
TRAC Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference

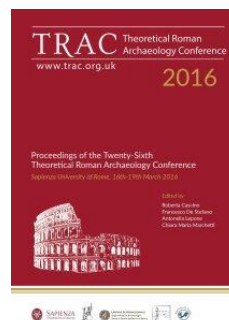
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TRAC 2016

Proceedings of the Twenty-Sixth
Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference

Sapienza University of Rome, 16th-19th March 2016

EDITED BY

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Francesco De Stefano

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Preface

TRAC is an unincorporated voluntary association that has developed from and around the annual Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference series held since 1991. The first TRAC conference was held to widen the range of perspectives offered, and voices heard, in Roman Archaeology. This initial conference was a major success, and over the past 25 years TRAC has continued to make major contributions to research in Roman Archaeology. Following on from the initial conferences, TRAC continues to organize an annual conference and to produce publications derived from such events. Individual conferences are primarily organized by a Local Organizing Committee with the support of the TRAC Standing Committee and a number of sponsoring organizations. Since the mid-1990s, TRAC has been held in alternate years alongside the Roman Archaeology Conference (RAC) organized by the Archaeology Committee of the Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies (aka ‘The Roman Society’).

For the first time in its history, the 2016 TRAC conference was held in Rome in correspondence with the bi-annual Roman Archaeology Conference (RAC). The Sapienza, University of Rome, together with the BSR Institute, strongly supported the candidature of Rome for hosting TRAC in 2016. This immediately appeared as a challenging and unmistakable opportunity for taking debates in Roman Archaeology to the core of the study itself; not just for the proper ‘location’ of the conference, but for the chance of creating a real dialogue between Anglo-Saxon traditions and current research trends in Italian studies.

For this and many more reasons we consider the whole experience very successful, and we hope that its positive effects will continue to produce new ideas and more dynamic perspectives on Roman Studies and Archaeology – a goal TRAC as an institution has always tried to promote.

The first outcomes of this effort are well represented from the selection of papers we propose in the TRAC 2016 Conference Proceedings that follow.

Through some relevant examples from Palmyra **Lukasz Sokolowski** illustrates a process of mediatisation involving the Roman funerary portrait reliefs as a definite set of archaeological

objects intentionally projected to transfer schemata for social experience and spread common ideas across time and space. Sculptural and artistic analogies, together with iconographic and epigraphic data, show how the process of communication between centre and periphery leads to the local interpretation of the external broadcast and the imminent change of its original message by attaching to it the symbolic meanings customary to the recipients. Defined as the medium, the portraiture of Palmyra preserves the cultural memory of transformations that took place in the regional frames of Roman Syria and Roman East during the first three centuries A.D.

Liana Brent focuses her article on the archaeological aspects of Roman tomb violation, a subject which has been previously explored primarily through a wealth of Latin anecdotal, epigraphic, and juridical evidence. Unfortunately, reopened and reused graves are often glossed over in archaeological site reports without further attention to the post-depositional and continuing commemorative rituals that dealt with the social death of the individual and the creation of a corpse. Focusing on the common thread of the body in archaeological evidence, funerary epitaphs, and legal thought, **Brent** is interested in exploring how post-depositional activities affected the body in ancient grave disturbance, reuse, damage, or violation.

The following papers of **Carla Brain** and **Polly Lohmann** are devoted to important issues related to the identification and functional analysis of domestic spaces. In recent years, many scholars have pointed out the existence of too rigid a distinction between ‘public spaces’ and ‘private spaces’ within the Roman house, noting that the rooms of the house could take various functions due to different reasons and conditions and how, in some cases, the traditional ‘state rooms’ could host activities or items closely related to private family life.

In this framework, **Brain** has explored the theme of the relationship between the type and function of the environments of Pompeian houses with particular attention to the iconography of the Venus Pompeiana in wall paintings. The census and analysis of the figurative dossier documented within the various contexts has allowed the author to provide a new and interesting understanding regarding the issues of the diagnostic of domestic spaces within the Pompeian house.

Lohmann has then investigated the relationship between graffiti (i.e. informal and ‘private’ inscriptions) within the ‘state rooms’ of the Roman *domus*, and has discussed their possible meanings in relation to the contexts in which they were made and ‘exposed’.

Henry Clarke’s paper interrogates ‘Place-Identity’ theories within the Upper Durus/Duero Valley (Spain) during the region’s incorporation into the Roman Empire. Here he considers the relationship between communities as social entities, toponyms, and geographical places within this clearly defined region and also examines data from settlements such as these from a ‘Place-Identity’ perspective with the aim of establishing how far expressions of community

identity and the meaning behind place were bounded by a sense of belonging to a precise geographical space, if indeed identity and place are truly co-produced.

The countryside of the Balkan interior during the time of the High Empire remains a foreign country, even to scholars who specialize in this part of the Roman Empire. Thus, within the frame of the project ‘An Empire of 2000 Cities’, **Damjan Donev** and several other researchers have been collecting data for the towns of the Balkans and the Middle and Lower Danube provinces during the period of the High Empire. The intent is to provide a reconstruction of the regional urban networks with a special accent on the various categories of urban and para-urban settlements and the regional settlement hierarchy.

Following traditions in landscape archaeology, **Kevin Ferrari** analyses some case studies from the Pianura Padana and the Tyrrhenian delta plains of Italy. By adopting a multidisciplinary approach he focuses on reconstructing the original landscape and how the physical geography of the area influenced urban planning and the settlement distribution, as well as what kind of transformations took place over the centuries while evaluating the impact of human activities on the environment.

Within the current debate on the role of Marxist thought in relation to theoretical studies of Roman Archaeology, **Edoardo Vanni** offers a thorough overview of how Marxism, with its different declinations, has influenced the various academic traditions in the era of processual and post-processual archaeology. He also touches on the role Marxism has played as an arena of contact and synthesis for diverse and sometimes distant schools of thought and points of view.

The contribution of **Jesus Garcia Sanchez** focuses on methods and theories employed in survey research in Italy. Using as a case study the fieldwork the author is leading in central-southern Italy as a member of the Leiden University project on early Roman colonization, the article proposes some comments on the influence of theories and methodologies in survey work, with particular attention to data visualisation for the production of archaeological knowledge and its final interpreted narrative form.

The work of **Antonella Pansini** reconsiders the well known complex of the Domus of Apuleius at Ostia. Here she proposes a more systematic analysis of the whole context both from an architectural and stratigraphic point of view, in addition to drawing on more general interpretations of its position and meaning. In particular, she focuses on the relation between the private dimension of the *domus* and the nearby public space of the Four Small Temples.

In his paper **Paul Pasieka** proposes an interesting discussion about the relationship between Marxist conceptions of crisis and their impact on archaeological research of the Roman Empire after World War II. The author starts by underlining how the term of crisis and its conceptualization occupies a central position in Marxism, but in different ways and with different consequences in the interpretation of ancient Roman history.

Financial and logistical support for TRAC 2016 was provided by Sapienza-Università di Roma, The Roman Society, AIAC-Associazione Internazionale di Archeologia Classica, Unione Internazionale degli Istituti di Archeologia, Storia e Storia dell'Arte, and Barbican Research Associates.

The Editorial Committee would like to thank our peer reviewers from the TRAC Advisory Panel, the RAC 2016 Organising Committee (Maria Teresa D'Alessio, Kristian Göransson, Enzo Lippolis, Christopher Smith), and Sapienza-Università di Roma for supporting us during the Conference. Many thanks are also owed to Darrell J. Rohl and the TRAC Standing Committee (Matthew J. Mandich, Lisa Lodwick, Thomas Derrick, and Sergio Gonzalez-Sanchez) for their assistance and cooperation during the preparation of the Conference and for their help with the editing of this volume (especially Matthew J. Mandich); Edizioni Quasar for the publication of this volume and Martina Tognon for her valuable assistance and exceptional availability. For the conference excursions, our thanks go to the Soprintendenza Speciale ai Beni Archeologici di Roma and to the British School at Rome.

The Editors and Local Organising Committee:

Roberta Cascino

Francesco De Stefano

Antonella Lepone

Chiara Maria Marchetti

Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference 26

Sapienza University of Rome, 16-19 March

In order to thank all of the session organisers, chairs, speakers, and delegates that attended TRAC 2016, the Local Organisers Committee is pleased to enclose the full Conference Programme.

Great thanks are owed to the Sapienza departmental administrators (in particular Fabrizio Grossi) and last but not least, to our ‘Dream team’, composed of numerous student volunteers, that we want to nominate one by one for their unstinting work: Ludovico Gavini and Luca Contrafatto (our precious *‘prefetti del pretorio’*), Salvatore Amato, Francesca Ascenzi, Silvia Baroni, Ramona Battagliola, Erica Biagetti, Carola Bianchi, Valentina Cannarella, Giulia Caputi, Roberta Cimmino, Nicolò Contardi, Irene Corso, Urbano Cristini, Adriana Cymerman, Martina De Giuseppe, Cecilia De Leone, Beatrice De Santis, Federico Desideri, Edoardo Di Donato, Daniele Di Girolamo, Giada Fatucci, Costanza Francavilla, Arianna Giordano, Francesca Grigolo, Livia Iacovone, Aurora Improta, Leonardo Labanca, Gabi Marra, Livia Mutinelli, Eleonora Ottaviani, Elisa Peloso, Alessandra Peitrini, Maria Pistolesi, Giorgia Ricci, Elena Roveda, Daria Russo, Francesca Russo, Eugenio Saccà, Simona Schiano, Alessandro Spadaro, Valentina Spera, Nicolò Squartini, Fabiana Tozzi, Sergio Tranquilli, Martina Usai.

15 MARCH 2016, TUESDAY				
16-19	RAC/TRAC Registration opens in the Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia Foyer			
	16 March 2016, Wednesday		17 March 2016, Thursday	
	Aula III	Aula IV	Aula III	Aula IV
MORNING SESSIONS				
	T1. BEYOND THE ROMANS: WHAT CAN POSTHUMANISM DO FOR CLASSICAL STUDIES? Organised by Linnea Åshede and Irene Selsvold	T9. THEORISING 'PLACE' IN (ROMAN) ARCHAEOLOGY Organised by Darrell Rohl and Nicky Garland	T2. METHOD MATTERS: ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHOD AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF HISTORICAL NARRATIVE IN ROMAN COLONIZATION STUDIES Organised by Jesús García-Sánchez and Anita Casarotto	T4. THEATRICALISING MEMORY. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPROACH TO RELIGIOUS PERFORMANCE IN THE ROMAN WORLD Organised by Valentino Gasparini
9.00	<i>Posthumanism and the Romans – Prospective, Potential and the Road Ahead</i> , Irene Selsvold	<i>An Archaeology of Place: The Development of 'Place' Theory in Archaeological Studies and Its Application to the Roman World</i> , Darrell Rohl and Nicky Garland	<i>Making Use of Secondary Data: the Feedback of Ceramic Surveys</i> , Damjan Donev	<i>The Theatre-Temple Pattern in the Italic Sanctuaries: Origins and Functions</i> , Alessandro D'Alessio
9.30	<i>Priapus Can Be Anything: Bodies Without Borders in Roman Art</i> , Linnea Åshede	<i>Moving money: Coin Hoards, Place, Movement and Memory in Roman Britain</i> , Adrian M. Chadwick	<i>Testing Settlement Models in Early Roman Colonial Landscapes</i> , Anita Casarotto, Jeremia Pelgrom and Tesse D. Stek	<i>Inside Out: Spectacularisation of Grief and Joy in Isiac Hilaria</i> , Valentino Gasparini
10	<i>Venusti (semi)viri vates: Posthuman Visions of Early Roman Encounters with the Galli</i> , Lewis Webb	<i>Waterworks: Temporal Engineering and the Creation of Place in Late Iron Age and Roman Britain</i> , Jay Ingate	<i>Looking at Sites in a Colonial Landscape. The Importance of Data Visualization</i> , Jesús García Sánchez	<i>Activating the Circus: Sacred Space, Collective Performance and Spectator Memories</i> , Sinclair Bell
10.30	COFFEE BREAK			

18 March 2016, Friday		19 March 2016, Saturday	
Aula III	Aula IV	Aula III	Aula IV
T. GENERAL SESSION 1	T12. SUSTAINING THE EMPIRE: BALANCING BETWEEN POPULATION GROWTH AND FOOD RESOURCES Organised by Wim De Clercq, Dimitri Van Limbergen, Frank Vermeulen and Rinse Willet	T8. ANIMALS AND LANDSCAPE IN THE ROMAN WORLD Organised by Clare Reinsford and David Roberts	T. GENERAL SESSION 2
<i>Roman Grid Planning in Cross-Cultural Perspective</i> , Simeon D. Ehrlich	<i>Land and Population in the Roman Empire. East and West Compared</i> , Paul Edkamp	<i>The Everyday Ritual: Social Practice and the Animalscape</i> , Clare Rainsford and David Roberts	<i>Contextualizing Small Finds at Pompeii: A New Take on Old Things</i> , Catherine Baker
<i>Negative and Positive Multicultural Interaction as a Precondition to Roman Expansion: Changing Group Identities in Central Italy from the Archaic to the Late Republican Period</i> , Ulla Rajala	<i>Growing Vines in a Populous Landscape. Viticultural Practices in Early Imperial Central Adriatic Italy (1st -2 nd century AD)</i> , Dimitri Van Limbergen	<i>How Animals Co-created the Romano-British Countryside – Towards Archaeologies of Animality</i> , Adrian Chadwick	<i>Your Place or Mine? Eating and Drinking Practices Across Roman London in the 1st Century AD</i> , Michael Marshall, Karen Stewart and Amy Thorp
<i>Spinning Your Own Yarn: Spindle Whorls and Spinners in the Forts of the Romano British Frontier</i> , Marta Alberti	<i>Land and Population in the Roman Empire. East and West Compared</i> , Paul Edkamp	<i>The Consumption and Ritual Treatment of Animals in Northern Gallic Sanctuaries</i> , David Rose	<i>Cooking Pots, Table Ware and Storage Ceramics. Culinary Practice and Savoir-faire in Roman Nora</i> , Cristina Nervi

11.00	<i>The Agency of Roman Funerary Monuments: from Human to Incarnated (Biographical) Entity?</i> , Vladimir D. Mihajlović	<i>Layers of Place and Space in Iron Age and Roman Britain</i> , Caroline Pudney	<i>Geomorphology as a Research Tool to Assess Roman Colonial Studies</i> , Kevin Ferrari	<i>Stirring Scenes: Performing Religion in the Roman East</i> , Frederick G. Naerebout
11.30	DISCUSSION	<i>Co-producing 'Place' and 'Identity' in the Upper Durius Valley</i> , Henry Clarke	<i>Modelling Roman Agriculture in a Theoretical Colonial Framework. Riparian Vegetation and Viticulture in Hasta Regia</i> , Daniel J. Martín-Arroyo Sánchez	<i>Choreographing Religious Spectacle: Processional Movement at Ostia</i> , Katherine Crawford
12		<i>The Creation of Ritual 'Place' in the Rural Environment of the Roman Near East</i> , Paul Newson	<i>A changing game: Investigating native economic responses to Roman conquest in the Dutch limes zone via agent-based modelling</i> , Jamie Joyce and Philip Verhagen	<i>Performing the Rituals of Imperial Cult in Late Antique Rome: Temples, Topography, and Inscriptions</i> , Douglas Boin
12.30		DISCUSSION	DISCUSSION	DISCUSSION
13-14	LUNCH			
AFTERNOON SESSIONS				
	T3. MARXIST TRADITIONS IN ROMAN ARCHAEOLOGY Organised by Andrew Gardner and Mauro Puddu	T11. BEYOND PUBLIC AND PRIVATE IN THE ROMAN HOUSE Organised by Kaius Tuori	T5. BEYOND HYBRIDITY AND CODE-SWITCHING: NEW APPROACHES TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE LATE HELLENISTIC ROME, ITALY, AND THE WIDER MEDITERRANEAN Organised by Francesca Diosono and Dominik Maschek	T7. APPROPRIATING TRADITIONS – NEGOTIATING FORMS: MATERIAL CULTURE AND ROMAN RELIGION BETWEEN CATEGORIES AND VARIABLES Organised by Anna-Katharina Rieger
14	<i>Finding the Marginalised? Being the Marginalised?</i> Steve Roskams	<i>Venus in Pompeian Domestic Space</i> , Carla Brain	<i>Social Networks in Late Hellenistic Northern Etruria: from a Multicultural Society to a Society of Partial Identities</i> , Raffaella Da Vela	<i>Resonance of Objects and a New Theory of Religion</i> , Jörg Rüpke

<p><i>Corporeal Connections: Grave Disturbance, Reuse and Violation in Roman Italy</i>, Liana Brent</p>	<p><i>The Economy & the Archaeology of Roman Wine. A Proposal for Analyse an Intensive Wine Production System and Trade. Case Study: Regio Laeetana (Hispania Citerior Tarraconensis)</i>, Antoni Martin i Oliveras</p>	<p><i>Hunting Scenes on Mosaics from Roman Africa</i>, Anna Mech</p>	<p><i>Reassessing Roman Building Materials: Economics, Logistics and Social Factors in the Supply of Tile and Stone to Dorchester-on-Thames, Oxfordshire</i>, Edward Peveler</p>
<p><i>Escaping Heat and 'Killing time' in the Desert – Revisiting the Archaeology of Roman Garrison at Bu Njem</i>, Anna Walas</p>	<p><i>Urbanism and Demography in Roman Asia Minor</i>, Rinse Willet</p>	<p><i>'This Land is Your Land, This Land is My Land'. Ownership, Attitudes, and Animal Management Systems in Northern Britannia</i>, Sue Stalibrass</p>	<p><i>The Translation of the Context: a Case Study from Portugal</i>, Vincenzo Soria</p>
<p>DISCUSSION</p>	<p>DISCUSSION</p>	<p>DISCUSSION</p>	<p>DISCUSSION</p>
	<p>TRAC AGM (13-14)</p>		
<p>T10. MEDIA, MEMORY AND ARCHAEOLOGIST, organized by Clare Rowan</p>	<p>T6. FILLING THE GAP: INVESTIGATING ABANDONMENT IN THE ROMAN EMPIRE Organised by Rocco Palermo and Maria Amodio</p>		
<p><i>Premediation, Remediation, and Cultural Memory in the Roman World</i>, Clare Rowan</p>	<p><i>Abandoned Traditions? The Case of Courtyard Houses and Peristyle Mansions in Late Hellenistic and Early Roman Judaea</i>, Shulamit Miller</p>		

14.30	<i>Divorcing Theory from Politics: Marxist Thought in Eastern European Roman Archaeology</i> , Emily Hanscam	<i>Questioning the Functions of the Cubiculum in the Archaeological and Literary Sources</i> , Laura Nissin	<i>From Magistri to Ermaistai. The Self-representation of Italian Mercatores in the Eastern Mediterranean Between Professional and Religious Associations</i> , Francesca Diosono	<i>The Votive Offering: a Category in Need of a Challenge?</i> Jessica Hughes
15	<i>Crisis, Marxism and Reconstructions of Time</i> , Paul Pasiek	<i>The Domus of Apuleio at Ostia Antica</i> , Antonella Pansini	<i>Graecia Capta Ferum Victorem Cepit...? Violence and Cultural Change in the Late Roman Republic</i> , Dominik Maschek	<i>The Gods Don't Live Here Anymore, Do They? Conceptualizing the Materiality of Religious Change</i> , Norman Wetzig
15.30	<i>Worshipping the Roman Emperor: Uneven and Combined Developments?</i> Dies van der Linde	<i>Were Peristyles Conspicuous Consumption or a Functional Addition to the Atrium House?</i> Samuli Simelius	<i>Beyond Idealism and Realism. On How to Evaluate Nude Portrait Statues in Late Republican Central Italy</i> , Barbara Sielhorst	<i>Religious Landscape "In Between": the Almo Valley at the Borders of Rome</i> , Rachele Dubbini
16.00	COFFEE BREAK			
16.30	<i>Marxist Dialectic Vs. the Predominant Notion of Local Identities: the Study of Cult Centres in the Hauran (Southern Syria) (100BC-AD300)</i> , Francesca Mazzilli	<i>Private Inscriptions in Public Spaces?</i> Polly Lohmann	<i>Samnites Just in Samnium?! Archaeological and Epigraphical Sources for the Integration of Samnites in Italian and Mediterranean (Religious) Trade</i> , Claudia Widow	<i>Cursing the Neighbours? Beyond Motive Categories in the Study of Roman Defixiones</i> , Stuart McKie
17.00	<i>Dynamics of Power: an Architectural Reading of Concentration of Power (Ullastret, Northern Iberia, IV-III Century BC)</i> , David Cebrian	<i>Structuring Olfactory Space in the Roman House</i> , Thomas J. Derrick	<i>Switching to Roman? Translating Late Iron Age Mortuary Contexts from the Lomellina (IT)</i> , Sarah Scheffler	<i>Mimetic Practice in Provincial Religious Iconography: A Case Study of Roman Britain</i> , Stephanie Moat
17.30	<i>Welcome-back Marx! The Rise, the Fall and the Rebirth of a Thought. Marxist Perspective for Roman Archaeology at the End of the Post-Modern Era</i> , Edoardo Vanni	DISCUSSION	DISCUSSION	DISCUSSION
18	DISCUSSION			
18.15 - 20.00	Rettorato, Aula Magna: Official Welcome, Presentation of the Roman Archaeology Dissertation Prize and Welcome drink offered by Roman Society		Plenary Lecture (F. Zevi, S. Keay)	

<p><i>Premeditation and Perception: Colour in Roman Archaeology</i>, Vicky Jewell</p>	<p><i>Abandonment, Transformation and Adaptation Along the Rhine in the Roman Period</i>, Tyler Franconi</p>		
<p><i>The Missing Piece. Reduction as a Medial Strategy in Roman Portraiture?</i> Annabel Bokern</p>	<p><i>On the Decline of Myos Hormos</i>, Dario Nappo</p>		
<p><i>Portrait as a Medium. Reading Palmyra Reliefs with the 'Empire and Communication'</i> by Harald Innis, Łukasz Sokółowski</p>	<p><i>Abandonment and Revival Between Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages: Facts and Fiction</i>, Athanasios Vionis</p>		
<p>DISCUSSION</p>	<p><i>Contesting Sacred Landscapes: Continuity and Abandonment in Roman Cyprus</i>, Giorgios Papantoniou</p>		
	<p><i>Investigating the Transformation Through the Archaeological Record in the Heart of Tuscany: the Case of the Late Roman Villa at Aiano (4th-7th cent. AD)</i>, Marco Cavalieri</p>		
	<p>DISCUSSION</p>		