramics and one on glass). Cilio's *Trapeza* database provides a useful digital resource for the study and interpretation of domestic pottery in Archaic to Hellenistic Sicily using uniform parameters, selection standards and terminology (pp. 809-814). Amphorae are *par excellence* the indicators of trade and exchange in the ancient Mediterranean. Thus, through advanced archaeometric characterisation of amphorae from

Entella in western Sicily and from Chiese Bruciate and the Rigà channel in the northern Venetian lagoon respectively, Montana *et al.* (pp. 815-824) and Modrzewska *et al.* (837-845) draw plausible conclusions regarding the provenance of the vessels and the operation of insular and extra-insular trade networks (the identification of which relied previously merely on the typological classifications of vessels and their archaeological context) in the central Mediterranean and beyond from the late 7th century BC to Late Antiquity. Finally, Baykan presents a very short synthesis on the physical and chemical causes for the deterioration of excavated glass (pp. 825-836); it is regrettable that several key readings on the topic have been omitted from her discussion.

Part IV focuses on Byzantine and Medieval Archaeology and History (divided geographically into Anatolia and the central Mediterranean) followed by a final section on Museography and Historiography. Starting with Anatolia, a group of papers focuses on ecclesiastical archaeology: Yildirim presents a very brief, albeit interesting, introduction to the rather understudied golden-ratio application in the construction of Early Byzantine churches in Anatolia, Cyprus, Egypt, Jordan and Syria (pp. 871-880).<sup>7</sup> Habas' research on the contribution of women in the construction and embellishment of churches in the Holy Land between the 3rd and 8th century AD (pp. 881-893) is thought-provoking. Through a meticulous study of artistic depictions and dedicatory inscriptions, Habas gives 'voice' to those women (ordinary women, noblewomen, pilgrims and revered nuns) by investigating the motives behind their actions including the Christian ethos and social values (e.g. *euergesia*, *philotimia*, *philanthropia*) and the admiration and imitation of exemplary women such as the Mothers of the Desert, and by highlighting their relative position both within the Christian community and within the community and priesthood cooperative undertaking of church building and decoration.

Another selection of papers highlights the association between stonework, religious beliefs and external cultural influences in the region, namely Önençüt and Serdar's discussion of the liturgical function of Early and Middle Byzantine stonework adorned with animal depictions from Lycia and Pamphylia and the influences received through cultural interaction (pp. 865-869), and Karaöz's treatment of the unique 18th century Saliha Sultan Tomb in Istanbul which points not just to the significance of decorated gravestones in

<sup>7</sup> See also Shalev-Hurvitz 2015.

understanding the emotions and beliefs of Turkish people, but also to the Western influences on Turkish art during the 18th and 19th centuries (pp. 915-918). Similarly, Sorokin identifies Byzantine influences on the depictions of ships in the Russian Medieval written and artistic traditions (pp. 919-923). Alâiyye (Alanya) provides an excellent case study for the reconstruction of the commercial links between Turkey, Cyprus and the Levant in the 13th-15th century BC as indicated by a group of imported glazed wares from Cyprus and Syria (Bilici, pp. 911-914) while, at the same time, retaining its own local production practices as suggested by the decorative tiles from the site (Yılmaz, p. 911-914). Issues of regional variation, mobility and commercial links are further addressed by Gökalp's statistical survey of the circulation of Byzantine bronze coins (from museums, archaeological excavations and a private collection) in Anatolia from the 5th to the 7th century (pp. 849-855). The reports on an Early Byzantine *coemeterium* in Ankara (Erol, pp. 857-863) and of the *madāris* at Beçin (Pektaş, pp. 895-900) and Konya (Yalçın, pp. 901-909) contribute to our knowledge of local traditions and practices. Finally, in the context of human interaction one should place the papers on the presence of the Vandals in the Mediterranean and their *thalassocracy* from the mid-5th to mid-6th century (Aiello, pp. 987-990) and Sicily's leading role in Genseric's Mediterranean strategy (Caliri, pp. 991-985), and on how the study of their complex monetary system may help clarify issues of Vandal internal and external trade and reforms (Castrizio, pp. 997-999).

Cult, interaction, topography and regional studies are the focus of the section on post-classical Italy, Sicily and the Mediterranean. Aspects of urban topography and settlement organisation are addressed in several contributions which often enlighten understudied areas of enquiry. Looking into the identification of religious activity within the urban fabric, Soria notes a consistent pattern in placing the churches dedicated to St. Lorenzo in suburban positions close to secondary road networks in the Abruzzo region in southern Italy (pp. 929-936; Soria misuses the term 'cult' as the saints receive 'honour', not cult), while Fuduli undertakes the challenging task to clarify the relationship of the Hellenistic Serapeion (and subsequently of the church of St. Pancratius which was incorporated at some point within the structure of the ancient temple) with the urban plan of Tauromenion (modern Taormina) on Sicily (pp. 945-957). The contributions on the changes that occurred in the area of the early Christian necropolis at Agrigento from the 3rd to the 10th century by Cipriano (pp. 975-985), on the Hellenistic to Early Medieval settlement in the district of Grammna-Valcorrente

near Belpasso by Bonacini *et al.* (pp. 1001-1009), on the Late Roman and Early Byzantine village in Canalicchio di Calamonaci by Parello and Amico (pp. 1011-1018), and on the diachronic changes in the use of a rupestrian site at Matera by Billeci *et al.* (pp. 1025-1031) may be of interest to those studying settlement patterns and dynamics of transformation on Sicily in a long perspective.

The production, circulation and consumption of pottery and other objects of specialised nature in a local or trans-Mediterranean context are themes covered competently (although occasionally very briefly) by Imperiale on the role of itinerant craftsmen in the production of the understudied Late Medieval tin-lead pilgrim ampullae from south Apulia (pp. 937-939), Caprino on the use of the *pignatta* (cooking vessel) as a chronological marker for the dating of medieval and post-medieval contexts in the Salento region (pp. 941-944), Vitale on the importation and trade of African pottery in the ancient *Ecclesia Carinensis* and the understudied commercial traffic between the Carini region in Sicily and Africa during Late Roman times (pp. 959-961), Ardizzone on the production of a series of c. 12 types of amphorae at Palermo since the 10th century and the rebirth of international commerce between Sicily and the Islamic world as attested in contemporary written sources and shipwreck evidence (pp. 963-973), and by Parello on commercial dynamics and pottery production in the Garella region in the 16th-17th century (pp. 1019-1024). Informative is Berlinghieri and Paribeni's contribution on Early Byzantine marble production as it collates data from quarries, shipwrecks and monuments to allow us to reconstruct Mediterranean sea-marble trade from the quarries and the ateliers to their final destinations (pp. 1033-1041). Last but not least, Zmaić's essay on medieval shipwrecks near the island of Mljet (10th/11th century; dating based on the amphorae typology, graffiti and stamps, on silver Fatimid coins found on board and comparisons with other sites such as the Athenian Agora) and near the Merara islet (13th/14th century; dating based on amphorae typology and comparisons with Peloponnesian and Apulian sites) in the eastern Adriatic Sea supplements existing scholarship on amphora production centres and their circulation in this part of the Mediterranean world.

The last section of this volume discusses museums, historiography and enhancement (although it is not entirely clear what the editors mean with the latter term). It would have been appropriate to include the term 'Cultural Heritage' in the title. Malamidou *et al.*'s presentation of the new permanent exhibition of the archaeological museum of Thassos highlights



the importance of adapting museum exhibitions to the aesthetic requirements, educational needs and aspirations of the modern visitor; interesting is the combination of experiencing the ancient world through modern art reproductions (pp. 1051-1061). As shown by Equizzi's case study from Palermo in Sicily, similar traits were already identified during the 18th and 19th centuries (pp. 1075-1080). Costa's heritage project involving a census of Sardinian antiquities that reached the UK's main museums between the 1800s and 1900s and the setting up of a travelling exhibition based on the findings, promotes academic research on Sardinian antiquity and disseminates knowledge in plain language (pp. 1063-1073). Digital Humanities has opened the way to collaboration between archaeologists and visualisation specialists and Denker and Oniz's 3D project on the Holy Sanctuary on Mount Nemrud has allowed for an accurate and detailed reconstruction of the complex as it stood 2000 years ago, thus disseminating complex information about the monument, reconstructing it for educational and outreach purposes and digitally preserving it for the future generations (pp. 1081-1087). Another way for securing the conservation and promotion of cultural heritage is the establishment of archaeological parks as in the case of the Eskikizilelma village in Turkey (Deveci, pp. 1089-1093).

Overall, bringing 134 essays into publication is a substantial project, and both the editors and the publishers are to be congratulated for this task. The published essays employ an excellent range of topics and methodological approaches. There are, however, two major weaknesses in both volumes. First, the organisation of the essays within the volumes makes no sense at places. Several essays could have fitted better in other sections than the one to which they were assigned; an obvious example is Eren's study of the 7th century BC Ionian sanctuaries. Although the arrangement of the volumes might have been convenient for editorial purposes, a thematic approach - as in Volume 2 Part III - would have been more effective and would have allowed comparative perspectives to the various topics discussed. Second, the presentation and production of the volumes is far from satisfactory. Both volumes are marred by an astonishing number of typos and the quality of several of the images is disappointing. Also, there is no consistency in the length of the papers (it may be that the shorter papers are the published versions of the conference poster presentations, but this is not made clear in the *Preface*), and in the referencing format used. Further, in a number of essays the voice of the researchers is not heard and several papers lack a proper *Conclusions* section.

These weaknesses notwithstanding, these two volumes celebrate the research undertaken by younger researchers in 2011 and give hope for the future of Mediterranean archaeology in the 21st century. The majority of the papers are original and make an enjoyable and informative read; they definitely deserved a more unified arrangement, and careful editing, to fully do them justice.

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David Abulafia is a very familiar figure in the Medieval history of the Mediterranean, and this popular synthesis of the story of the region since Prehistory takes us up to 2000. Generally the