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INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR EARLY CAREER SCHOLARS

MORTUARY VARIABILITY AND SOCIAL DIVERSITY IN ANCIENT GREECE

NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE AT ATHENS, MAKRI 11, 1-2 DECEMBER 2016

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Aims of the Workshop:

Even though identity and social status may undergo major changes at the time of death, by studying funerary customs we can greatly gain in the understanding of a community's social structure, the distribution of wealth and property, and the degree of flexibility or divisiveness in the apportionment of power. With its great regional diversity and variety of community forms and networks, ancient Greece offers a unique context for exploring, through the burial evidence, how communities developed.

This international workshop brings together early career scholars working on funerary customs in Greece of the Early Iron Age to the Late Roman periods. They present thematic and interdisciplinary ways of analysis (e.g. temporal, regional, intra- or inter-regional, local, structural) in which funerary contexts provide insights on individuals, social groups and communities. The workshop will address various themes, including whether the placement of the dead in the landscape is indicative of issues of territoriality, how the social role of particular groups of people (e.g. children, women, the elderly, elite or non-elite individuals) can be reconstructed from the way in which these roles are expressed or negotiated through the funerary context, and the impact that major historical phenomena (e.g. war, famine, urbanization, synoecism) may have had on the way individuals or specific groups of individuals treated their dead.

Organization:

The conference is organized by Dr. Nikolas Dimakis, within the frame of a postdoctoral fellowship by the Research Center for the Humanities (RCH, www.rchumanities.gr) for 2016, in collaboration with Tamara Dijkstra (PhD Candidate, University of Groningen), the Netherlands Institute at Athens (NIA, www.nia.gr) and the Necropoleis Research Network.

Registration:

Attendance is free, but registration is advised since the lecture hall only holds 50 people. For more information and to register please contact the organizers Nikolas Dimakis (nikdim26@yahoo.gr) and Tamara Dijkstra (t.m.dijkstra@rug.nl).

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PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER 2016

17:00-17:15	Registration	18:20-18:40	Anna Moles: <i>Urbanism and its impact on human health and diet: a diachronic study of the human remains from Hellenistic to Late Antique Knossos, Crete</i>
17:15-17:30	Welcome by Nikolas Dimakis and Tamara Dijkstra	18:40-19:00	Georgia Ivou: <i>Defining social identities at the cemeteries of Classical Argos: age- and gender groups on the basis of the funerary gifts</i>
17:30-18:00	Opening lecture by Sofia Voutsaki: <i>Classical Archaeology, archaeological theory, archaeological science and the study of death</i>	19:00-19:30	Discussion
Session 1: Age, Sex and Gender			---
18:00-18:20	Eleni Panagiotopoulou: <i>Protogeometric Thessaly: an integrated study of burial practices and isotope analysis of human remains</i>		--- Reception ---

FRIDAY 2 DECEMBER 2016

Session 2: Social Structure and Organisation		12:20-12:40	Vasso Christopoulou, Nikolas Dimakis, and Kyriakos Xanthopoulos: <i>Burial monumentality and funerary associations in Roman Kos</i>
09:00-09:20	Olga Kaklamani: <i>Social structure and identities: early Thera through the burial evidence</i>	12:40-13:10	Discussion
09:20-09:40	Vicky Vlachou: <i>Liminal Contexts, Funerary Practices and the formation of the Marathonian Tetrapolis</i>		---
09:40-10:00	Panagiota Galiatsatou: <i>Funerary practices in the ancient rural demoi of Southeastern Attica under the light of recent evidence from five cemeteries in Mesogaia</i>		---
10:00-10:20	Melanie Spiegelhalter: <i>The Late Antique cemetery in front of the Dipylon Gate (late 3rd - 7th c. AD)</i>		---
10:20-10:50	Discussion		---
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Session 3: Monumentality, Identity and Status			
11:20-11:40	Vassiliki Brouma: <i>The monumental tombs of Rhodes: exploring the mortuary diversity of a Hellenistic polis</i>	15:00-15:20	Alexandra Alexandridou: <i>"Equal in death": the social implications of funerary inclusivity in Late Geometric Attica and beyond</i>
11:40-12:00	Georgios Doulfis: <i>Building for the mos romanus in the Peloponnese: the columbaria monuments</i>	15:20-15:40	Nikolas Dimakis: <i>Premature death and burial in Classical and Hellenistic Attica</i>
12:00-12:20	Maria Tsouli: <i>Mortuary practices in Roman Sparta</i>	15:40-16:00	Despoina Tsardaka, Michalis Anetakis and Eirene Poupaki: <i>Stone urns of Chios Museum: thoughts on funerary practices in Classical and Hellenistic Chios</i>
		16:00-16:20	Chrysanthi Tsouli: <i>Grave markers (semata) of the Koan necropoleis (3rd c. BC - 3rd c. AD)</i>
		16:20-16:40	Tamara Dijkstra: <i>The display of social roles in tombs of Roman Greece: case studies from Patras</i>
		16:40-17:10	Discussion

		17:40-18:30	Final discussion and conclusions