

# Religious Convergence in the Ancient Mediterranean Villa Whitaker, Palermo, Sicily, June 23–26, 2016

Preliminary Program (posted January 2016)

## Thursday, June 23

### SESSION 1: LANDSCAPE

10:00am	Sandra Blakely	Samothracian Networks: Economic Prospects and Ritual Promises in the Hellenistic Mediterranean
10:25am	Amelia Brown	The Role of Mediterranean Seafarers in Cults and Sanctuaries of Aphrodite
<b>10:50am</b>	<b>break</b>	
11:00am	Irene Polinskaya	Password? Rituals for Trespassing on the Land of the Gods of Others
11:25am	Pietro D'Agostino	Il culto di san Michele Arcangelo e i contesti naturali : un'ermeneutica del paesaggio sub specie hagiographica

**11:50–1:30**      **LUNCH BREAK, FREE TIME**

### SESSION 2: WESTERN SICILY

1:30pm	Rosella Giglio	Lilibeo e i suoi culti: nuovi esempi di ritualità pubblica e privata dalla ricerca archeologica
1:50pm	Birgit Öhlinger	Ritual Consumption and Local Power Discourse on the Archaic Monte Iato in Western Sicily
2:15pm	Meritxell Ferrer Martin	Performing Local Responses through Architecture: Ritual, Power, and Community in Western Sicily (Eighth–Fifth Centuries BC)

**2:40–3:00pm**      **break**

### SESSION 3: PHOENICIANS

3:00pm	Adriano Orsingher	Across Traditions and beyond Boundaries: The Masks of Carthage
3:25pm	José Miguel Puebla Morón	Greek Coins, Punic People: Analysis of the Punic Coinage of Sicily from the Iconographical Aspect
3:50pm	Nicola Chiarenza	I luoghi di culto nella Selinunte punica: tra tradizioni, nuovi apporti e interazioni

**4:15–4:30pm**      **break**

**SESSION 4: ROME 1**

4:30pm              Maik Patzelt              The Power of Ritualized Practice: Mitigating and Reinforcing Social Boundaries in Worship in the “Globalized City of Rome”

4:55pm              Kevin Dicus              Using Your Head: Local Stylistic Adaptations in Foreign Ritual

**5:20–5:30pm**      **break**

5:30pm              Eric Orlin              Augustus and Italian Cult Practices

5:55pm              James Rives              Roman Empire and Roman Emperor: Animal Sacrifice as an Instrument of Convergence

**6:20–8:00pm**      **RECEPTION**              **VILLA WHITAKER**  
(WELCOMING REMARKS)

**Friday, June 24**

**SESSION 5: ANATOLIA 1: RELIGIOUS CONVERGENCE IN HITTITE RITUALS**

9:00am              Amir Gilan              Religious Convergence in Hittite Anatolia – Further Thoughts on (some) Kizzuwatna Rituals

9:25am              Susanne Görke              Mythological Parts in Hittite Rituals

**9:50–10:00am**      **break**

10:00am              Billie Jean Collins              The “Arzawa” Rituals: Scribal Intention and Religious Invention in Hittite Anatolia

10:25am              Doris Prechel              Rituale im Spiegel internationaler Beziehungen

**10:50–11:10am**      **coffee break**

**SESSION 6: SYRIA-PALESTINE 1**

11:10am              Brian B. Schmidt              Hybrid Gods at the Crossroad of Continents: Kuntillet Ajrud’s Eclectic Religious Traditions

11:35am              Herbert Niehr              The Royal Epics (Kirta and Aqhatu) from Ugarit and Their Literary Landscape

12:00pm              Erin Darby              Figurine Rituals and Religio-Economic Identity: Judean Pillar Figurines, Economic Status, and the Mediating Influence of Ritual Intervention

**12:25–1:30pm**      **LUNCH**              **VILLA WHITAKER**

## SESSION 7: MAGIC

1:30pm	Christopher Faraone	Figurine Rituals and Religioeconomic Identity: Judean Pillar Figurines, Economic Status, and the Mediating Influence of Ritual Intervention
1:55pm	Lech Trzcionkowski	Graffiti from Olbia: Writing Practices and the Articulation of Ritual Boundaries
<b>2:20–2:30pm</b>	<b>break</b>	
2:30pm	Sarah G. Titus	Genetrix et mater superstitionum: The Bulla as Apotropaic Device in Etruscan Art
2:55pm	Angelika Berlejung	Religious Convergence in Persian Period Palestine: The Case of the Amulets
<b>3:20–3:40pm</b>	<b>coffee break</b>	

## SESSION 8: CHRISTIANITY 1

3:40pm	Ian Brown	Examining the Gospel of Thomas as a Product of Alexandrian Intellectual Culture
4:05pm	Daniel Price	Finding the Egyptian Desert in the Jura Hills: The Struggle for Monastic Self-Definition in the Vita patrum Iurensium
4:30pm	Cláudia Teixeira and André Carneiro	Religious Convergence in Lusitania: Geospatial and Literary Evidence in Constructing the Christian Rural Space between the Fifth and Seventh Centuries CE
<b>4:55–5:05pm</b>	<b>break</b>	

## SESSION 9: ROME 2

5:05pm	Megan Nutzman	Written in Stone: Jewish Identity in the Roman Epitaphs
5:30pm	Claudia Moser	Locating Gaul: Continuity and Change in the Architecture of Sacrificial Practices in Pre-Roman and Roman Gaul
5:55pm	Marco Romeo Pitone	Rituals in Late Bronze Age Southern Etruria and Their Connection with Aegean Cultures
<b>6:20–6:30pm</b>	<b>break</b>	

### SESSION 10: SICILY 3

6:30	Barbara Tsakirgis	God's/Gods in the House: Evidence for Convergence in Domestic Religion in Hellenistic Sicily
6:55	Douglas Boin	Beyond the False Equivalency of "Pagans and Christians": The Importance of the Epigraphic Evidence from Catania, Sicily
7:20	Margie Miles	The Greek Temple in the Elymian Sanctuary at Contrada Mango, Segesta
7:45	Giuseppina Mammina and M. Pamela Toti	Una donna di nome Mozia: Testimonianze archeologiche di Eracle/Melqart a Mozia
<b>8:10pm</b>	<b>FREE EVENING</b>	

### Saturday, June 25

### SESSION 11: GREEKS OUTSIDE OF GREECE

9:00am	Eka Avaliani	Vani Necropolis: The Case for Religious Convergence and Cross-Regional Comparison
9:25am	Aaron Beck-Schachter	The Tonaia and Samian Autochthony
<b>9:50–10:00am</b>	<b>break</b>	
10:00am	Daniel Berman	"Prefoundational" Myths and Preurban Ritual Space in Croton
10:25am	Ömer Tatar & Savas Lenger	The Cult of Artemis Anaitis in Anatolia
<b>10:50–11:10am</b>	<b>coffee break</b>	

### SESSION 12: CHRISTIANITY 2

11:10am	Gaetano Colantuono	Unioni interreligiose nella tarda antichità (secoli II–V): interazioni, conflitti, rappresentazioni e realtà sociali
11:35am	Lindsay G. Driediger-Murphy	Unnatural Gods: Converging Theologies in the Third Century AD
<b>12:00–12:10pm</b>	<b>break</b>	
12:10pm	Adele Reinhartz	Religious Convergence and Liturgical Performance
12:35	Elif Alten	Worshipping Zeus/Theos Hypsistos in Asia Minor in the Light of Epigraphic Documents
<b>1:00–2:00pm</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>VILLA WHITAKER</b>

### SESSION 13: ANATOLIA 2

2:00pm	Annick Payne	Muwatalli's Reforms: A Case of Religious Convergence?
2:25pm	Carlo Corti	"The King Is Dead, Long Live the King!": The Land of Zalpuwa and the Origin of Hittite Kingship
<b>2:50–3:00pm</b>	<b>break</b>	
3:00pm	Jared Miller	Convergence and Divergence in the Hittite Mantic Corpus
3:35pm	Mary R. Bachvarova	From Hittite Mountain Man to Phrygian Mountain Mother: A Case Study in the Survival of "Popular" Religion across the End of the Bronze Age
<b>4:00–4:20pm</b>	<b>coffee break</b>	

### SESSION 14: SYRIA-PALESTINE 2

4:20pm	Tallay Ornan	The Dynamics of Pictures in an Imperial Framework: Assyrianism and Its Reflection in the Early Israelite Religious Tradition through an Examination of Visual Records
4:45pm	Virginia Herrmann	The Politics of Ritual Performance at Assyrian-Period Sam'al: The Katumuwa Mortuary Stele from Zincirli in Historical and Urban Context
5:10pm	Lukasz Niesiolowski-Spano	Philistine Influences on the Cult in Jerusalem?
<b>5:35–5:45pm</b>	<b>break</b>	

### SESSION 15: SICILY 2

5:45pm	Sebastiano Tusa	Funerary Practices and Rituals in Sicily from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age (6th–2nd millennia BC)
6:10pm	Helga di Giuseppe	La ceramica a vernice nera racconta la storia: in Sicilia tra produzione e consumo
6:35pm	Sarah Morris	Close Encounters in Sicily: Molech, Meilichios and Religious Convergence at Selinus
7:00pm	Francesca Oliveri	Venere del mare: Testimonianze del culto nell'area del trapanese
<b>8:30pm</b>	<b>DINNER IN PALERMO</b>	<b>RESTAURANT TBD</b>

## Sunday, June 26

### **SESSION 16: RECEPTION**

9:00am	Michael Jennings & Donald Whitcomb	Jericho as a Community of Believers: Religious Groups of the Jericho Plain from the Hasmonean to Early Islamic Periods
9:25am	Louis A. Ruprecht Jr.	Romantic Receptions: After Literature and Archaeology Come the Statues and Museums, or, The Aeginetan Sculptures' Long Road to Munich
9:50am	Shalom Goldman	Representations of Ancient Religious Convergence in Western Literary Classics

**10:15–10:25am    break**

### **SESSION 17: PHOENICIANS 2**

10:25am	Lorenzo Nigro	Astarte at Motye and Phoenician Religious and Cultural Interaction in the Mediterranean, 8th–5th Centuries BC
10:50pm	Philip C. Schmitz	The Egadi 3 Ram Inscription: Punic Text, Translation, and Interpretation
11:15am	Federica Spagnoli	Ritual Practices, Food Offerings and Animal Sacrifices. Considerations about Votive Deposits of the Temple of the Kothon (Motya) in Light of a Quantitative and Distributive Analysis of Finds

### **FIELD TRIP TO MOZIA**

1:00pm	Depart for Mozia	POINT OF DEPARTURE TBD
7:30pm	Return from Mozia	DROP OFF AT CONFERENCE HOTELS