

Call for Papers

Material *Koinai* in the Greek Early Iron Age and Archaic Period

International Conference at the Danish Institute at Athens, 30 Jan. - 1 Feb. 2015

The concept of material *koinai*, i.e. "common styles", in the material culture within a defined geographical area or historical period, pervades, consciously and unconsciously, scholarship on ancient Greek Archaeology and History. Shared features in material culture have been used as evidence for cultural, social and economic integration, group uniformity, as well as changes in the mentalities or structures of communities.

The aim of the conference is first and foremost to discuss the processes and mechanisms by which distinctive forms of material culture spread, thrived and became popular in the ancient Greek world. Which factors facilitated the transference of changes in the consumption and appropriation of material culture either in inter-regional or local contexts, and how did such changes reflect social values? Are broad-scale changes in material culture to be understood as a "trickle-down" effect from the consumption practices of members of the social or economic elite, or can we identify frictions between traditions and changes in material culture? In other words, by which mechanisms did material culture change and how are these related to the values of communities? Instances such as the adoption of Near Eastern motifs in much of the material culture of the 7th and 8th centuries BC (Brisart 2011), the uniformity of Early Iron Age pottery (Coldstream 1983), and the emergence of the Doric order (Barletta 2001), prompt one to ask how, and to what extent, changes in material culture were meaningful to the people who engaged with it.

Those who would like to present a paper at the conference are kindly requested to submit an abstract (max. 400 words) to the organizers at this e-mail: soren.handberg@diathens.gr **no later than 6th of June 2014**. The length of the proposed papers should not exceed 30 min. Please include your name, affiliation, and contact information at the beginning of your abstract. Notice of acceptance will be sent out in June 2014.

Proposals that do not specifically address the questions raised above, but merely aim to present new material, will not be considered for acceptance.

The conference will commence in the evening on Friday 30th January with an opening lecture by Dr Michael Dietler, Professor at the Department of Anthropology at the University of Chicago.

Accommodation in Athens during the conference will be provided by the conference, whereas participants will have to cover travel expenses themselves.

Kind regards,

The organizing committee:

Dr Anastasia Gadolou, National Archaeological Museum of Athens

Dr Søren Handberg, Danish Institute at Athens

Prof. Catherine Morgan, British School at Athens

For any additional information please contact Søren Handberg at soren.handberg@diathens.gr

Barletta, Barbara A. 2001. *The Origins of the Greek Architectural Orders*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Brisart, Th. 2011. *Un art citoyen: recherches sur l'orientalisation des artisanats en Grèce proto-archaïque*.

Mémoire de la Classe des Lettres. Collection in-8°, 3e série, 54. Bruxelles: Académie royale de Belgique.

Coldstream, J. N. 1983. "The meaning of the regional styles in the eighth century BC." In R. Hägg, (eds.), *The Greek Renaissance of the Eighth Century BC*, 17-25. Stockholm.