

Call for Papers: Terracottas in the Mediterranean Through Time II

12-15 March 2018, University of Haifa, Israel

Deadline for submissions December 1, 2017

The Zinman Institute of Archaeology, the Department of Art History and the Department of Archaeology of the University of Haifa, invites the submission of papers for the second conference "Terracottas in the Mediterranean Through Time II," dedicated to the study of terracotta figurines and related objects in the Mediterranean region from the early periods to late antiquity. The first conference of the same name was held in March 2015.

The conference will take place at the University of Haifa in Israel from 12-15 March 2018, and will include fieldtrips. It is being held under the joint auspices of the Association for Coroplastic Studies (ACoST) and the The Zinman Institute of Archaeology, the Department of Art History and the Department of Archaeology of the University of Haifa.

The conference aims to bring together scholars and students who often tackle the same issues as they study clay figurines and related objects from different periods and parts of the Mediterranean region. Scholars who research terracottas of illiterate societies often use anthropological and ethnographical methods, while those studying terracottas of historical periods refer to historical sources and artistic analogies. The various viewpoints and attitudes may enrich and deepen our understanding of terracotta figurines and their role in society.

The scope of issues to be discussed at the conference will be wide, and will follow the different stages of the terracottas' lives:

First stage – the artisans or coroplasts: aspects of manufacture; typology and iconography; production of large- and small-scale terracottas; organization of workshops; questions of specialization; new technologies employed in identifying workshops.

Second stage – patterns of distribution: interaction between production centers and markets; trade; imitations.

Third stage – the users: Who used terracottas and who did not; how they were used; usage through space and time; themes and types in specific contexts (sacred, funereal and domestic); choice of types; symbolic meaning conveyed by terracottas; terracottas and gender.

Fourth stage – phasing out: How, why and when terracottas went out of use; patterns of deposition or obliteration; archaeological context of terracottas and its meaning.

Special issue to be discussed in the conference is: **Zooming out: terracottas along with...** We would like to address terracottas not just as a separate category, but to examine what accompanies them in different contexts, and how did terracottas act beside other objects and materials in all four categories mentioned above. This viewpoint may provide a better understanding of the role terracottas played in ancient societies.

The official language of the conference is English. Presentations should not exceed 20 minutes. We invite proposals for panels and individual papers on these and related topics.

Abstracts of 200–300 words should be submitted by **December 1, 2017** to Dr. Adi Erlich, aerlich@research.haifa.ac.il in Word format including surname, first name, position, affiliation, phone number, email address and title of paper.

The organizers, Dr. Adi Erlich and Dr. Sonia Klinger