



The Artifact

A Publication of the Archaeological Institute of America - Milwaukee Society Vol. 20 No. 1, Fall, 2014

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Letter from the President

**Dr. Elisabetta Cova, Professor
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee**

Dear AIA-Milwaukee Society Members,

Welcome to the 2014-2015 lecture season of AIA-Milwaukee and this latest edition of the *Artifact*, our members-only newsletter.

As newly-elected president of the Milwaukee Society I should begin by introducing myself. I am an Associate Professor of Classics in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature at UWM. While I teach courses in the civilizations and languages of ancient Greece and Rome, my primary research interest lies in Mediterranean Archaeology (more specifically Roman Archaeology and Pompeii) and I have conducted fieldwork in Italy, Cyprus and the UK. I am also co-editor of book reviews for the *American Journal of Archaeology*, which is published by the AIA. I am joined this year by Shannon Freire, our Vice-President (previously serving as Assistant to the President), and Alexis Jordan, *Artifact* Editor. Continuing to serve as Secretary-Treasurer is the indefatigable Alice Kehoe, who has graciously agreed to stay on in this capacity. Drs. Bettina Arnold and Homer Hruby continue to offer their time, energy, and home (to house visiting lecturers) and I am grateful for their continued help.

I would be remiss not to offer a hearty thank you to Jane Waldbaum, who has served as president of the Milwaukee society for the last six years. Jane's dedication to the AIA, both at the local and national level, is unsurpassed. Under Jane's leadership and guidance, in addition to sponsoring exciting slates of lectures every year, the society has also reached out to the community through the establishment of the Archaeology Fair and International Archaeology Day. We are fortunate that Jane has agreed to stay on as coordinator of our society's Archaeology Fair, which is entering its sixth season in conjunction with the Milwaukee Public Museum. I would also like to thank Jocelyn Boor, past Vice-President for Education and Outreach and an essential link for establishing our

collaboration with the MPM, as well as Dana Lovrek and Jennifer Keim (both UWM graduates), who have worked hard as refreshment coordinators for the last five years. Now Bettina and Shannon have volunteered to work behind the scenes to provide and lay out refreshments before each lecture.

As you will read in the following pages, we have an exciting fall schedule prepared for you. From Rome to Iraqi Kurdistan and back to Aztalan there is something for everyone. All lectures are held at 3:00 pm in Sabin Hall, Room G90 on the UWM campus. They are free and open to the public.

On September 28 Prof. Sinclair Bell of Northern Illinois University will start us off with the always-engaging topic of chariot racing in the Roman world. We are especially fortunate to be hosting Prof Michael Danti of Boston University as the Robert J. Braidwood lecturer in November. As some of you may know, Braidwood had an extraordinary career at the University of Chicago during the early twentieth century and was a leading member of the archaeological community during that period. He carried out fieldwork in Iraq and Turkey and his research was fundamental in elucidating the course of the Neolithic revolution. The Robert J. Braidwood Lecture, endowed through gifts from numerous individuals, including friends, colleagues, and former students of Braidwood, is given annually at a local chapter of the AIA. Dr. Danti's lecture on Iraqi Kurdistan is thus especially relevant to Braidwood's own interests and, of course, highlights a modern region that has remained in the news. Finally, it is our distinct pleasure to welcome one of "our own", Professor John Richards, an expert in Mississippian culture, who will offer us a sneak peak of the latest research fresh out of the ground from Aztalan here in Wisconsin.

In addition this fall, as in previous years, AIA-Milwaukee is hosting an event to celebrate International Archaeology Day. Held in the UWM Archaeology Lab the event will focus on "The Archaeology of Work: 9 to 5 in the Ancient World." If you have not been before, it is a must do in the afternoon of October 18. Information about our 2-day Archaeology Fair, mentioned above, will be featured in our Spring 2015 newsletter.

I invite everyone to attend our lecture program and events this fall; I also encourage you to bring family and friends who have an interest in archaeology. Finally, I want to thank you for being a member of the AIA and for your continued support of the society through that membership.

Elisabetta Cora

Welcome New Members Joined Since January 2014

Danielle Fleming Al Schanowski

We are very happy you joined us!

Donations Welcome!

As many of you already know, the national AIA normally provides our local society (and the 109 other ones) with three lecturers a year. These speakers come from all over the US and Canada and sometimes abroad, enabling us to host a truly international lecture series each year. This year, however, the national organization has had to cut the third lecture for budgetary reasons. To supplement these lectures the Milwaukee Society will sponsor four additional lectures at our own expense. The local speakers usually come from Wisconsin or nearby areas like Chicago. Lately we have also organized an International Archaeology Day event in October and co-sponsored the Milwaukee Archaeology Fairs held at the Milwaukee Public Museum in early March. Each "extra" lecture costs your society about \$150 (for transportation, a very modest honorarium, and dinner for the speaker). Minimal expenses for an Archaeology Day event run to about \$250 for materials and supplies, lunches for the participants, and "treats" for the visitors. The National AIA will give us \$100 towards these expenses but we need somewhat more to do it right! Similarly, our share of the Archaeology Fair for miscellaneous expenses is about \$250 to \$300. Printing the *Artifact* twice a year is yet another expense. Separately, these costs are fairly modest, but taken together they add up and are becoming increasingly difficult for your local society to manage without your help.

If you would like to make a donation to help us continue our full schedule of great programs please send a check for any amount made out to *AIA-Milwaukee Society* and mail to Alice Kehoe, Treasurer, 3014 N. Shepard, Milwaukee, WI, 53211. If you would like to sponsor a local lecture for \$150 we will be happy to acknowledge your generosity in the introduction to the lecture.

All contributions to the AIA-Milwaukee Society are tax deductible and will be much appreciated.



Roman charioteer, mosaic, 3rd century A.D.
(Palazzo Massimo alle Terme, Rome)

'The Greatest Show on Earth': Chariot Racing in Ancient Rome

A Lecture by Dr. Sinclair Bell
Northern Illinois University

Sunday, September 28, 2014, 3:00 p.m.
Sabin Hall, Room G90

Many misperceptions surround the spectacles held in ancient Rome, especially as a result of contemporary film and television. For instance, there is the popular belief that gladiatorial combats were *the* premiere spectacle at Rome: that they attracted the biggest audiences and the most partisan fans. In fact, neither assumption is true. The *Circus Maximus* in Rome – the original and largest venue for chariot-racing – was many centuries older and considerably larger than the Colosseum. In addition, chariot-races drew the largest crowds and most fervent fans in Rome and throughout the Roman Empire, and continued to do so centuries after the gladiatorial games faded away. This lecture will explore the circus games' activity and setting, their star performers, their spectators and fans, and the central importance of the circus games for Roman society as a whole.



Wild ride: The Chariot Race, c. 1882 by Alexander von Wagner
(Bridgeman Art Library)



Dr. Sinclair Bell is a Classical Archaeologist and Associate Professor of Art History at Northern Illinois, where he teaches courses on Greek, Roman and Egyptian art and architecture. He has excavated Etruscan and Roman sites in Italy and Tunisia and interned in museums in Germany and Greece. He studied Classical Archaeology at the University of Oxford, the University of Cologne, and the University of Edinburgh, where he received his Ph.D. in Classics in 2004. Since then, he has given nearly fifty lectures and published five books and more than thirty scholarly articles, book chapters and reviews about the art and archaeology of ancient Italy.

For more about Sinclair Bell:

- <http://www.art.niu.edu/Art-History/Sinclair-Bell.html>

International Archaeology Day

The Archaeology of Work: 9 to 5 in the Ancient World

Saturday, October 18, 2014
1-4 pm Sabin Hall

Try your hand at ceramic production with the stamped and incised designs of the Iron Age, search for raw materials used in metallurgical production, explore weaving in Mesopotamia and Egypt, and learn about bioarchaeology markers of physical labor.

In honor of International Archaeology Day, local archaeologists from UWM, Marquette University, and elsewhere will engage visitors with interactive presentations of ancient 'jobs' from around the world. We will also give you a chance to check out the 'work' of archaeologists today and appreciate how it helps us gain an understanding of ancient civilizations.

International Archaeology Day will be celebrated here in Milwaukee on Saturday, October 18, 2014, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Come to the first floor of UWM's Sabin Hall (3413 North Downer Ave) and join in the fun. FREE and open to the public. Fun for all!

For more on IAD around the world see:

<http://www.archaeological.org/archaeologyday/about>

The Rowanduz Archaeological Program in Iraqi Kurdistan

**A lecture by Dr. Michael Danti
Boston University**

**Sunday, November 2, 2014
Sabin Hall Room G90, 3:00 p.m.**

The Rowanduz Archaeological Program (RAP) seeks to revitalize archaeology in Iraqi Kurdistan through the implementation of a long-term, integrative program of multidisciplinary archaeological research projects and cultural heritage management initiatives. The area represents one of the most compelling and unknown corners of the Near East — over a century of warfare and political strife have prevented most archaeological research. In 2013, the Department of Antiquities of the Kurdistan Regional Government granted RAP a five-year permit to conduct archaeological surveys and excavations in the Soran District of northeastern Erbil Province. The surrounding mountain ranges of the western Zagros have been renowned for millennia for their scenic wonders and strategically prized as a natural stronghold controlling the mountain routes afforded by the erosional forces of the Greater Zab and its tributaries, especially the immense Rowanduz Gorge and the passes at Kel-i Shin and Gawra Shinka. The high valleys provide summer pastures for herders and tracts of arable land that supported prosperous highland settlements as early as the Pre-pottery Neolithic. Remote sanctuaries, grotto shrines, and monumental rock inscriptions and stele dedicated to ancient storm and mountain deities stand testament to the primordial powers attributed to the awe inspiring landscape and the vitality of the rivers that emanated from the highlands to water the neighboring arid Mesopotamian plain and intermontane basins of Iranian Kurdistan. The Zagros also inspired fear, standing as a byword for the forces of chaos and the haunts of wild beasts, mythical creatures, bandits, and marauders. Previously scholars knew little about this region in antiquity save for its hidden potential gleaned from historical sources, travelers' accounts, or the occasional archaeological reconnaissance. Cuneiform texts spanning the Early Bronze Age to the early Iron Age suggest the Soran District formed the territorial core of the Hurro-Urartian kingdom of *Musasir/Ardini*, doubly famed as home to the trans-regional cult center of the Hurrian storm-god Haldi and for the sacking of this temple and its treasury by the Neo-Assyrian king Sargon II in 714 BC during his renowned Eighth Campaign. Archaeological

reconnaissance and excavations have revealed evidence for human occupation over the long duration of occupations with clear evidence of the region's prosperity in the later Bronze and early Iron Age. RAP promises to shed much new light on this Zagrosian buffer state, whatever its ancient name(s), as well as its vacillating relations vis-à-vis its hegemonic neighbors Assyria and Urartu and their complex and shifting networks of vassals and allies.

Michael Danti

Michael Danti is Assistant Professor with the Department of Archaeology at Boston University, and Consulting Scholar with the University of Pennsylvania Museum. He holds his degrees from the University of



Pennsylvania (Ph.D.) and Purdue University, and is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London. His areas of specialization are Near Eastern archaeology, Mesopotamia, Iran, cultural heritage management, museum studies, archaeological method and theory, and complex societies. He is currently Director of Excavations at Tell es-Sweyhat (Syria), Rowanduz (Iraqi Kurdistan), Mosul (Iraq), and Director of the Hasanlu (Iraq) Publication Project. Professor Danti's current publication projects include *Hasanlu IVb: The Iron II Cemetery*, Hasanlu Excavation Reports IV (with M. Cifarelli, University of Pennsylvania Museum, in preparation), *Hasanlu V: The Late Bronze and Iron I Periods*, Hasanlu Excavation Reports III (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013), and "Searching for Musasir: The Rowanduz Archaeological Program" in *New Agendas in Remote Sensing and Landscape Archaeology in the Near East* (The Oriental Institute, in preparation).

For more about Michael Danti:

- <https://bu.academia.edu/MDanti>
- <http://people.bu.edu/mdanti/>

For Further Reading:

- Danti, Michael. 2014. The Ancient Near East Today. *Friends of Asor: Current News about the Ancient Past*, vol. II(7). <http://asorblog.org/?p=7612>
- Hamilton, A.H. 1958. *The Road Through Kurdistan*. New edition. (London: Faber & Faber Limited).
- Radner, H. 2012. Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Musasir, Kumme and Subria — The Buffer States between Assyria and Urartu. In S. Kroll, C. Gruber, U. Hellwag, M. Roaf & P. Zimansky (ed.) *Biainili-Urartu*. (Leuven: Peeters), pp. 243–264.

City in the Wilderness: Mounds, Middens, and Ritual at a Late Woodland/Mississippian Community in Southern Wisconsin

*A Lecture by Dr. John Richards
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee*

*Sunday, December 7, 2014
Sabin Hall Room G90, 3:00 p.m.*



Southwest Mound at Aztalan, Photo: John Richards

The Aztalan site in Jefferson County, Wisconsin is a mound and village complex that was occupied by a mixed population of Late Woodland and Mississippian Indians from about A.D. 900 to 1300. The site first captured the public imagination in 1837 when it was described as a mysterious “city in the wilderness”. Although certainly not a “city” as currently defined, one hundred and seventy-six years of archaeological investigations at the site have yet to fully dispel many of the mysteries surrounding Aztalan’s presence in southern Wisconsin. However, recent investigations by UWM archaeologists have shed new light on previously under reported aspects of site structure, settlement chronology, subsistence practices, external relations, and community ethnogenesis.



Map of Wisconsin, Aztalan indicated

John Richards is an Associate Scientist in the UWM Department of Anthropology. Dr. Richards directs the UWM Cultural Resource Management program, serves as Associate Director of the UWM Archaeological Research Laboratory, and is an Adjunct Curator at the Milwaukee Public Museum. Richards began his archaeological career in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and after a brief sojourn in Mexico has worked in the Midwest ever since. His interests include the social dynamics of the late prehistoric period in the Great Lakes region, ceramic analysis, historic preservation, and the history of anthropology and archaeology.



For more information on the excavations at Aztalan see:

- <http://www.mpm.edu/research-collections/anthropology/online-collections-research/aztalan-collection/site-history>

Read more about John Richards at:

- <http://www4.uwm.edu/lets/anthropology/faculty/richards-jd.cfm>

**AIA's 116th Annual Meeting
Coming to New Orleans
January 8-11, 2015**



For more information on the 2015 Annual Meeting as it develops please consult:

<http://aia.archaeological.org/webinfo.php?page=10096>.

Milwaukee Society Member Remembered

By Alice Kehoe



Dr. Andrea Stone

The Archaeological Institute of America-Milwaukee Society mourns the passing of long-time member, Dr. Andrea Stone (1949-2014).

Andrea Stone, Professor in UWM's Art History Department from 1984 until illness forced her retirement last year, was an active member of AIA-Milwaukee Society, helping bring many noted Mesoamerican archaeologists to lecture for us. She was president of AIA-Milwaukee 1995-1997, vice-president 1985-1986, and secretary 1989-1991.

The first Ph.D. student of famous Mayan Studies scholar Linda Schele, Andrea was an intrepid explorer in Maya caves, writing *Images from the Underworld: Naj Tunich and the Tradition of Maya Cave Painting* (1995), and more recently, *Reading Maya Art: A Hieroglyphic Guide to Maya Painting and Sculpture*. "Lighting the Past: Exploration of the Maya Caves" is a documentary film she created with UWM's Center for Latin America. In 2007, she mounted an exhibit of photographs she had taken in the early 1970s before beginning her Mayan work, revealing a playful eye for lively characters in her native Florida.

Andrea was honored with a symposium dedicated to her in 2008 at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology. Organized by her UWM graduate student Julia Guernsey, now a professor in Mesoamerican archaeology at the University of Texas-Austin, the session titled "Sex, Caves, and Cosmic Monsters" highlighted her feminist studies of women in Maya art as well as her insightful analyses of religious themes and icons. The debilitating illness that finally took her life crippled her last years without quenching her brave spirit, her warm friendships, and her scintillating mind. AIA-Milwaukee deeply misses her.

An Overview of the Milwaukee Public Museum's Archaeology Collection

By Dawn Scher Thomae
Curator of the Anthropology Collections,
Milwaukee Public Museum



Effigy pipes from Emerald Mound, Mississippi (A16205),
Photo: Dawn Scher Thomae

The Milwaukee Public Museum's archaeology collection began in the 1830s, almost 50 years before the museum was established by the city of Milwaukee in 1882. While the collection is heavily weighted toward North America, there are smaller but important collections from Central and South America. Most of the remaining material is from the Old World, primarily consisting of Paleolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age to Roman European items.

North American Archaeology

Wisconsin materials comprise 77% of MPM North American archaeology holdings including numerous type sites and type collections for major periods of Wisconsin prehistory. Non-Wisconsin North American archaeological collections include significant collections of Mandan village material, Middle Woodland Hopewell material, a small but valuable collection of material from Spiro Mound in Oklahoma, and sizeable collections of ceramics from Mississippian period sites in the American midcontinent and ancestral Puebloan sites in the Southwest. The Museum also holds important North American collections by artifact type, including the George West pipe collection, and major collections of copper implements and groundstone tools. Particularly noteworthy are the Hopewell-period figurines from the Knight Mounds, Illinois, the excavated material from the Riverside Site in Michigan, and large effigy pipes from the Emerald Mound in Mississippi.

Latin American Archaeology

Pre-Columbian collections include Peruvian featherwork, textiles, and mummies, ceramics

numbering more than 7000 items, gold from Peru, Panama, Costa Rica and Colombia, and a wide variety of artifacts in shell, stone and wood. Ceramics include a significant collection of vessels from Casas Grandes in northern Mexico, a strong collection from South America, particularly Chimu and Nazca, and excavated material from Atitlan and Bilbao, Guatemala. Maya materials include Jaina figurines and significant items from West Mexico. MPM also holds a small collection of archaeological material from the Caribbean, particularly Grenada.



Peruvian Fan (A52245), Photo: Dawn Scher Thomae

Old World Archaeology

Old World archaeology collections focus on European Paleolithic sites, with special emphasis on the French Paleolithic and Paleolithic through Neolithic materials from Hungary. Of note are the lake-dweller materials from Switzerland, mostly from the Robenhausen site. Old World Classical archaeological material –Greek, Etruscan, Roman, Cypriot and Maltese – is housed in the Anthropology Department, the Middle Eastern archaeological material, including Ancient Egypt, Classical coins, Islamic ceramics and a vast collection from the Tell Hadidi excavations in Syria, is curated by the History Department.



Roman oil lamp (N13538), Photo: Dawn Scher Thomae

The MPM conducted significant fieldwork between 1910 and 1978, primarily in Wisconsin, but most of the archaeological material was acquired by purchase or donation. Only a small percentage of the archaeological material is on exhibit, spread throughout all three floors of the Museum. The majority of the collection is in

storage, heavily used on-site by over 50 students and researchers every year for a variety of publications, projects and programs, such as the Archaeology Fair.

The MPM is working on several initiatives to bring the archaeological collections to the public. I encourage you to view the *Collection Highlights* page and the Anthropology Department's *Online Collections and Research Page*: <http://www.mpm.edu/research-collections> and visit our new major exhibition, *Crossroads of Civilization: Ancient Worlds of the Near East and Mediterranean*, opening in Spring 2015.

Sneak Preview of Spring Programs

Coming in the spring: three more lectures and the sixth Milwaukee Archaeology Fair.

On February 22 Dr. Sarah Clayton from UW-Madison will talk about mortuary practice in Mesoamerica, while on March 29 Dr. Susan Hueck Allen will present on archaeologists working as spies in Nazi-occupied Greece during World War II. Dr Allen is AIA's Ernest R. Graham Lecturer in Ancient Architecture and it will be an honor to have her here in Milwaukee. Finally, on April 26, Lisa Mahoney, Assistant Professor of History of Art and Architecture at DePaul University will close our lecture season with a talk on Crusader art.

As usual for the past five years, the Milwaukee Archaeology Fair will take place in March (Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7, 2015) at the Milwaukee Public Museum. There will be informative displays, re-enactments and hands-on presentations on all aspects and periods of archaeology from the old world to the new world.



Visitors learn the stone tool-making technique of flint knapping, Photo: Jane C. Waldbaum

Look for more information on these events in the Spring 2015 issue of the *Artifact* and in our spring email notices.



AIA-MILWAUKEE SOCIETY
C/O ELISABETTA COVA
DEPT. OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE/CLASSICS
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AIA-Milwaukee Society Fall Calendar



**PLEASE KEEP
Fall 2014**

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|--------------|---|
| September 28 | Sunday, September 28, 2014 3:00 pm. <i>Lecture</i> 'The Greatest Show on Earth': Chariot Racing in Ancient Rome |
| October 18 | Saturday, October 18, 2014, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. UW-Milwaukee Archaeology Lab International Archaeology Day Celebration. The Archaeology of Work: 9 to 5 in the Ancient World |
| November 2 | Sunday, November 2, 2014, 3:00 pm. <i>Lecture</i> The Rowanduz Archaeological Program in Iraqi Kurdistan |
| December 7 | Sunday, December 7, 2014, 3:00 pm. <i>Lecture</i> City in the Wilderness: Mounds, Middens, and Ritual at a Late Woodland/Mississippian Community in Southern Wisconsin |

All lectures will take place in room G90 of Sabin Hall on the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee campus unless otherwise noted. Sabin Hall is located at 3413 N. Downer Ave. Free street parking Sundays or in Klotsche Center lot north side of Sabin Hall.