

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

Preliminary Program (posted May 2016)

**Thursday, June 23**

**10:00am**      **OPENING REMARKS: Sandra Blakeley**

**SESSION 1: LANDSCAPE. Chair: Barbara Kowalzig**

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|----------------------|-------------------|---|
| 10:10am              | Sandra Blakely    | Samothracian Networks: Economic Prospects and Ritual Promises in the Hellenistic Mediterranean                  |
| 10:35am              | Amelia Brown      | The Role of Mediterranean Seafarers in Cults and Sanctuaries of Aphrodite                                       |
| <b>11:00–11:10am</b> | <b>break</b>      |   |
| 11:10am              | Irene Polinskaya  | Password? Rituals for Trespassing on the Land of the Gods of Others   |
| 11:35am              | Pietro D'Agostino | Il culto di san Michele Arcangelo e i contesti naturali : un'ermeneutica del paesaggio sub specie hagiographica |

**12:00–1:30**      **LUNCH BREAK, FREE TIME**

**SESSION 2: WESTERN SICILY. Chair: David Scahill**

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|--------|-------------------------|---|
| 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. Chair: Sarah Morris**

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|--------|--------------------------|---|
| 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. Chair: Jeffrey Brodd**

4:30pm	Kevin Dicus	Using Your Head: Local Stylistic Adaptations in Foreign Ritual
4:55pm	Eric Orlin	Augustus and Italian Cult Practices
5:20pm	James Rives	Roman Empire and Roman Emperor: Animal Sacrifice as an Instrument of Convergence

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

**Friday, June 24**

**SESSION 5: ANATOLIA 1. Chair: Jared Miller**

9:00am	Amir Gilan	Religious Convergence in Hittite Anatolia: Further Thoughts on (some) Kizzuwatna Rituals
9:25am	Susanne Görke	Mythological Parts in Hittite Rituals
<b>9:50–10:00am</b>	<b>break</b>	
10:00am	Billie Jean Collins	The “Arzawa” Rituals and Religious Production in Hittite Anatolia
10:25am	Elisabeth Rieken	Convergence and Divergence in Hittite Prayers

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

**SESSION 6: MAGIC. Chair: Radcliffe Edmonds III**

11:10pm	Christopher Faraone	The Convergence of Domestic and Civic Talismans in the Ancient Greek World: Top-Down or Bottom-up?
11:35pm	Lech Trzcionkowski	Graffiti from Olbia: Writing Practices and the Articulation of Ritual Boundaries
12:00pm	Sarah G. Titus	Genetrix et mater superstitionum: The Bulla as Apotropaic Device in Etruscan Art

**12:25–2:00pm**      **LUNCH**      **VILLA WHITAKER**

**SESSION 7: CHRISTIANITY 1. Chair: **Elif Alten****

2:00pm	**Gaetano Colantuono	Unioni interreligiose nella tarda antichità (secoli II–V): interazioni, conflitti, rappresentazioni e realtà sociali
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2:25pm	Daniel Price	Finding the Egyptian Desert in the Jura Hills: The Struggle for Monastic Self-Definition in the Vita patrum Iurensium
2:50pm	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

**3:15–3:35pm coffee break**

**SESSION 8: ROME 2. Chair: Kevin Dicus**

3:35pm	Megan Nutzman	Written in Stone: Jewish Identity in the Roman Epitaphs
4:00pm	Claudia Moser	Locating Gaul: Continuity and Change in the Architecture of Sacrificial Practices in Pre-Roman and Roman Gaul
<b>4:25–4:35pm</b>	<b>break</b>	
4:35pm	Marco Romeo Pitone	Rituals in Late Bronze Age Southern Etruria and Their Connection with Aegean Cultures

**5:00–5:15pm break**

**SESSION 9: SICILY 1. Chair: Sebastiano Tusa**

5:15pm	Francesca Oliveri	Venere del mare: Testimonianze del culto nell'area del trapanese
5:40pm	Margaret Miles	The Greek Temple in the Elymian Sanctuary at Contrada Mango, Segesta
6:05pm	Giuseppina Mammina and M. Pamela Toti	Una donna di nome Mozia: Testimonianze archeologiche di Eracle/Melqart a Mozia

**6:30pm– FREE EVENING**

**Saturday, June 25**

**SESSION 10: GREEKS OUTSIDE OF GREECE. Chair: Chris Faraone**

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

10:50pm Louis A. Ruprecht Jr. Romantic Receptions: After Literature and Archaeology Come the Statues and Museums, or, The Aeginetan Sculptures' Long Road to Munich

**11:15–11:35am coffee break**

**SESSION 11: CHRISTIANITY 2. Chair: Louis A. Ruprecht Jr.**

11:35am Lindsay G. Driediger-Murphy Unnatural Gods: Converging Theologies in the Third Century AD

**12:00–12:10pm break**

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

**1:00–2:00pm LUNCH VILLA WHITAKER**

**SESSION 12: ANATOLIA 2. Chair: Elisabeth Rieken**

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

**2:50–3:00pm break**

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

**4:00–4:15pm coffee break**

**SESSION 13: SYRIA-PALESTINE. Chair: Billie Jean Collins**

4:15pm 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

4:40pm Virginia Herrmann The Politics of Ritual Performance at Assyrian-Period Sam'al: The Katumuwa Mortuary Stele from Zincirli in Historical and Urban Context

5:05pm Lukasz Niesiolowski-Spano Philistine Influences on the Cult in Jerusalem?

<b>5:30–5:40pm</b>	<b>break</b>	
5:40pm	Brian B. Schmidt	On (Re)classifying Intermediary Beings in the Ancient Near East: The Case of the Biblical Shedim “Demons”
6:05pm	Erin Darby	Figurine Rituals and Religio-Economic Identity: Judean Pillar Figurines, Economic Status, and the Mediating Influence of Ritual Intervention
<b>8:30pm</b>	<b>DINNER at CUCINA, Via Francesco Guardione, 88</b>	

**Sunday, June 26**

**SESSION 14: SICILY 2 / PHOENICIANS 2. Chair: Sandra Blakely**

9:00am	Sebastiano Tusa	Funerary Practices and Rituals in Sicily from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age (6th–2nd millennia BC)
9:25pm	Sarah Morris	Close Encounters in Sicily: Molech, Meilichios and Religious Convergence at Selinus
<b>9:50–10:10am</b>	<b>coffee break</b>	
10:35am	Lorenzo Nigro	Astarte at Motye and Phoenician Religious and Cultural Interaction in the Mediterranean, 8th–5th Centuries BC
11:00am	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**

12:30pm	Depart for Mozia	DEPARTING FROM CONFERENCE HOTELS
approx. 7:00pm	Return from Mozia	DROP OFF AT CONFERENCE HOTELS