

Παλαιολιθικό Σεμινάριο 2025

Πέμπτη 13/3, 19:00

Αμφιθέατρο του Ινστιτούτου της Δανίας στην Αθήνα, Χαιρεφώντος 14, Πλατεία Αγίας Αικατερίνης, Πλάκα

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Our ornaments and those of the others: ornaments and cultural traditions at Franchthi

The Franchthi cave, and its associated Neolithic open-air settlement, present an exceptionally long sequence — from the beginning of the Upper Palaeolithic to the Final Neolithic— that witnesses dramatic climatic, environmental and economic changes. It was therefore logical to expect concomitant transformations in the conception, production and use of ornaments. However, prehistoric groups did not always follow our logic: for several dozens of millennia, Palaeolithic and Mesolithic inhabitants of Franchthi consistently chose to use the same restricted range of shell species, disregarding many ornament types used by other hunter-gatherers from Greece. This unexpected continuity suggests the persistence of ornamental traditions over much longer periods of time than we dare imagine. It also challenges the cultural breaks suggested by the flaked stone toolkits and raises the question of the cultural proxies prehistorians use to define chrono-cultural complexes. A brief comparison with the Neolithic is also relevant: whereas the economic basis and way of life remained stable, significant changes are observed in the conception of ornaments. In both cases, I argue that we have so far disregarded the significant insights that ornaments, too often merely considered as “small finds”, can give us on cultural traditions and cultural entities.

Διοργάνωση

Πανεπιστήμιο Κρήτης – καθηγήτρια Νένα Γαλανίδου

Υπουργείο Πολιτισμού, Εφορεία Παλαιοανθρωπολογίας-Σπηλαιολογίας – δρ Ανδρέας Ντάρλας



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Με την ευγενική υποστήριξη του Ινστιτούτου της Δανίας στην Αθήνα και της Airotel

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