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The Cuevecicas del Estiércol (Quesa, Valencia) and their Contribution to the Debate on the Female Figure in the Levantine Rock Art of the Caroig Massif

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The comprehensive study of the Cuevecicas del Estiércol rock art site has brought a dozen of paintings from Neolithic to light, distributed into two panels. They include a serpentine with a single line, a scene formed by a pair of female figures associated with a bar zig-zagging, an archer and a gathering scene starring another female figure. Despite the number of representations is reduced, the Cuevecicas presents a high interest due to the combination of these motifs and the implications at a territorial perspective that some themes show. In this paper, an attempt has been made to carry out a diachronic and territorially bounded reading in the artistic region of the Caroig massif, in the middle basin of the Júcar river, about female figures, their representation and importance throughout the artistic sequence and the implications that, at the archaeological and historical level, it has had an androcentric bias in the readings of the classical panels. One of the conclusions reached by this work is that the invisibility of female figures in peninsular post-Paleolithic rock art has only been detrimental to research and the advancement of the archaeological discipline. In the same way, and from the point of view of research, the need to continue with the prospecting and documentation projects of the assemblages is claimed to increase the known *corpus*.

Key words: Post-Palaeolithic Rock Art; Female figures; Gathering scene; Middle Basin of the Júcar river; Rock Art recording.

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The First Pottery Traditions in the Vinalopó River. Provenance and Technology of the Neolithic Ceramics from Colón Street, Number 3, of Novelda (Alicante)

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For most of Southern Europe, the process of Neolithic expansion was associated with the dissemination of a range of knowledge, both socio-economic and technological. Among the latter, pottery allows us to observe different traditions not only from the raw materials used, but also by providing information on different ways of doing. This work approaches both variables through the petrographic and microstructural observation of part of the ceramic record recovered from an open-air settlement documented in Colón Street of Novelda, Alicante, in the Vinalopó basin. The results obtained show differences in the way in which the raw materials were processed –i.e., tempering– and variable firing temperatures. Based on the composition of the ceramic pastes, most of the vessels are probably of local origin, while a smaller number of pieces do not match the geological environment of the site, which we interpret as imports. These results provide us with information on the strategies developed in the management of the surrounding space and the relationship with neighbouring regions and human communities.

Key words: Iberian Peninsula; Alicantine Zone; Early and Middle Neolithic; Ceramics; Optical Petrography; Scanning Electron Microscopy.

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Researchs in Sector L1 of the *Complexo Arqueológico dos Perdigoês* (Reguengos de Monsaraz, Portugal): Chronology and Temporality of two Chalcolithic Pit Enclosures (F1 y F2)

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The University of Malaga –UMA– has from 2008 to 2016 carried out a number of archaeological activities at the *Complexo Arqueológico dos Perdigoês*, Reguengos de Monsaraz, in the Portuguese Alentejo. These include geophysical surveys, extension excavations and several trial trenches in Sector L1. The present paper aims at discerning spatio-temporal relationships between two large Prehistoric ditched enclosures –F1 y F2–. Methodologically, we first distinguish between chronology –*longue durée* doxa Braudel– and temporality –*series B of events in time* doxa McTaggart/Ingold–, two different but complementary concepts for a correct historical approach to the phenomenon of ditched enclosures. Then, based on an extensive radiometric series, a detailed examination of their fills and stratigraphic relationships between neighbouring structures, we identify a late construction phase of this monumental ditched architecture in the 3rd quarter of the 3rd millennium BC. We

reflect on the use of radiocarbon dating and statistical programs in contexts as complex as ditched enclosures and their particular conditions of filling.

Key words: Copper Age; Southwest Peninsular; Late Monumentality; *longue-durée*.

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The Imaginary House: Uprooting and Treethrow Hollows in Open-Air Settlements from the Late Prehistory

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Treethrow hollows are on the commonest features in soils. Their origin could be either natural causes, the death and fall of a tree, or anthropogenic causes, related to the clearance of the forest. In last decades, such features have been found in archaeological sites from Northwestern Iberia, but they have been understood as dwellings. Moreover, recent research has not considered the inconsistencies between the C14 dates obtained in tree hollows and the events they supposedly date. The goal of this work is to address the errors based on the misinterpretation of the treethrow hollows, and on an inadequate methodology in the recovery of archaeobotanical remains for radiocarbon dating. Re-examining these archaeological features may shed light on deforestation evidence and push us to reconsider the theories about the construction of domestic spaces in the Northwest of the Iberian Peninsula.

Key words: Deforestation; Household Archaeology; Chronology; Archaeological Methodology; Northwestern Iberia.

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A New Egyptian Scarab found in La Fonteta (Guardamar del Segura, Alicante)

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This paper presents the study of a new scarab found in the Phoenician settlement of La Fonteta, in a context dated *c.* 720/675 BC. It is, therefore, one of the oldest scarabs from this site, located at the strategic mouth of the Segura River, in Southeastern of the Iberian Peninsula.

Its seal features a schematic representation of the goddess *Tueris* with the *peseshkef* knife. This scarab is added to eight other scarabs and scaraboids found at La Fonteta, which complement the dispersion of these Egyptian and Egyptizing objects that arrived through Phoenician trade. All of them offer an interesting evolution from c. 720 BC to the end of the site, c. 525 BC, with Egyptian scarabs replaced by those from Syrian and Phoenician workshops in the 7th and 6th centuries BC, with a possible example from *Náucratis*.

Key words: Hispania Phoenicia; Phoenicians; Scarab; *Taweret*; Egyptian blue.

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Problems of Material Culture: Italic and Greek Fibulae in the Iberian Peninsula between the 7th and 6th centuries BC

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A review of forty fibulae of Mediterranean provenance recovered or known to be of peninsular provenance is presented. The paper critically evaluates pieces distributed over practically the entire peninsular territory, assessing the lack of general contexts and the diachrony of the models. To achieve this, both the typology and the state of conservation and the dynamics of cultural interaction known for each context or supposed context are examined. Greek types are represented by a single artefact, Central and North-Italic types are scattered along the coast, while Northern Italic types are documented in the peninsular hinterland. Suritallic types or models dated to chronologies prior to the mid-7th century BC are problematic. The work is a continuation of that which addressed the same topic for the Gulf of Lion, and as in that case, the repertoire of specimens of certain peninsular provenance is very limited, with the frequent presence of pieces attributed to sites or areas inconsistent with the archaeological record and the dynamics of ancient cultural interactions.

Key words: Western Mediterranean; Iberia; Iron Age; Cultural Interaction; Imports; Metal Ornaments; Material Culture.

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The Hero saved from the Underworld: *Taweret* as Psychopomp Goddess in the Punic Monument of Pozo Moro (Chinchilla de Montearagón, Albacete)

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Since the discovery of the Pozo Moro funerary monument, the so-called ‘banquet scene’ has been the most published relief among researchers. However, even though there is consensus when it comes to interpreting the set as the descent of the hero/deceased into the netherworld, there are some discrepancies about whether and how he gets saved. Trying to solve this problem, in the present study a new proposal is made based on the comparison of the elements engraved in the relief and the Egyptian funerary iconography. From that, it

is proposed that the shadow of the deceased would manage to escape from the jaws of the devouring monster that presides over the scene on the left thanks to the help of a psychopomp deity, identifiable with Egyptian *Taweret*. This figure, situated on the far right of the panel, illuminates with a torch the path of the deceased and moves him away from danger. After that, it ends by reflecting on the Egyptian influences assumed by the Phoenician-Punic population in Southern Iberian Peninsula.

Key words: Protohistory; Iberian Southeast; Funerary Archaeology; Catabasis; Phoenician-Punic Religion; Comparative Iconography.

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Between Heroes or Deities? Iron Age Sacrificial Agencies Depicted in Rock 6 from Monte de Porreiras (Northwest Portugal)

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The aim of this work is to publish the rock engravings of Monte das Porreira 6, located in the council of Paredes de Coura, in the Northwest of Portugal. The study was based on photogrammetric surveys and subsequent contrast recurring to geometric distance determination.

It is a profusely decorated rock with a long diachrony of carving. The initial phase includes Classical Atlantic Art, integrated in the regional Neo-Chalcolithic period. The second phase includes representation of several types of equids, horsemen, and antenna-hilted daggers. Based on parallels for such weapons, it is possible to integrate these motifs between the Late Bronze Age and an Early Iron Age of North-western Iberia.

It is also possible to observe a change from an abstract grammar, during the first phase, to a figurative grammar, in which we can identify a narrative related to human and animal sacrifices, associated with the use of antenna-hilted daggers. These depictions recall a symbolism reminiscent of Strabo's writings, including bronze objects containing sacrificial scenes. The final phase of engraving indicates new symbolic changes, with valorisation of isolated actions perpetrated by horsemen, carrying throwing weapons, which may be a representation of a deity or hero.

Key words: Rock Art; Protohistory; Religion; Antenna-hilted Daggers; Sacrificial Actions; Deities or Heroes?

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Transportation System Simulation and Analysis in the North of Roman Carpetania. A GIS and Network Analysis Approach

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This paper characterises how the territory of Northern Roman Carpetania was articulated through its communication routes. In this case, we have approached this work from an innovative perspective away from traditional urban-centric ones. With this aim, we have carried out a transportation network simulation in the study area using GIS. The results for the main roads fit remarkably well with the Roman roads described in the ancient sources. This provides us with a high degree of reliability to analyse the articulation of the territory through secondary roads and rural paths. We have analysed the location of some characteristic settlements on the road network as well as the areas with the greatest accessibility using tools derived from network analysis. These analyses suggest that the villages and agglomerations present in the territory played a crucial role in the territorial articulation, mainly in those areas less covered by the municipal influence areas.

Key words: Territorial Articulation; Roman Hispania; Rural World; GIS; Network Analysis.

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Settlement and Social Change of an Isolated Territory? Proposals on the Evolution of the Territorial Occupation of the Island of Gran Canaria in Pre-Hispanic Age

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The colonization of the Canary Islands has been the subject of several studies, however human settlement in the different territories and its evolution over time is an issue that has received practically no research attention. In this paper we provide an interpretative proposal of the occupation dynamics of Gran Canaria between the 3rd and 15th centuries AD from a temporal and comparative perspective based on the Braudelian *longue durée*. To this end, different variables –soils, visibility, accessibility, etc.– were established and analysed by means of a Geographic Information System –GIS–, using the isochrones as a minimum observation reference. Thus, the statistical study first, and then the historical and territorial analysis of the archaeological sites, made it possible to implement a diachronic scenario of the aboriginal settlement of Gran Canaria, taking environmental infill theories as a reference. The result is the interrelation of different ways of land use, both materially and ideologically, conforming, accordingly, different archaeological landscapes.

Key words: Gran Canaria; Landscape Archaeology; *longue durée*; GIS; Chronology.