



## *WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT*

*1-2 November 2019*

*Archaeological Research Unit (ARU), University of Cyprus, Nicosia*

### ***The materiality of purple dye production and use in Cyprus and the Aegean from Prehistory to the Late Roman period***

The study of purple dye production offers a dynamic field for new research. Developments in maritime archaeology and the increasing application of specialized field methodologies and laboratory techniques have resulted in a wealth of new data and fresh approaches to older material. These results can now be added to the rich collection of ancient written sources describing the process; however, with the new evidence come particular challenges.

Concentrations of crushed purple shells are usually understood as evidence for the existence of a purple dye workshop at a particular location. Crushed shells, however, are found in a range of contexts, at different distances from the coast and in varying amounts. Purple shellfish are also edible and decorative. While traces of pigment can form an additional type of evidence, this is often found in contexts far removed from production sites. This plethora of possibilities has created a degree of confusion in the interpretation of such finds. The situation is further complicated by the fact that testimony from Greek and Roman sources is often used to interpret purple dye production in all periods.

In the last few years, interdisciplinary and historically situated analysis of several contexts in both the eastern and western Mediterranean have prepared the ground for a new attempt to examine the criteria used to identify installations for purple dye production in different chronological periods. Careful analysis of the same data also appears to offer an opportunity to distinguish primary and secondary uses of the products and by-products of these installations (workshops), thus uncovering the embedded nature of purple dye production and a more nuanced appraisal of its social, economic and cultural meanings.



The Workshop on *the materiality of purple dye production*, which is jointly organized by the Institute for Aegean Prehistory Study Center for East Crete (INSTAP-SCEC) and the Archaeological Research Unit (ARU), University of Cyprus, will place primary emphasis on the archaeological remains of purple dye production and use and the importance of context when interpreting these remains. It is also an opportunity to promote detailed presentations of new or little-known case studies from Cyprus and the Aegean spanning a broad chronological scope from prehistory to the Late Roman period. Within these parameters the event will make a meaningful contribution to contextualizing the form and development of this major craft in the eastern Mediterranean.

The Workshop is open to scholars and laymen alike (no registration fees are required). It will take place on the 1st (Friday afternoon) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> (Saturday morning to late afternoon) of November 2019 in the premises of the Archaeological Research Unit, University of Cyprus (12, Gladstone street, Nicosia, tel.22893560).

### **The Organising Committee**

Tom Brogan (INSTAP Study Center for East Crete)

Maria Iacovou (University of Cyprus)

Vasiliki Kassianidou (University of Cyprus)

Dimitra Mylona (INSTAP Study Center for East Crete)



## PRESENTATIONS

Tom Brogan, Vili Apostolakou, Philip Betancourt, Melissa Eaby, Dimitra Mylona, Chryssa Sofianou	<i>Key-note lecture: Purple Production on Chryssi island in the Bronze Age</i>
Carmen Alfaro-Ginier	<i>Purple dye activity in the occidental Mediterranean Sea (7<sup>th</sup> century BC to 5<sup>th</sup> century AD).</i>
David S. Reese	<i>A survey of shell purple-dye production and use in the eastern half of the Mediterranean</i>
Rena Veropoulidou	<i>Purple dye in the Aegean Bronze Age: the archaeo-malacological perspective</i>
Peter M. Fischer	<i>Purple dye production at the Late Cypriot site of Hala Sultan Tekke, Cyprus</i>
Anthi Batziou, Demetrios Agnousiotis, Rena Veropoulidou	<i>A purple dye workshop at “Magoula Pefkakia?” Preliminary results from the integrated study of archaeological finds from a Bronze Age site near Volos, Greece.</i>
Sophia Sotiropoulou, Toula Marketou	<i>Rhodian purple dye: evidence from the prehistoric settlement at Trianda and the ancient town of Rhodes, Dodecanese</i>
Dimitra Mylona, Maria Iacovou	<i>Purple dye production under royal management: evidence from the Cypro-Classical citadel of Ancient Paphos</i>
Enora Le Quere, Nicolas Monteix	<i>From fishing to dyeing: the archaeology of purple dye production on Hellenistic and Roman Delos, Cyclades</i>
Stephan Schmid	<i>A possible Hellenistic-Roman purple dye installation in Eretria, Greece</i>
Aggeliki Tsiggou	<i>A Roman purple dye workshop from Chania, Crete</i>
Pavlos Triantafyllides	<i>A purple dye workshop on Agathonisi, Dodecanese</i>