

## ANALYTIC SUMMARY

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### **The Bisons Gallery: a new decorated sector in Alkerdi cave (Urdazubi/Urdax, Navarra)**

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Alkerdi is the only cave with Paleolithic rock art engravings known in the Regional Community of Navarre. Located in Pyrenean foothills, its discovery was carried out by the French speleologist N. Casteret in 1930, who published it briefly shortly after (1933). The detailed study of the engravings will not take place until several decades after, by I. Barandiarán (1974) who, in the last years, has excavated the archaeological deposit of the cavity (2009). During 2014 the signers have developed a new study of the parietal art because of the finding of a new decorated gallery in which there are concentrated twenty engraved figures, mainly representations of bison, which exponentially multiply the previously known set. The conventions and formal characteristics of the figures respond to those ones of the Middle Magdalenian, and especially tie to the sets of the Pyrenean region. This new turn in the knowledge of the parietal art of the cavity forces a re-evaluation of the study in this area hinged in the western Pyrenees.

*Key words:* Rock art; engravings; Upper Palaeolithic; Cantabrian region; Pyrenean.

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## **Reviewing the Neolithisation phenomenon in the Lower Aragón region in the light of the excavation in the rock shelter of Valmayor XI (Mequinenza, Zaragoza)**

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This paper presents the preliminary results of the excavation of the Valmayor XI rock shelter, in the context of the research project ‘The pathways of the Neolithic’. Through the analysis of the radiocarbon dates and a detailed stratigraphic interpretation three occupations have been established with chronologies within different periods of the VIth millennium cal BC. A general description of the archaeological events documented in each phase, and of most of the recovered material –pottery, lithic artefacts, bone industry and ornaments, faunal and carpological remains– is offered. Moreover, in the light of the new dates presented, a review of the Neolithisation process in the Lower Aragón region, and also in the Ebro valley, is proposed. Also the identification of archaeological sites as Neolithic ones only on the basis of the presence of some elements considered as ‘Neolithic markers’, without any consideration of the subsistence strategies or territorial exploitation, is questioned.

*Key words:* Mesolithic; Early Neolithic; radiocarbon dates; Neolithic pottery; lithic technology.

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## **Levantine bovine representations from Casa Forestal de Tormón (Teruel): Ceja de Piezarrodilla and Cerrada del Tío Jorge**

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A new analysis on two of the most interesting rock-art shelters of the mountain range of Albarracín is presented. New documentation techniques have been used on the study. It has been more than 30 years since

the last exhaustive study carried on these sites, the digital enhancement of the images has allow us to have not only a better documentation of the motifs but also offer a new reading relating to the preservation of the paintings. In this way, we point out that one the re-painted of the bull from Ceja de Piezarrodilla could be, in fact, a biotic agent growing over the painting.

The re-study of the rock-art sites of the area, also with the new rock-art shelters recently found, allow us to establish thematic and stylistic parallels that highlight the formation of a real rock-art nucleus in the mountain range of Albarracín with some particularities that have little to do with the Levantine rock-art in other areas.

*Key words:* Mountain range of Albarracín; Levantine rock-art; bovid; digital tracing; style; conservation.

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### **The dolmen of El Milano and the territorial articulation of the megalithic phenomenon in the Barcarrota's area (Badajoz)**

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The aim of this paper is to present the overall results of the excavation of the dolmen of El Milano, territorial integration in the megalithic area of Barcarrota and spatial characterization having the dolmen implementation in this geographical area. The methodology used for territorial study was based on the spatial analysis of landscape in the dolmens are located registered and cataloged, but also the tholoi and Chalcolithic settlements known in this area. The findings suggest the importance they have some variables, especially the hydrographic, as dolmen groups are at the birth of river basins, as well as inter-geographical regions routes of communication that cross. Minor seem to have had other, as the potential or capacity of soil and topography. But a different picture is presented by tholoi and Chalcolithic settlements, where other criteria predominate different location, such as soil fertility, the occupation of strategic high and articulating them on the shaft river basin Olivenza.

*Key words:* Excavation results; paleoenvironmental study; integration; spatial analysis.

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### **Rodent exploitation by Patagonian hunter-gatherers societies since late Holocene: from the archaeological evidence to the historical record**

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The small mammals observed in the archaeological records made us think about the way they were exploited and the extension of these practices in Patagonia, continental and insular. This paper proposes that some species

of Caviomorpha rodents were intensively exploited by hunter-gatherers societies who lived in Patagonia since late Holocene. Bones, meat and skin of the animals were used. From the available documentation it has been possible to state this practice continued until last century. In addition we have verified the gathering activity was guided by sex and age, and linked with the biological and social reproduction. To give support to these assumptions we made taphonomic analysis on the small mammal assemblages and we revised historical and ethnographical documents. The information comes from two periods: colonial, s. XVI-XVIII and independent, s. XIX-XX. The use of small mammals and its predilection by Patagonian populations was recorded since the first contact episode back to 1520. For *selk'nam* people from northern Tierra del Fuego it became even one of the main food items and considered a delicacy.

*Key words:* Argentina; caviomorpha rodents; taphonomy; intensive exploitation; culture and ideology.

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## **Contribution to the study of the Alto de La Garma hillfort (Cantabria): the pottery of the Early Iron Age**

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The archaeological site of Alto de La Garma (Omoño, Ribamontán al Monte, Spain) is an early Iron Age hillfort located in the littoral of Cantabria. The excavations have documented a fortification dated to the VIIIth century BC, rebuilt at a later time. Inside the fortified area, some circular huts have been found.

This paper presents the macroscopic analysis of the pottery ensemble focused on the technological, morphological and decorative features. That will provide a solid ground for future studies of this type of material in other sites of the region. To finish, it presents a comparison of this ensemble with the remains recorded in others contemporary archaeological sites of the area, highlighting the similarities and differences between them.

*Key words:* Cantabrian region; Iron Age; pottery; typological analysis; morphological analysis.

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### ***Orientatio ad sidera: astronomy and landscape in Qart Hadašt/ Carthago Nova***

*Zephyrus*, LXXV, January-June 2015, pp. 141-162

Archaeological investigations in Cartagena –the ancient Punic Qart Hadašt, Roman Carthago Nova– have manifested the existence of ritual, urban and topographical elements that could be analyzed from the perspective of Cultural Astronomy. Therefore, in October 2013, an interdisciplinary team of astronomers and archaeologists conducted a field campaign of the main topographic and archaeological landmarks of the Punic and Roman periods of the city. Methodologically, a basic guide criterion was established for each particular element, measuring its corresponding azimuth(s). Three tandems, including precision compasses and clinometers, were used to take the measurements. The data obtained have demonstrated the relevance, within the ancient city, of a series of orientations towards sunrise and sunset at the summer solstice, whose significance could be fully integrated within the context of the Punic ritual. This skyscaping was merged and reinterpreted in the framework of the subsequent Roman appropriation of the city landscape, including their successive urban and architectural programs, in particular that of the period of Emperor Augustus, when certain astronomical orientations could serve to strengthen the image of Rome and the ‘Princeps’ as restorers of peace and guarantees of a new order based in cosmological elements.

*Key words:* Cultural Astronomy; Punic Archaeology; Roman Archaeology; Ancient topography; urbanism; summer solstice; Augustus.

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### **A new red figure in El Buxu Cave (Cangas de Onís, Asturias)**

*Zephyrus*, LXXV, January-June 2015, pp. 165-172

This brief article has for objet to present the fortuitous discovery of a red animal in El Buxu cave (Asturias). This is the silhouette of a quadruped with only one leg by pair without extremities drawn by a slightly modelling thick line. Due to the bad conservation, the represented species is difficult to identify: it might be a cervid or more probably an aurochs. This preliminary note presents only some photos and a sketch of reading, but a complete study will probably allow to identify the species of the animal and to precise its stylistic characteristics. This figurative representation with its stylistic features adds a new interest to the red traces already known in El Buxu cave in the context of the ante-Magdalenian caves of the Cantabrian Region.

*Key words:* Rock art; Cantabrian Region; zoomorphic figure; quadruped; red pigment.

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## **Stele-menhir of Los Llanos (Castillo de Bayuela, Toledo)**

*Zephyrus*, LXXV, January-June 2015, pp. 173-183

We present the finding, in the township of Castillo de Bayuela (Toledo) of a granitic stone block with an antropomorphic figure engraved in it with schematic character. The piece lacks of an archaeological context, is difficult assigning it a precise chronology. Presumably it is a stele-menhir that we analyze it within the geographical area of the set in the Middle Tagus Basin and San Vicente Mountains.

We suggest some interpretations and hypothesis about the posible dating and meaning while we are conscious that there are some constraints arising from the scant knowledge and rare documentation of that geographical zone. We can only with puntual findings and references wich can not allow definitive conclusions to be drawn on its chronology and function. However we believe the analysis of available data for this piece support the proposal for a partnership on the stele-menhirs and the funeral structures for the geografical area analyzed.

*Key words:* Antropomorphic; Megalithic art; Chalcolithic; rock engraving; Bronze Age.

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## **A peculiar Roman glass found in *Augusta Emerita* (Mérida)**

*Zephyrus*, LXXV, January-June 2015, pp. 185-193

We present a rare Roman glass with a peculiar decoration recovered in excavation of a private or semiprivate building in Mérida (Badajoz) dated in the IIIth or IVth century AD. After a detailed description of the piece, its physical characteristics and its production process, we proceeded to compare with other Roman glass objects whose manufacture seems to have used similar techniques employed in this object. It is a blowing the air glass decorated with a pattern of wires applied on bridges have also been partially cut. This piece, which should be used as part of the tableware, despite its utilitarian nature, reveals the high level reached in the processing techniques for Roman *vitrearii*. From the ornamental perspective, the closest parallels to the Emeritan glass come from the Northwest of France it seems possible that it is an object of import.

*Key words:* Blown glass; beaker; decorative technique; Late Roman *domus*; Lusitania.