

DEATH AND THE SOCIETIES OF LATE ANTIQUITY

NEW METHODS, NEW QUESTIONS ?

Significant developments in the methodologies used both in the field and in the laboratory have paved the way for a renewal of thinking about the populations and burial practices of Late Antiquity. Alongside work done on the period and the role of burial practices, the emergence of the area of study then known as “field anthropology” has been crucial in reshaping the focus of research. Recent studies, aided by a proliferation of archaeological examples, reveal a desire to re-examine and revise data, not only anthropological, but also archaeological and historical. These studies increase our knowledge about the treatment of the dead, the place of death among the living, the location of burial sites, and even the structure of tombs; all these elements are of course variable according to region and culture.

These recent studies, which now tend to be multidisciplinary, help us to re-examine accepted truths and to revitalize our thinking about the way in which these ancient societies envisaged Death and managed their dead in the context of the multiple changes occurring within the Roman Empire and on its margins.

Late Antiquity is marked by its political, social, economic, and cultural evolutions. This period of major societal changes initially saw the coexistence of Roman institutions and new social structures, especially those emerging from the early Christian religion. The societies of Late Antiquity are therefore characterized by a mosaic of political, social, and cultural entities, both in the heart of the Empire's provinces and on their borders.

Can this plurality of situations also be detected in the burial practices of the period? Which elements help us to identify and define this diversity? And to what extent can burial practices really help us to understand the living conditions of ancient communities and their developments? Between the first centuries of the Roman Empire and Late Antiquity, what degree of either continuity or change in demographic and cultural dynamics do these practices reveal?

Specific reflection on the world of the dead, on a large geographic and thematic scale and in all its disciplinary plurality, has therefore become essential. Anthropology and its related sciences (biology, archaeoethnology, biochemistry) are crucial to this, alongside archaeological, historical, environmental, and societal approaches.



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ORGANISATION

Gaëlle Granier

(CNRS UMR 7268 ADES, Aix-Marseille Université)

Charlotte Boyer

(Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, UMR 7041 ArScan – UMR 7206 EA)

Elisabeth Anstett

(CNRS UMR 7268 ADES, Aix-Marseille Université)

INFORMATIONS & REGISTRATION

<https://mortantiquitard.sciencesconf.org/>

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AIX-EN-PROVENCE, FRANCE

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NOVEMBER 3 - 5, 2021



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Maison Méditerranéenne des Sciences de l'Homme

5 Rue Château de l'Horloge, 13090 Aix-en-Provence

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mortantiquitardive@gmail.com



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Wednesday November 3rd 2021

13:00 Welcome of the participants

14:00 G. GRANIER, C. BOYER, E. ANSTETT
Opening speech

14:30 **Keynote**
E. REBILLARD
The transformations of funerary practices in Late Antiquity: the textual dossier.
La transformation des pratiques funéraires dans l'Antiquité tardive : l'apport des textes.

Theme 1 : Evolution of funerary practices over time *Evolution des pratiques funéraires dans le temps*

15:30 I. SELSVOLD
Death in Transition in late antique Asia Minor: an assemblage based approach to changing burial practices.

16:00 R. ORTEGA-RUIZ, C. GUTIERREZ DURAN, C. ENGRA IZQUIERDO
The change of funerary rituals during the Late Antiquity through the Cortijo Nuevo and Cortijo Coracho sites, Lucena, Córdoba.

16:30 **BREAK**

17:00 B. GROSE
Inscribing moral communities and narrating relationships in late-antique Burgundy, 3rd-8th centuries AD.

17:30 M. ROLO
To be or not to be... An archaeological and sociological approach to funerary practices in Late Antique Lusitania.

Thursday November 4th 2021

Theme 2 : Social identity through death *Identité sociale dans la Mort*

9:30 H. BARRAND-EMAM, F. CHENAL, F. MENDISCO, M. PRUVOST
The late-antique funerary complex of Ittenheim (Alsace, Bas-Rhin). Re-reading of archaeo-anthropological data at the dawn of genomics.
L'ensemble funéraire tardo-antique d'Ittenheim (Alsace, Bas-Rhin). Relecture des données archéo-anthropologiques à l'aube de la génomique.

10:00 Y. ARDAGNA, C. RIGEADE, V. FOREST, M. SEGUIN, L. VIDAL
A singular deposit from Late Antiquity in the chapel of Saint-Jean de Todon (Laudun L'Ardoise, Gard, France).
Un dispositif singulier de l'Antiquité Tardive à la chapelle Saint-Jean de Todon (Laudun L'Ardoise, Gard, France).

10:30 **BREAK**

11:00 G. RICCOMI, S. MINOZZI, C. RIZZTELLI, P. ROBERTS, V. GIUFFRÀ
Exploring social identity and diet in late antique Tuscany (3rd-7th century AD).

11:30 P. DE SANTIS, G. PANZARINO, A. SPERDUTI
Integrated analytical systems for the study of a complex funerary area: the case of the Late Antiquity cemetery of Canusium (Lamapopoli locality, Apulia).

12:00 B. BRUNO, G. TULUMELLO
Premature death in southern Italy: an initial evaluation.

12:30 **LUNCH BREAK**

Theme 3 : Changing burial grounds : organization and topography *Les ensembles funéraires en transformation : organisation et topographie*

14:00 M. CAVE, E. HERRSCHER, P. MATHELART, F. MENDISCO, M. PRUVOST, P. ROLLET, S. THIOL
Different perspectives on a marginal funerary practice in Reims in the 3rd-4th century AD : archaeo-anthropological, isotopic and paleogenomic studies.
Regards croisés sur une pratique funéraire marginale à Reims aux III^e-IV^e s. ap. J.-C. : études archéo-anthropologique, isotopique et paléogénomique.

14:30 M. BRACCONI, M. BERNARDI, G. FACCHIN, G. FERRI, S. INTERLANDO, A. SPERDUTI
New researches at the catacomb of Santa Mustiola. Funerary rituals and biosocial composition of the early christian community of Chiusi (Si, Italy).

15:00 L. ALAPONT-MARTIN, E. BUKOWIESKI, I. FRUMENTI, F. MESTICI
The after-life of the storage complex said of Trajan in Portus or the birth of an ideal burial.
L'afterlife des entrepôts dits de Trajan à Portus ou naissance d'un lieu de sépulture idéal.

15:30 **BREAK**

16:00 D. CASTEX, R. GIULIANI, M. RICCIARDI
Late burials near the martyrs' sanctuary discovered in the Roman catacomb of SS. Marcellinus and Peter (4th-6th CE)
Les inhumations tardives à proximité du sanctuaire des martyrs de la catacombe romaine des Saints Marcellin et Pierre (IV^e-VI^e s. de n. è.)

16:30 J. COURTOIS, L. ZIEGLER
Evolution and transformation of an Orleans domestic and craft district into a funeral area from the first half of the 3rd century CE.
Evolution et transformation d'un quartier domestique et artisanal d'Orléans en zone funéraire à partir de la première moitié du III^e s. de notre ère.

17:00 B. HELLY, G. GRANIER, M.J. ANCEL, A. BARADAT-JOLY, B. CLÉMENT, D. FRASCONE, J.L. GISCLON
The transformation of the funerary spaces in Vienna at the end of the 3rd and during the 4th centuries: the problem of the location and status of burials settled in abandoned public monuments and private habitat.
La transformation des occupations funéraires à Vienne à la fin du III^e siècle et au IV^e siècles : le problème de la localisation et du statut des sépultures dans les monuments publics et dans l'habitat désaffectés.

17:30 **SESSION FOR POSTERS**

Friday November 5th 2021

9:00 **Keynote**
A. CHAVARRIA-ARNAU
Multidisciplinary analysis in late antique burial contexts.

Theme 4 : Territories of the Empire : from the heart to the margins *Les territoires de l'empire : du cœur aux marges*

10:00 M. MARCELLI, L. ALAPONT-MARTIN, M. SASTRE MORRO, P. CORREDEROR PEINADO, S. F. EVANS, C. CICONI
The Via Ostiensis Necropolis in Rome: endurance, change, and a complex transition to the paleochristian funerary world.

10:30 A. MITTNIK, L. MIGLIORATI, A. SPERDUTI, I. FIORE, T. SGRULLONI, A. PANSINI, R. PINHASI, D. REICH
Stones, bones, babies and DNA. The case of the peculiar funerary ritual from the Peltauinum theater (Late Antiquity, Italy)

11:00 **BREAK**

11:30 A. LATTARD
The alpine societies facing the death during the Late Antiquity in the mountain: in the heart of the civitas of Eturamina, the site of Saint-Pierre 2 at Thorame-Basse (Alpes-de-Haute-Provence, 04).
Les sociétés alpines de l'Antiquité tardive face à la mort en montagne : au cœur de la civitas d'Eturamina, le site de Saint-Pierre 2 à Thorame-Basse (Alpes-de-Haute-Provence, 04).

12:00 C. FOSSURIER, A. BURGEVIN
The peri-urban necropolis of Late Antiquity in Burgundy - Topography and funerary practices.
Les nécropoles péri-urbaines de l'Antiquité tardive en Bourgogne - Topographie et pratiques funéraires.

12:30 **LUNCH BREAK**

14:00 E. SPERANDIO, G. GRANIER, M. COBOS, G. DUPERRON
The necropolis of Saint-Martin-le-Bas (Gruissan, Aude): a rural funerary site from the 5th and 6th centuries CE.
La nécropole de Saint-Martin-le-Bas à Gruissan (Aude) : un ensemble funéraire rural des V^e et VI^e s. de n. è.

14:30 A. RIBERA, L. ALAPONT-MARTIN
The episcopal cemetery of Valentia (5-8th centuries): from roman habits to the total visigothization. Anthropology and funeral rites.

15:00 L. ALAPONT-MARTIN, M. RIERA RULLAN, M.A. CAU ONTIVEROS, M. SALAS BURGUEA, M. SASTRE MORRO
Burying their death at the baptistry: the example of Son Peretó in Manacor (Mallorca, balearic islands) in context

15:30 **BREAK**

16:00 S. BLETRY
The Tell Keila necropolises : the long lasting occupation of the tombs in question.

16:30 P. CHRISTOFI
Rethinking Roman and Late Antique Kition: New Archaeological Evidence from its Necropolises