

## Conversations with Archaeologists and Researchers

Dan Rahimi, Vice President of Gallery Development and Archaeologist,  
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*[title screen reads: Conversations with archaeologists and researchers. Where the past meets the present and the people behind it. Fades to black.]*

*[Fades in to a man talking to the camera sitting in a black room. Title screen reads: Dan Rahimi. Archaeologist.]*

*Dan Rahimi:* When people ask I often say “oh I study late prehistory” and people ask “what is late prehistory?” So, I work in the Near East and I study kind of the end of the Stone Age and the beginning of settled life in the Middle East. So, the Neolithic, the Chalcolithic, and the Early Bronze Age. So it might start around 10,000 years ago and ends around 5,000 years ago - the kind of work that I do. And it’s in the Middle East. Broadly written, I worked for many, many years in Jordan, I’ve worked for about 5 or 6 years in Yemen, and now I have a project in Armenia.

*[Edit]* In the 1970s I started as a volunteer on excavations in 1976 and then I went to graduate school in archaeology starting in 1978. So it’s quite a long time that I have been doing this.

*[Edit]* So the focus of archaeology is human culture, but – and this is what is unique about it and pleases me so much about it – its getting at the culture of the past through material things, through objects, through evidence of peoples lives in the past.

*[ROM sound sting and animation]*