



Exploring the Social and Cultural Contexts of Historic Writing Systems

Thursday 14th

Morning – Writing and Culture

8.30 Registration

9.00 Welcome

9.05 Yves Duhoux – *Scripts' secondary purposes*

9.50 Theo Nash – *Cultures of Writing: The Invention and Re-Invention of Greek Writing in Context*

10.35 Break

11.00 Eleanor Robson – *A family of script practices: deconstructing Mesopotamian cuneiform, reconstructing post-conflict Iraq*

11.45 Cécile Guillaume-Pey – *A Script 'good to drink'. Invention of an alphabet and Emergence of a Religious Movement among the Sora (central India)*

Lunch

Afternoon – Literacy, Learning and Writing in Society

2.00 Aurélie Névod – *How to decrypt the secret writings of the Masters of psalmody (Yunnan, China)? Words beyond writings*

2.45 Christopher Rollston – *Scribes, Seal Makers, Bureaucrats, Masons, and the Military Brass: The Social Context of Writing in the Iron Age Southern Levant*

3.30 Break

4.00 Piers Kelly – *Writing systems invented by non-literates and what they tell us*

4.45 Katherine Forsyth – *Literacy beyond the limes: the social and cultural contexts of ogham and Pictish symbol writing*

5.30 End of papers

Friday 15th

Morning – Archaeologies of Writing

- 9.00 Philip Boyes – *The Social Archaeology of Writing Systems*
- 9.45 Karenleigh Overmann – *A Cognitive Archaeology of Writing: Concepts, Models, Goals*
- 10.30 Break

Materiality and Artefacts

- 11.00 Nancy Highcock – *The Afterlives of Inscribed Commemorative Objects: the transformation of personal memory in Mesopotamian temple contexts*
- 11.45 Marie-Louise Nosch & Agata Ulanowska – *Materiality of the Cretan Hieroglyphic Script*
- 12.30 Break

Afternoon – Writing for Display

- 2.00 Christian Prager – *Visual-Iconographic Dimension of Maya Hieroglyphic Writing: Meanings Beyond the Surface*
- 2.45 Sophie Heier – *The visibility of runic writing and its relation to Viking Age society*
- 3.30 Break
- 4.00 Alex West - *Why did people in medieval Java use so many different scripts?*
- 4.45 Claus Jurman - *Towards socio-graphematics: Learning and adopting lapidary script(s) in the multilingual/multi-ethnic environment of Egypt during the 8th century BCE*

Saturday 16th

Writing and elite culture

9.00 Kathryn Hudson & John S. Henderson – *Script, Image, and Elite Culture in the Maya World: A Southeastern Perspective*

9.45 Sarah Finlayson – *Writing and elite status in the Bronze Age Aegean*

10.30 *Break*

Agency and Personhood

11.00 Marcia-Anne Dobres – *An Outsider's Musings on the Meaningful and Embodied Practice, Technology, and Social Agency of (Some) Early Writing Systems*

11.45 James Whitley – *Why με? Personhood and agency in Greek inscriptions (800-550 BCE).*

Lunch

Writing and Identity

2.00 Katherine McDonald – *Connectivity and competition: alphabets as identities in Italy*

2.45 Natalia Elvira Astoreca – *Names and authorship in the beginnings of Greek alphabetic writing*

3.30 Olga Tribulato & Valentina Mignosa – *A graphic sign of identity? History and meaning of an arrow-shaped alpha*

4.15 *End of papers*