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Upper Paleolithic materials from Cova Negra (Xàtiva) and its implications in the sequential stratigraphic processes

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We approach Upper Paleolithic lithic materials from Cova Negra belonging to 30's, 50's, 80's and 2013-2016 field seasons. This article focuses on the characterization of blanks, cores, and tools with a preliminary chronology, specially, from retouched materials. The main interest is the Upper Paleolithic occupation and the evaluation of postdepositional processes documented in the cavity and how they impacted to Middle Paleolithic classic levels and to all Upper Paleolithic levels facilitating an evaluation of the extent of the processes of postdepositional alteration registered in the cavity and how these processes affected a good part of the levels of the classic middle Palaeolithic and to all the levels of the Upper Paleolithic. Data allow us a better depositional comprehension and they explain the problematic interpretations in relation with upper levels from Middle Paleolithic.

Key words: Lithic industry; Sedimentary package; Gravettian; Solutrean; Magdalenian; Valencian region; Iberian Peninsula.

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Schematic paintings and territories in the Late Prehistory of inner Tagus basin

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The traditional map of Postpaleolithic Art in the Iberian Peninsula left out a significant part of its inner territories. Their presumed lack of population justified the absence of research projects in the region. However, fieldwork done in the last few years in Neolithic, Megalithic and Chalcolithic settings within this area has suggested demographic abundance and an entirely unknown symbology. An analysis of their near visibility, their prominent position, and their overlapping with areas inhabited from the Neolithic to the late Bronze Age, reveals for the first time the continuing settlement of all the inner ranges and valleys of these territories.

Common symbols in classical schematic art play a leading role in the area's panels. In addition, the oldest figures point to the existence of long graphic sequences.

Key words: Iberian Peninsula; inner territories; Holocene; symbology; GIS spatial analysis.

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Tattooed landscapes. A reassessment of Atlantic Art distribution, research methods and chronology in the light of the discovery of a major rock art assemblage at Monte Faro (Valença, Portugal)

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The Winter 2012 marks the beginning of a pioneer research in Portugal intended to approach Atlantic Art under the theoretical and methodological principles of Landscape Archaeology, targeting a confined geomorphological unit. This paper presents the results of systematic field surveys at Monte Faro, carried out between 2013 and 2015, and announces the discovery of the largest concentration of Atlantic Art sites ever found in this country. This evidence will contribute to reassess the widespread believe in the peripheral character of Atlantic Art in Portugal, if put against the realities found in Galicia, Ireland, England and Scotland. Yet, most importantly, it will allow us to reexamine aspects that have been at the forefront of Atlantic Art studies, from chronology to fieldwork methodologies and the application of digital technologies in rock art recording. But we shall also tackle issues that have been lacking in-depth discussion like the question of style, the concept of biogeography and its usefulness in rock art studies, aiming towards a theoretical and methodological revitalization of research on the prehistoric art of Atlantic Europe.

Key words: Late Prehistory; rock carvings; Minho valley; Atlantic Art; sociocultural contexts.

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Pithouses or ritual dumps? On Late Bronze and Early Iron Age's material context type in the South of the Iberian Peninsula. The dump of Cortijo Riquelme (Almería)

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Cortijo Riquelme is a Late Bronze and Early Iron Age's archaeological dump in the South East of the Iberian Peninsula which belongs to the so called pithouses. This traditional interpretation has been rejected by recent critical studies. Following this positions, the paper analyzes the mentioned dump, which mainly contained Late Bronze and very ancient Phoenician imported pottery, showing the introduction of Phoenician wine and the service for its consumption. A comparison is done with other similar dumps distributed in the South of the Iberian peninsula from Late Bronze Age, though the majority are dated during the early centuries of the 1st millennium BC, coinciding with the Phoenician colonization. Another Mediterranean dumps from Crete, Cyprus, Sicily and North Africa related with feasts help to propose an interpretation for the dump of Cortijo Riquelme and others of the same type, in which the ritual deposit of the containers used in feasts should contribute to the formation of dumps, in a context of increasing competition of local elites in processes of social differentiation.

Key words: 1st millennium BC; South East of Iberia; deposit contexts; ritual feasts; local populations; Phoenician colonization.

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Potter craftsmanship in Iberia at the end of the Iron Age and the beginning of Roman conquest: Quality vs. Quantity

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There have been many studies that have attempted to address the complexity underlying manufactured ceramic assemblages after the conquest of Rome. So much so that today it is possible to easily find a great amount of typological lists, which mostly help to clearly establish linear temporal sequences. A reality that is most probably very different from the one that really occurred around the people responsible for carrying out their manufacturing. This paper aims, as far as possible, to overcome this lacuna by providing an alternative view about potter craftsmanship at the dawn of the Iron Age, as well as the impact it suffers as a result of the Roman conquest and acculturation. Through technology and the concept of Technical Operational Chain

it is possible to glimpse a series of changes and technical resistances, which not only help to understand the intrinsic characteristics of the pottery work that occurred two thousand years ago, but also the idiosyncrasies of a society which is continually evolving.

Key words: Ceramic technology; status; individuality; mass production; specialization.

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Tacitus, the Roman Temple of Morería Street (Córdoba) and the origin of the Provincial Cult in *Baetica*

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Since the late nineteenth century, the origins of provincial imperial cult in *Hispania Ulterior Baetica* –and in its capital, *Colonia Patricia-Corduba*– has been one of the most discussed historiographical issues by the specialists of the Hispanic Antiquity. Traditionally addressed from the analysis of literary and, above all, epigraphic documentation, in recent decades the development of archaeological research in the city of Córdoba (where the remains of a monumental area dominated by a large marble temple, known as *forum novum*, have been found) has highlighted the need to also consider the material evidence for advancing towards its resolution. Taking into account a controversial text of Tacitus (*Ann.* iv, 37) as well as the information related to the mentioned *forum novum* and its colossal temple, this contribution raises the possibility that the provincial, or if preferred supralocal, cult was established in *Baetica*, as in the other two Hispanic provinces, shortly after Augustus' death.

Key words: Historical and archaeological research; Imperial worship; *Hispania Ulterior*; *Colonia Patricia*; Early JulioClaudian era.

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The forums of *Conimbriga* and *Aeminium*: comparison and summary of the state of the art

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This paper presents the forums of the Roman cities of *Conimbriga* (Condeixa-a-Velha, Portugal) and *Aeminium* (Coimbra, Portugal), both of which date from the time of Augustus. The *Aeminium* forum was completely rebuilt in the time of Claudius/Nero, while the *Conimbriga* one was remodelled in the same period, before being demolished under the Flavians to make way for a completely new construction. This article offers a state-of-the-art comparison of the architectural models used in these two cities, based on the analysis and review of the available data, partly supplied by recent archaeological excavations. The geographic and chronological proximity of these two forums mean that it is of interest to compare their architectural design, which differ considerably in aspects such as volumetry, layout and the conceptual model used. The article discusses the proposals for the development of the *Conimbriga* forum and indicates an up-to-date bibliography for both public spaces, resulting, in the case of *Aeminium*, from a large-scale research and intervention project carried out in recent years.

Key words: Lusitania; conventus Scallabitanus; Forum; 1st century architectural models; reconstruction of architectural models.

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Late Antiquity ceramic contexts from the Palatial Building of Santa María de Abajo of Carranque (Toledo)

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The archaeological excavation works developed at the site of Santa María de Abajo (Carranque, Toledo) between 2009 and 2011, focused on the space occupied by the Late Roman Palace, have allowed us to know a long occupational sequence developed between Roman times and the early years of 20th century. In this work we present the study of ten ceramic contexts associated with Late Antiquity levels. These contexts allow to identify nine ceramic groups and to know the Late Antiquity sequence –middle 5th to the end of 7th century AD– in this area of the site of Carranque. The performed study allows us to begin to characterize the moments of this Late Antiquity occupation in the analyzed space, being identified three moments; the two first coincide with habitat structures –Phase 2– and the third one is associated to a necropolis –Phase 3–.

Key words: Late Antiquity pottery; Late Roman necropolis; Late Antiquity habitat; Iberian Peninsula.

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The *tessera lusoria* from Puig del Castell de Samalús (Barcelona): more than gaming tokens?

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In this paper we present a new *tessera lusoria* found in the Iberian site of Puig del Castell de Samalús (Cànoves i Samalús, Barcelona). The piece, made of bone, has a latin inscription on both sides, in wich we can read the vocative *GVLO* and numeral *IIII*. Beyond making a typological approach of the piece, we try to develop the meaning of their presence in an indigenous context and frame their presence within the rest of these gaming tokens located in the *Citerior*. We are incorporating new data, only through the collection of all *tesserae lusoriae* that we know its precise place of discovery. We will define its origin and try to approach to a better understanding of the phenomenon. We try to address the issue focusing on the context in which they were used, indicating the group these gaming tokens belonged.

Key words: *Lauro*; Layetania; Romanization; Ancient Roman games; *Gulo*.

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A Roman alimentary stamp related to Juno Sospita from South-Eastern Hispania

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Roman alimentary stamps have an iconography that sometimes is difficult to interpret. In this paper, some valuations on the images displayed on both sides of one of these objects, namely an example belonging to a private collection in Murcia, are offered. In its original publication a relation to agrarian cults through motifs that would refer to the goddess Ceres was proposed. However, it is a composition having its closest parallels in a series of Roman Republican coins issued in 64 BC by Lucio Roscio Fabato. These denarii are mainly linked to Juno Sospita and secondarily also to the Egyptian cults of Mediterranean expansion. Therefore we evaluate the possibility that such religious interaction is found also reflected on the mentioned alimentary stamp is evaluated, offering new information on the processes of cultural interaction between the Iberian and the Italian Peninsulas.

Key words: ritual; Isiac cult; Roman Republican coin; goat; asp; cereal ears; *situla*.