

DAAD international workshop for MA and PhDs
19-22 April 2016
Augsburg University

The Akragas Dialogue

Organization:

Prof. Dr. Natascha Sojc (Augsburg University),
Prof. Dr. Monica de Cesare (Palermo University),
Prof. Dr. Elisa Chiara Portale (Palermo University)

Specialists:

Prof. Dr. Erich Kistler (Universität Innsbruck),
Dr.-Ing. Clemens Voigts (Universität der Bundeswehr, München),
Dr. Ioanna Patera (Anthropologie et Histoire des Mondes Antiques, Paris),
Dr. Marina Albertocchi (Project leader "The sanctuary of Bitalemi", Gela),
Dr. Maria Concetta Parello (Parco Archaeologico Valle dei templi, Agrigento)

Participants:

Graduate students and junior scientists, Researchers of excavation teams
of the Universities of Palermo and Augsburg in Agrigento

Inspired by Sicily's ancient landscape of cultural encounter, the aim of the Akragas Dialogue workshop is to create synergy through a diversity of research approaches that focus on identity formation in the ancient Mediterranean city. The event will unite specialists who conduct investigations on sanctuaries in Akragas, Gela, Selinus and Monte Iato. The material dimension of cult practice in sanctuaries is central to the workshop as it can be viewed as a crystallization point of ancient societies. The research focus of the workshop is directed towards past ritual activities, with specific attention given to three key areas of enquiry. Firstly, the architectural setting of sanctuaries will be examined beyond temple buildings to appraise the wider context of their structural and spatial complexity. Secondly, the material culture pertaining to votive deposition and religious feasting will be analyzed in terms of performative characteristics and through the lens of anthropological approaches. Thirdly, the significance of gender in cultic practice will be investigated in light of the fresh data retrieved by different research projects.

The international workshop is specifically directed towards students, graduate students and early career researchers. It will be introduced by a public lecture by Prof. E. Kistler (University of Innsbruck) in the evening of 19.4, and end with the presentation of participants' projects on 22.4.

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Tuesday 19.4.

- 17.45 Get together of participants
- 18.15 Opening of Workshop by Prof. Dr. Gregor Weber, Dean (Hörsaalzentrum HS III)
- 18.20 Public lecture by Prof. Kistler: Das spätarchaische Haus am Monte Iato (Hörsaalzentrum HS III)

Wednesday 20.4.

- 9.30-10.00 Introduction to the thematic areas of the workshop:
 - I. The architectural setting in sanctuaries
 - II. Votive deposits and religious feasting
 - III. Significance of Gender in religious practices (de Cesare, Portale, Sojc)
- 10.00 -10.30 Introduction to the study of sacred spaces in ancient Agrigento (Parello)
- 10.30 -11.00 Q & A, presentation Prof. Kistler
- 11.00 -12.00 Architecture in sanctuaries: Beyond the monumental temple (de Cesare, Portale)
- 12.00 -13.00 On demarcation of Greek sanctuaries in Sicily (Voigts)
- 14.00 -16.30 Project presentations by participating graduate students, researchers and junior scientists – architectural setting of sanctuaries topics
- 16.45 -18.00 Greek sacrifice in practice: the case of the sanctuary of Bitalemi and its significance for female cult practice (Albertocchi)

Thursday 21.4.

- 9.30 -11.00 Identifying female cult practice (de Cesare, Portale/Albertocchi)
- 11.15 -12.45 Ritual traces – objects within the sanctuary space (Patera)
- 14.00 -15.30 Votive deposits and residue of religious feasting in sanctuaries (Sojc)
- 17.30 -19.30 Visit to the Antikensammlungen, Munich: Vases and terracotta from the sanctuaries in Agrigento now in the Munich museum. With guided tour by Dr. Jörg Gebauer

Friday 22.4.

- 9.30 -16.45 Project presentations by participating graduate students, researchers and junior scientists – significance gender in religious topics / votive deposits and religious feasting topics
- 16.45 - 18.00 Summary of workshop: New insights so far (Parello)
Cultural encounter and Identity formation in the sanctuary (de Cesare, Portale, Sojc), Final discussion

Those interested in attending should email natascha.sojc@phil.uni-augsburg.de for further information before 16.4.

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