



67th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale
Eating and Drinking in the Ancient Near East
Turin, July 12-16 2021



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67th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Turin 2021

EATING AND DRINKING IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST

(July 12-16, 2021)

UNIVERSITY OF TURIN

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Organizing Committee:

Stefano de Martino, Elena Devecchi, Cristian Greco, Carlo Lippolis, Vito Messina, and Maurizio Viano

WELCOME ADDRESSES

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W. Sallaberger, President of the International Association of Assyriologists

Chr. Greco, Egyptian Museum, Turin

OPENING LECTURES

C. Michel: "There is None to Set my Table." Gender Aspects in Food and Drink Preparation

Th. van den Hout: Hittite Foodways: Eating and Drinking in Late Bronze Age Anatolia

L. Milano: Food Consumption Paradigms in the Ancient Near East

FOOD PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

- A. Polcaro – P. Braconi:** Reviving Food through Mesopotamian Recipes and Archaeological Data: New Methodological Approaches to the Ancient Nutrition Studies
- E. Quirico:** Food Production Practices at Tūlūl al-Baqarat, Mound 7. A Typological and Functional Analysis of the Fire and Work Installations from Building A
- J. Baldi:** Feasting or Dining on the Tip of The Hill: A Ceramic Spatial-Technical Analysis of a Uruk Redistributive Practice at Logardan, Iraqi Kurdistan
- P. Paoletti:** “Let the Milk Rest”: Cheese Production in Third Millennium BC Babylonia
- F. Giusto:** Dairy Production in SW Iran from the Middle Elamite to Achaemenid Periods
- V. Oselini:** Cooking Pots and Food Practices in 2nd millennium Mesopotamia
- L. M. Hussein:** Truffles: Food and Kings. “The History of Truffles in Ancient Sources”
- A. Carnevale – G. Torri:** Production, Use, and Trading of Salt in Hittite Anatolia
- C. Corti:** Grain and Wine Production in Late Bronze Age Anatolia and Northern Levant
- L. Castellano:** The Archaeobotany of Viticulture in Post-Hittite Anatolia
- G. Casucci:** Cooking Practices in a Central Anatolian Site Between 2nd and 1st mill. BC
- M. D’Andrea – A. Vacca:** Just One Way of Drinking? Beside and Beyond the “Caliciform Ware” Phenomenon in the Early Bronze Age Levant
- L. D’Alfonso:** Drinking Beyond the Mountains: The Alişar-IV Set in its Wider, Early 1st Millennium Near-Eastern Context

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: PROVISIONS, SUPPLIES AND STORAGE

- A. Caselli – A. Polcaro – J. R. Muniz:** Economy and Food Production at the Beginning of Urbanization: The Case Study of Jebel Al-Mutawwaq
- J.L. Montero Fenollós – J. Sanjurjo Sánchez:** Eating in Uruk: How the Bevelled Rim Bowls Were Made and What They Were Used
- P. Charvát:** Fish But no Chips at Archaic Ur
- A. Catagnoti – E. Cianfanelli – F. Gori – M. Bonechi:** The Value of Food: Historical, Prosopographical and Quantitative Aspects of the Final Letters and Related Texts from Ebla Palace G (3rd Millennium BC)
- L. Peyronel – A. Vacca – S. Mantellini – M. Bonechi – G. Benati:** Feeding the Capital. Farming and Primary Production in the Archaic State of Ebla (Syria): A View from the Countryside
- J. Dayton:** On the Logistical Possibilities of Maništušu’s ‘Magan’ Campaign
- M. Ramez:** Foods and Drinks for Craftsmen. The Issue of Food Rations, Wages, and Standards of Living of Specialized artisans in Ur III and Old Babylonian Periods
- C. Langa-Morales:** Fleischversorgung der staatlichen “Elitetruppen” in der Ur III-Zeit. Eine Untersuchung
- M. Maiocchi:** Accounting for Alimentary Items in the Third Millennium Southern Mesopotamia: Archives, Procedures, Terminology, Media
- L. Urbano:** The Queen, the Wine and the Pleasure. Yataraya’s Role in Wine Management in Mari
- A. Goddeeris:** Feeding the Gods in Nodes and Edges. A Network Analysis of the Administration of Food Offerings in Old Babylonian Cultic Administration
- Ph. Abrahami – B. Lion:** Food and Drink according to the Documentation of the Nuzi Palace (14th c. B.C.)

- E. Cancik-Kirschbaum – A. Dornauer:** Feeding *māt Aššur*: The Example of Middle Assyrian Dür-Katlimmu
- A. Huang:** Temple and Province in Kassite Nippur: A View from the Accounts
- E. Bordreuil:** Eating and Drinking at Ugarit and Hattuša in the Late Bronze Age: A Metrological Point of View
- E. Gorris:** “Don’t let the boats pass!” Elamite Trips and Tricks for Assyrian Procurement
- Y. Mitsuma:** Disease, Famine, and Human Trafficking: Health and Social Crisis Recorded in the Late Babylonian Astronomical Diaries

BANQUET AND COMMENSALITY

- D. Nadali:** Representing Banquets in Ancient Mesopotamia: A Public Affair?
- M.G. Biga – P. Steinkeller:** Feasting and Entertaining at the Royal Palace of Ebla: Dancers, Acrobats and Monkeys
- P. Poli:** The Iconography of the “Banquet Scene” among the Figurative Documentation from the Second and Third Millennium Levels of Tell Ashara-Terqa
- E. Pfoh:** Commensality and Political Nurture in the Amarna Letters
- J. Scurlock:** Marzeah in Mesopotamia?
- J. Blasweiler:** Historical Narratives about king Labarna’s Officials Recited in Hattusha’s Palace
- M.I. Moore:** Food as a Status Marker in The Hittite Court
- D. Kertai:** The Banquet Scene: An Assyrian Queen Holding Court
- A.-A. Baaklini – M. Spruyt:** The Assyrian Banquet and its Symbolic Value: An Archaeological and Iconographic Approach
- L. Portuese:** Table Manners and Etiquette in Assyria: A Sociological and Anthropological Approach
- Z. Tarhan:** From the Intention to the Accomplishment: Secular and Cultic Feasts Provided by the Neo-Assyrian King
- T. Kawami:** “They are very fond of wine, and drink it in large quantities”: What Fine Ceramics Can Tell us about Social Drinking in Iron Age Iran.
- N. Phiphia – D. Omari:** Food and Drinking in Ancient Diauehi and Colchis

RITUALITY

- E. Wagner-Durand:** Dining in the Face of Death – Forming Community in the Prehistory of the Ancient Near East
- J. Mas:** Toasting With the Dead. Funerary Drinking Sets in Early and Middle Bronze Age Upper Mesopotamian Ordinary Graves.
- E. Casadei:** Eating and Drinking in the Sumerian Temples
- M. Zingarello:** Drinking Beer for the Living and the Dead: Pottery Sets for Beverages and Social Drinking Practices in Central and Southern Mesopotamia During The 3rd Millennium BC
- F. Barsacchi:** A Demanding Goddess: Food Offerings in the Hittite Cult of *Ištar*
- T. Pilavci:** Votives in Hittite Context: The Tradition of Miniature Cups and the Rare Case of Zoomorphic Examples
- K. Baulina – T. Shevchenko:** Beer for the “Great God”
- N. Colombo:** Drinking and Eating: The Sophisticated Art of Banquets in Ancient Western Mediterranean and Near East Areas during ED III and II Millennium

MEDICINE

- A. Howe:** Eating Transgression and Curse in the Mesopotamian Exorcistic Corpus
- V. Zubieta Lupo:** “When a Person has been Given too much to Drink...”: Attestation of Drunkenness Cures in the Hittite World
- K. Mladenov:** The Potion in the 1st Millennium Babylon Medicine
- F. Minen:** Did a Spoonful of *dišpu* Help Medicine to Go Down?
- S. Valentinov Panayotov:** Eating and Drinking When the Human Eyes Were Sick
- K. Simkó:** “He drinks it on an empty stomach”. Forms of Internal Medication in the Nineveh Medical Encyclopedia
- J. Tavernier:** Shiny and Fat: Eggs in Mesopotamia

LITERATURE

- K. Wagensonner:** Rites, Music, and Banquets. Some Observations on Rituals in Sumerian Divine Journeys
- C. Carr:** Desire and Hunger; Women and Food: The earliest example of a universal conceptual metaphor in the Sumerian “Love Songs”?
- K. Sonik:** Food and Identity: Commensality, Hospitality, and Social Integration in the Gilgamesh Narratives and Other Mesopotamian Literature
- N.H. da Silva Ferreira:** Food as a Mean for Expressing Value: the Gifts of Nature, Wealth, Absence and Abstract Language
- S. Alaura:** The Flip side of Eating and Drinking: Hittite and Akkadian Expressions Meaning “on an Empty Stomach” in the Cuneiform Texts from Hattusa
- P. Dardano:** “Eat and drink, but do not look at my, the king’s, eyes!”: Eating and Drinking in Some Hittite Metaphorical Expressions

VARIA

- J. Eidem:** A Mesopotamian Borderland
- S. Adali – M. Frazer:** A Neo-Babylonian Inscription in the Istanbul Archaeological Museum
- B. Schnitzlein – S. Cohen:** News from Ashurbanipal’s Library
- K. Ulanowski:** Divination in the Service of the Mesopotamian Military System
- J. Bach:** The Geography of the Eastern Shore of Lake Urmia in 714 BCE
- T. Pank Arbøll:** All Ears: A Newly Identified Medical Compendium from Ḥamā in Syria
- I. Martins:** A New Look at BM 38299
- R. King:** The Prebendary Origins of Bēlšunu, Satrap in Across-the-river, ca 410-400 BCE
- R. Da Riva – N. Wasserman:** The Late Babylonian Divine Lyrics Project: An Interim Report
- G. Heath-Whyte:** The Use of Marduk’s Names Within the Narrative of Enūma eliš
- M. Viano:** Analogical Reasoning in Babylonian Hermeneutics and Early Greek Thought
- I. Yakubovic:** Kuwattalla Tradition and Mastigga Tradition

NEW PERSPECTIVES IN ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN STUDIES

- F. Válek:** Drinking at Ugarit in the Digital Age

- D. Danzig – V. Zubieta Lupo:** Indicators for the Downward Trend in Ancient Studies in the USA
- D. Danzig:** Shanati: A Project to Reconstruct the 1st Millennium BCE Ancient Babylonian Chronology to the Day
- E. Bennett:** Seeing the Forest Despite the Trees: A Topological Network Analysis of Neo-Assyrian Masculinity
- P. Corò – S. Ermidoro:** LIBER: The King’s Librarian at Work. Machine Learning and Computer Vision Applied to the Study of “Firing” Holes
- S. Di Paolo – L. Peyronel – V. Oselini – S. Anastasio:** “ArCOA” Project: Digitalization, Conservation and Enhancement of Ancient Near Eastern Collections in Italy
- I. Rossi – E. Devecchi – S. Ermidoro – T. Pedrazzi:** The “ArCOA” Digital Archive and the Cataloguing of Cuneiform Objects in Italian Collections
- M. Jaques – D. Koch:** Project and Software Demonstration: Online Verb Conjugators and Verb Form Analysers for Sumerian and Akkadian (SVC and BVC)
- S. Svärd – Kr. Lindén:** Lexicographical Portal of Akkadian
- N. Morello:** Multimodal Analysis of Seal Inscriptions: The ACAWAI-CS Project
- E. Rossberger:** With Nodes and Edges. Approaching Cylinder Seals from a Digital Corpus Building Perspective (ACAWAI-CS)
- R. Loreto:** An Old Babylonian Cylinder Seal from the “Umberto Scerrato” Museo Orientale, Napoli. Notes on a Digital Microscopic High Magnification Analysis
- S. Nett – G. R. Smidt – C. Johansson – R. Rattenborg – J. Andersson:** The Cuneiform Corpus in its Archaeological Setting: Preliminary Results of the Project *Geomapping Landscapes of Writing*

WORKSHOPS

1. Material Culture and Food in (greater) Mesopotamia from the Iron Age to the Parthian Period (organizer: M. Jursa)

- J. Bruno:** Wine and Food for the Arsacid Court. Some Thoughts on Natural Products Mentioned in the Parthian Ostraka from Old Nisa (Turkmenistan)
- R. Cauchi – M. Jursa:** Salt in Babylonian Sources from the first Millennium BCE
- A. Cellerino:** Transparent Glass Drinking Bowls at the Assyrian Court: The Visual Appeal of Wine Consumption
- B. Dromard – G. Eschenbrenner-Diemer:** Le bois en Égypte et en Babylonie du I^{er} millénaire av. J.-C. : étude croisée de l’archive des Egibi de Babylonie et du mobilier égyptien
- E. Foietta:** Cooking, Drinking and Banqueting at Hatra between Mesopotamian Customs and Greek/Roman Practices
- R. Menegazzi – C. Lippolis:** A World in Miniature: Terracotta Food Models from Seleucia on the Tigris
- V. Messina:** Salt Traders of Seleucid Babylonia
- O. V. Popova – L. Quillien:** The *pišannu*-container in Babylonian Temples during the 1st Millennium BCE: Manufacture and Ritual Use
- V. Messina – C. Lippolis – L. Quillien – M. Jursa:** Response: Results and Ramifications

2. The construction of meaning in Ancient Mesopotamian literature and scholarship

(organizers: N. De Zorzi, M. Schmidl, F. Simons)

- B. Baragli:** "Utu, justice lies with you!" – Rhetorical Devices in Sumerian Compositions to the Sun God
- C. Debourse:** Late Babylonian Ritual Texts as Scholarly Playgrounds: Aspects of Form and Function
- N. De Zorzi:** Devices for Conveying Meaning: Examples from the Literary Tool-Kit of Ancient Mesopotamian Erudition
- G. Konstantopoulos:** "As Soon as you Have Recited this Before Gilgamesh: Appearances of Gilgamesh and Enkidu in Incantation Literature."
- A. Lenzi:** Ashurbanipal's Lament: A Half-Told Tale of Healing an Assyrian King
- J. Pfitzner:** If Ants' Holes are Numerous in a Man's House ...Observations on Structure and Meaning in Mesopotamian Animal Omens
- M. Schmidl:** Mirror, Mirror – Some Remarks on Structuring Devices in the "Advice to a Prince"
- F. Simons:** "May Anum and Antum Stand by" in 3...2...1... - Thoughts on a Misplaced Incantation

3. Life after Empire: Community Responses to Regime Change in Babylonia

(organizers: P. Ouysook, S. Zaia)

- Y. Levavi:** Foreign Rule in (Early) First Millennium Babylonian Chronicles
- P. Ouysook:** Nebuchadnezzar II's Royal Inscriptions in Context: 'Nation Building' and the Revival of the 'Authentic' Babylonian Tradition?
- J. Nielsen:** Marad Between the Neo-Assyrian and Neo-Babylonian Empires
- M. Schmidl:** Antagonism, Cooperation, Instrumentalisation? Relations and Interactions of Royal and Temple Officials in Uruk in the Early Achaemenid Period According to Epistolographic Sources
- T. Alstola:** Empire and Village: Regime Change in Rural Babylonia
- P. Zilberg:** "The great city is a great desert"- Babylon under Parthian Rule
- S. Zaia:** The Best Laid Plans: Imperial Agendas versus Local Realities in 1st Millennium Babylonia
- K. Kleber:** Aspects of Royal and Provincial Administration in the Neo-Babylonian Empire
- L. Pearce – P. Corò:** Creating Identity in the Hellenistic World

4. Figures of Speech in Mesopotamian and Syro-Anatolian Iron Age Texts

(organizer: C. Posani)

- J. DeGrado:** Empire in Three Keys (Akkadian, Luwian, Phoenician): Adapting Assyrian Imagery in the Bilingual Karatepe Inscription
- M.E. Balza:** "And much came down from the sky and much came up from the earth": Figures of Speech in the Tablean Hieroglyphic Inscriptions and the Ideological Discourse of Local Rulers
- M. Piccin:** Stylish Curses in Neo-Assyrian Treaties
- C. Posani:** The Hieroglyphic Luwian Kululu 2 Inscription and Its Cross-Cultural Background