Bruno Chaume

Le char miniature de Sesto Calende ou la mystérieuse affaire de style (S. 13-46)

Abstract: The miniature cult wagon from the second Tomba del Guerriero at Sesto Calende, dated to the late seventh–early sixth century BC, was discovered in 1928. The present article offers a new technical study. Miniature carts often accompanied full-scale carts in burials. The relationship between the two types of vehicle is testimony, among other markers, to the porosity of cultural boundaries between the north and the south of the Alps in the Early Iron Age. The stylised decoration of the floor plaque of the miniature cart, which has been reconstructed for the first time, illustrates this. It apparently represents twin divinities and can be considered a “mythogram” (in the wider application of the term) whose deep meaning still eludes analysis but whose narrative purpose is legible. While hydrokinesis alludes to a well-documented cult practice, here, to interpret the use of miniature vehicles, we prefer to refer to the symbolism of funerary banquets and the ritualised consumption of alcohol rendered in a “mobile” version that facilitates the transition from the existing world to the transcendental realm (traduction Madeleine Hummler).

Dorothee Heinzelmann – Michael Heinzelmann – Werner Lorenz

„decora inutilia“ – Das antike Bronzedachwerk der Vorhalle des Pantheons in Rom (S. 47-84)

Abstract: In 1625 Pope Urban VIII had demolished the ancient bronze roof structure over the portico of the Pantheon in Rome was demolished under Pope Urban VIII, describing it as “decora inutilia” and melting it down for canons. So, after 1,500 years, this remarkable witness to Roman engineering, and the only known example of a roof built completely of metal prior to the modern age, therefore disappeared. An interdisciplinary research team is now reconstructing this extraordinary roof structure and how it fits into the history of the Pantheon’s construction, and has collected all the relevant sources and findings: drawings and writings of earlier architects, archival documents describing the weight and form of the bronze elements removed from the roof, the only remaining rivet in the Antikensammlung Berlin, and, very importantly, the survey of the Pantheon itself, which reveals traces of the original roof structure. Structural calculations, copies of original castings and tensile/shear tests verify the archaeological reconstruction. Furthermore, the rebuilding of one joint at full size enabled important conclusions to be drawn regarding the jointing method. Owing to this project, we are now certain that Roman engineers built a 152 t roof structure entirely in bronze long before the first iron structures of the Industrial Age.

Valentina Santoro

Nuove considerazioni sulla ‘cisterna neroniana’ sul Palatino. Analisi delle fasi edilizie e ipotesi ricostruttive (S. 85-106)
Abstract: Since the publication of Giacomo Boni’s excavations into the ‘Basilica’ of the Domus Flavia, scholars have focused their attention on the Aula-Isiaca paintings, not carefully examining the structures underneath the Domitian room. This paper will outline the importance of the constructions between the Aula Isiaca and the Basilica (the commonly called ‘Neronian cistern’) in the context of the Imperial palaces on the Palatine Hill. Centering on architectural analysis and thanks to on-site inspections, this paper will show details of the constructions and report on final conclusions particularly in aspects of building techniques, chronology and planning. Finally, chronological and reconstruction hypothesis will shed new light on the intense building activity in this poorly understood sector of the Palatine Hill.

Adalberto Ottati

Il cd. Atrio Mistilineo dell’Accademia di Villa Adriana. Considerazioni su decorazione e programma statuario (S. 107-150)

Abstract: The “Atrio Mistilineo” of the “Accademia” at Hadrian’s Villa at Tivoli is a building of extraordinary complexity, and its architectural experimentation makes it a unicum within ancient architecture. The monument has already been widely presented and discussed in a dedicated article, published in Volume 123 of this journal. This uniqueness shows also in the decorative and statuesque apparatus, the craftsmanship level of which ranks among the highest in the Greek-Roman statuary. Examples are the Centauro Vecchio and Centauro Giovane – that can be now certainly related to the monument thanks to the finding of two new fragments – and the two Fauni Ebbri in rosso-antico marble. The provenance of the Fauno Capitolino from the Atrio Mistilineo is almost certain; for the Fauno Vaticano, in contrast, it remains just a suggestion, though not unfounded. Many studies have been carried out, putting particular emphasis on formal and communicative characteristics of these statues. However, the interest in the monument that housed them was almost non-existent. In light of the new architectural study carried out and published on the building, the objective of the following paper is an attempt to trace the relation between statues and context, trying to reconstruct the original location and the themes expressed within the figurative programme.

Angelo Pellegrino

Un ‘tiranno’ tra Ostia e Roma. Magno Massimo (S. 151-166)

Abstract: In Ostia there is the largest number of inscriptions dedicated to the usurping Emperor Magnus Maximus and his son Flavius Victor. These are four fragmentary epigraphs dating from 387 to 388 when Maximus occupied Italy. The fact is explained by the need to control the port in military and economic terms in the period of war against Theodosius and Valentinianus II.

Antonio Licordari

Lavori pubblici in età tardoantica sulla Fossa Traiana. Un’ipotesi (S. 167-176)
Abstract: A new interpretation of inscription inv. 47420 from Ostia allows one to hypothesize that the Gothic king Athalaric played a role in the late restoration of Matidia’s Bridge on the Isola Sacra, in which case we would have further confirmation of continuity of life in the area even in the first part of the 6th century AD.

Daniel Damgaard

Ostian Marble Roof Tiles. Aspects of Chronology, Typology and Function (S. 177-204)

Abstract: In light of recent excavations in Ostia, where the Late Antique phases of the monumental centre have been uncovered, this research focuses on reused coppi (cover tiles) found in Late Antique pavements and in deposits around the Forum. A typology of these cover tiles is presented based on their architectural layouts and overlapping techniques resulting in six different types. Furthermore, original contexts of at least two types are defined, based on architecture, location and obvious candidates. Comparisons with Greek architecture and Augustea are made in the process of defining possible candidates for the cover tiles.

Pia Kastenmeier

The Houses of Herculaneum. Shedding Light on Service Quarters and City Design (S. 205-240)

Abstract: This article is a natural extension of my former studies on form and function of service areas in the houses of Pompeii and some of the villae rusticae in the Vesuvian area. The aim is to examine the evidence for the activities of household operation in the residential buildings of Herculaneum, including aspects of architecture, fixed installations, mobile equipment and the largely preserved wooden furnishings, results of which are then compared with the evidence from Pompeii. I argue that the functioning of the service areas in the Roman house reflects the relationship between the interior and exterior of the house and that between the needs, behaviour and micro-economy of households, and also the cultural and economic norms of the city and the surrounding countryside. Analysis of the similarities and differences between the service areas of these two neighbouring Roman cities provides a new means of investigating the local identities of Herculaneum and Pompeii.

Mont Allen

Cows, Sheep, and Sages. Bucolic Sarcophagi and the Question of ‘Elite Retreat’ (S. 241-268)

Abstract: Bucolic sarcophagi, being the most popular genre of figural sarcophagi, occupy a central place in the history of Roman archaeology and art. But what did their imagery actually reference, and what was its allure? For traction this article proposes that we ‘listen to the silences’ in the imagery, paying attention to what is absent as well as present. Why, for example, were pastoral scenes so much more popular than agricultural ones? And why are there so very many with sheep – but so few with cattle? Focusing on these lacunae, I demonstrate, helps us to better reconstruct the valence that these objects possessed in the Roman visual imagination. In more concrete terms, this allows us to (1) gain a richer understanding of why bucolic motifs were so often combined with ‘philosopher’
imagery; and (2) address the extent to which the bucolic sarcophagi did or did not target the interests of specific political classes (with ramifications for understanding who bought them).

Sarah Madole

A Case Study in Attribution. Two East Greek Sarcophagi in Italy (S. 269-300)

Abstract: This article considers the workshop attribution of two columnar sarcophagi of “Asiatic” inspiration – if not origin – today housed in collections in Italy. The so-called Asiatic columnar sarcophagi of Dokimeion, once at the center of a lively scholarly debate, have long established their rank among the most prestigious High-Imperial funerary monuments, often exported over long distances for their grandee patrons. The less familiar columnar sarcophagi from regional centers in Asia Minor such as Aphrodisias have only more recently established their place in the sarcophagus corpus. In light of recent archaeological discoveries and their publications, it is timely to revisit the dynamics of the sarcophagus trade from this broader perspective. Many scholars have begun to reassess earlier attributions and interpretations. In the same vein, the present article uses visual analysis for these two sarcophagi to assess the application of traditional connoisseurship, in one case, in order to propose an attribution to Aphrodisian sculptors of sarcophagi and, in another, to remove it.

Anthony Tuck – Rex Wallace

A Third Inscribed kyathos Fragment from Poggio Civitate (S. 301-310)

Abstract. This paper is a discussion of an inscribed fragment of a bucchero kyathos recovered from Poggio Civitate (Murlo, Italy). The kyathos fragment, which belongs to a distinctive class of relief-ware bucchero of exceptional craftsmanship, preserves a few letters of an inscription on the surviving portion of its conical base. An attempt is made to reconstruct the outlines of the inscription by comparison with other inscribed kyathoi.

Sami Ben Tahar

Henchir Bourgou (Jerba) à la lumière des nouvelles recherches archéologiques (S. 311-352)

Abstract: The site of Henchir Bourgou located on the northeast coast of Jerba was inhabited from Prehistoric until Late Antiquity. It was probably the most important town and the capital of this island in Punic times. Its prosperity, for which there is evidence from imposing monuments such as the famous mausoleum and two Hellenistic temples recently uncovered, could be explained not only by its agricultural resources properly developed, but also from its flourishing maritime trade throughout the port of Ghizène. In Roman Imperial times, Henchir Bourgou became less important: the urban space had become smaller: gradually it had been replaced by another town set to be the capital of the Island for many centuries: Meninx.
Die augusteische Gründungsphase der Colonia Carthago Magnae in Vestigiis Carthaginis (S. 353-424)

Abstract: DAI Rome/INP Tunis excavations 2009–2012 south of the Rue Ibn Chabâat at Carthage (archaeological park “Quartier Didon”) yielded detailed information about the construction processes in the new Colonia Iulia of Emperor Augustus. Ceramic evidence indicates that economic life and import of goods in Carthage and the surrounding area continued after the destruction in 146 BC. Whereas construction on the Byrsa seems to have started soon after 44 BC, intense building activities in the coastal plain began only after 15/10 BC. A first peak in wealth of the young colony was reached around 10/15 AD.

Suzanne Frey-Kupper

Die numismatischen Zeugnisse aus neueren Ausgrabungen in Karthago von seiner Zerstörung 146 v. Chr. bis Claudius. Erste Ergebnisse und Fragen (S. 425-464)

Abstract: A survey of the coins from excavations in the Quartier Magon and the Quartier Didon south of Rue Ibn Chabâat, undertaken jointly by the German Archaeological Institute (DAI) in Rome and the INP in Tunis, and complemented by data from various international teams, prompts a discussion of the issues circulating in Carthage between the destruction of the city in 146 BC and the reign of Claudius. Most coins are from the Quartier Magon excavations, some from archaeological contexts dated on the basis of non-numismatic material. A number of pre-Augustan coins, from Cyrenaica, Massalia and other mints, suggest contacts with Italy, borne out by other archaeological evidence. These contacts reflect various moments in the city’s history, including the period after the foundation of the Caesarean colony in 44 BC. There is so far no evidence that Punic coins circulated in Carthage after 146 BC. The large number of early Imperial coins of the late Augustan period marks the flourishing of the Augustan colony around AD 10/15. In general, the coins of the local Carthaginian mint make up a substantial part of the city’s bronze coin stock, supplemented by a small number of coins from other mints. The North African mints closed under Tiberius, following which coins come mainly from Rome. Claudian quadrantes possibly reflect a pattern in the provision in small coins until now not known from anywhere outside central Italy, except Sicily.

Reinhard Wolters

Spiegelungen Roms. Die Münzprägung der Kolonie Karthago (S. 465-486)

Abstract: The Roman colony of Carthage minted coins only three times during its time of existence: in 4/5, 11, and 15/16 A.D. The first half-baked emission, albeit attributed to the colony of Sicca by the standard catalogue, clearly belongs to Carthage by its design and coin finds alike. Minted in various bronze denominations exhibiting Latin legends, the portrait of the emperor or his heir on the obverse, and references to authorisation by local magistrates, the coinage follows in general Roman examples. All three emissions are noticeably linked to events concerning Tiberius, to which the city reacted carefully in correspondence with the large mints of the empire. Thus, depicting Imperial
messages over local ones, in regard of its communicative and representative character, further civic coinage was made dispensable.

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