

3:15 PM

***Illuminating the Past: Minoan lamps in ROM
and lighting techniques in Bronze Age Crete***
Bastien Rueff

Using Minoan lamps in the collections at ROM as a starting point, examine the evolution of light over time – the role it played in daily life, its impact on the rhythm of activities, and the sensory ambiances that shaped spaces – from ancient palaces to the humblest of households.

3:45 PM – Coffee Break

4:15 PM

Anthropomorphic plank figures from Bronze Age Cyprus
Lindy Crewe

Take a closer look at recent research that is increasing our knowledge about Cypriot “plank figures”: clay figures from the Middle Cypriot Bronze Age. Early interpretations characterized them as “mother goddesses” but continued research reveals more about these enigmatic anthropomorphs and the active roles they may have played in Bronze Age Cypriot life.

4:45 PM

The Scattered Votives from the Frangissa Sanctuary
Matthias Recke

Discover what new excavations on a previously lost ancient sanctuary site are telling us about the site and the objects unearthed in its original excavation – one of the world’s most important collections of Cypriot antiquities – currently displayed at ROM.

5:15 PM

Closing Remarks

Leela Outcalt, Chief of Collections Care, ROM

5:30 PM

Program Ends

This program is made possible through the support of the A.G. Leventis Foundation and the Hellenic Republic.

Program Partner: University of Toronto, Art History Department



ROM Connects is generously supported by The Schmidt Family.

Every Object Tells a Story

Exploring the
Bronze Age Aegean



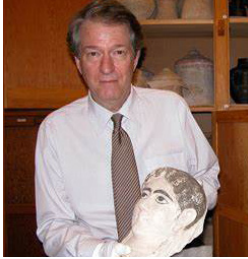
Sunday, March 3, 2024

12:00 – 5:30 PM

EATON THEATRE



Carl Knappett teaches in the Department of Art History at the University of Toronto, where he holds the Walter Graham/Homer Thompson Chair in Aegean Prehistory. He is a specialist in Bronze Age ceramics of the Aegean and east Mediterranean. He has written on the production, exchange, and consumption of pottery from the Cyclades, Anatolia, and Cyprus and his ceramic focus has led him to explore the nature of materiality more broadly in his 2005 book, *Thinking Through Material Culture: An Interdisciplinary Perspective*.



Paul Denis is the curator responsible for the Greek, Byzantine, Etruscan, and Roman collections at ROM. He has been involved in the development of many of the Museum's permanent galleries, and his research has focused on several areas of the Greek, Roman, and Byzantine collections. He has also curated several special exhibitions for the Museum, including *Gift of the Gods: the Art of Wine and Revelry*, *Fakes and Forgeries*, *Pompeii: In the Shadow of the Volcano*, and *Kore 670*.



Sarah Georgel-Debedde is currently conducting a PhD thesis in Aegean Protohistory at the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, with a focus on the techniques and organization of clay sarcophagus ("larnakes") production in Late Bronze Age Crete.



Rachel Dewan is an archaeologist and art historian whose work focuses on Minoan Crete. She holds a PhD from the University of Toronto and a Master of Studies in Classical Archaeology from the University of Oxford. She is a passionate advocate of cultural preservation and arts education and amongst other appointments, currently serves as Executive Director of the U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield, a non-profit dedicated to protecting cultural property during times of conflict and natural disasters.



Bastien Rueff As a scientific member of the French School at Athens and former manager of the Knossos Stratigraphical Museum Curatorial Project, Bastien Rueff is conducting research on lighting, heating, and perfuming techniques in the Aegean Bronze Age. Having participated in several fieldwork projects in the Greek mainland, Crete, Turkey, and France, Rueff is currently actively involved in the French archaeological mission at Malia (Crete).



Dr. Lindy Crewe is a leading scholar of Bronze Age Cyprus, having studied with Professor Edgar ("Eddie") Peltenburg at the University of Edinburgh. A veteran field archaeologist, in 2007, Crewe assumed the directorship of the excavations of Kissonerga-Skalia, a post she still holds. The author of two books and 35 articles, she is currently working with Dr. Diane Bolger on the publication of the remarkable Chalcolithic cemetery and settlement at Souskiou-Laona.



Matthias Recke studied Classical Archaeology, Prehistoric Archaeology and Ancient History in Giessen, Marburg, and Berlin. From 1998 to 2016 he was curator of the Collection of Classical Antiquities at the University of Giessen. Since 2016, he has been curator of the Sculpture Hall at Goethe University Frankfurt. In the field, he was Field Director of the Belgian excavations at Hala Sultan Tekke on Cyprus from 2011 to 2023, and since 2020, has overseen the archaeological excavations in Tamassos-Frangissa.

12:00 PM – **Opening Remarks**
Leela Outcalt, Chief of Collections Care, ROM

12:05 PM – **Welcome Remarks**
Panayotis Antonatos, Consul General of Greece in Toronto

12:10 PM
Drinking Wine in the Cretan Palaces
Carl Knappett

Learn more about the stories an intact "Kamares" cup in the Bronze Age Aegean Gallery might tell about rituals, celebrations, status, and power.

12:40 PM
A Marine Style Askos at ROM
Paul Denis

Examine a Mycenaean Marine Style askos (flask) decorated in a design style adapted from Minoan art – a tour de force paintwork that brilliantly harmonizes the shape of the askos with the sea creatures integrated into the surface design.

1:10 PM – Lunch Break (on own)

2:15 PM
Making for the Dead: Cretan Terracotta Sarcophagus Production in the Late Bronze Age
Sarah Georgel-Debedde

Take a closer look at what recent research and experimental reproduction is revealing about production of the large clay burial vessels, known as "larnakes" (or "larnax" in the singular), from physical creation to the composition and expertise of craftsmen to the structure of the craft space.

2:45 PM
Humble Offerings: Miniatures and Minoan Religion
Rachel Dewan

A collection of tiny clay figurines brought from Petsophas in Crete to ROM by Charles Currelly, the Museum's first director, provides a foundation for exploring Minoan spirituality and its use of miniaturization as a way to materially and, through the use of signs and symbols, engage with the unknown.