

memory, and the importance of the experience of the tomb visitor as an agent in perpetuating the memory of the deceased.

Guilherme Borges Pires, CHAM - Centre for the Humanities, Nova University Lisbon, “Of Sky, Land, Riverbanks, Islands, and Cities: Notes on the Creation of Spatial Dimension(s) in the Religious Hymns of the New Kingdom (c. 1539-1077 BCE)”

Abstract: In the religious hymns of the New Kingdom (c. 1539-1077 BCE), Space partakes in the vast ontological array brought into existence by the Creator deity. The mentions to what could be globally labelled as ‘creation of space(s)’ therein range from the ontological structuring of the Cosmos, expressed namely via the allusion to the creation of sky and land (e.g., TT 194 (4), 2), to the establishment of administrative-territorial units, such as cities, villages, and districts (e.g., Great Hymn to Aten, 11; Leiden I 344 verso, II.2). The lexical and/or phraseological strategies to refer to such a cosmogonical deed in these texts are diverse and multifaceted. This paper will consider the place of Space in the religious hymns of the New Kingdom, revolving around the different manners these texts encompass space creation, while pondering their implications for the cosmogonical understanding(s) embodied in this corpus as a whole.

Maarten Praet, Johns Hopkins University/CHAM - Centre for the Humanities, Nova University Lisbon, “Access to Mural Art at Amarna: A Space Syntax Analysis of Wall Paintings in the King’s House” VIRTUAL

Abstract: This paper offers an alternative method to analyze the seemingly targeted placement of the limited number of wall paintings throughout the King’s House at Amarna. Using space syntax analysis, the visual integration of each area in the King’s House and the level of control over each room were analyzed through a visibility graph and a justified graph (J-graph). Based on the results of these two graphs, it is possible to interpret the seemingly targeted placement of the wall paintings in the King’s House in terms of access control. Would everyone entering the King’s House have been able to see all of the wall paintings, or not? Based on these results, this paper aims to provide an innovative interpretation of the function of the decorated rooms in the King’s House, as well as of the function of this building and its placement at the center of the ritual landscape of Amarna.

14:00 -16:00 Western European Summer Time

9:00 - 11:00 AM Eastern Daylight Time

8A. The Symbolic Significances of the Great Sea in Pre-Classical Discourses

Chair: Francisco Caramelo, CHAM - Centre for the Humanities, FCSH, Nova University Lisbon

André Patrício, CHAM - Centre for the Humanities, FCSH, Nova University Lisbon, “The Stelas of Seti I and the Egyptian Asiatic Empire”

Abstract: At the reveille of dynasty XIX, Seti I inherited an Asiatic Empire that was, in truth, no more than an Egyptian sphere of influence in that region. This pharaoh invested in military campaigns, understanding the importance of permanent control of coastal and strategic cities around the Mediterranean, creating, de facto, an Asiatic Empire. This control was based in constant military occupation and set the tone for the second and

third pharaohs of this dynasty. The new persistent dominion over Asiatic lands is illustrated by four stelas celebrating the victories of Seti I in Western Asia, the central focus of this study, that firstly intends to present and analyse the supra mentioned monuments, describing them, and when possible, present its inscriptions, and addressing the very relevant question that was on the genesis of their own creation: how important the Asiatic lands became to Egypt.

Isabel Gomes de Almeida, CHAM - Centre for the Humanities FCSH, Nova University Lisbon, “A Land Between the Seas: The Importance of the Mediterranean for the Mesopotamian Cultural and Religious Framework (Fourth through the Third Millennium BCE)”

Abstract: Driven by economic and commercial motives, the human communities which settled in the Mesopotamian territory contacted with the coastal regions of the Mediterranean Sea, very early in time. This contact naturally allowed exchanges not only of people and goods, but also of techniques, conceptions, and of symbolic and religious motifs. In this sense, within the Mesopotamian discourses, we identify multiple references to the "Upper Sea", some more direct than others, which allow us to analyze the importance, at all levels, of the Mediterranean Sea for this civilization. With this communication, we intend to explore some of those references, by focusing our attention on the Mesopotamian cultural and religious framework, which was being consolidated and systematized in the long period between the end of the 4th and the 3rd millennia BC.

Beatriz Freitas, CHAM - Centre for the Humanities, FCSH, Nova University Lisbon, “Assyria and the Great Sea”

Abstract: Throughout Mesopotamian history, the Mediterranean Sea was perceived as a cosmic boundary that had to be tamed and contained. Water provided the livelihood of this civilization, but it could also mean destruction and chaos. The image explicit in the creation myths where the need to control this natural element was stressed seems to be revived in the I millennium BC. With the emergence of the Neo-Assyrian Empire, the natural borders represented the ends of the world that were to be unified under the power of a single ruler. This idea, reflected in the royal title “from the upper sea to the lower sea”, demonstrates one of the symbolic meanings attributed to the Mediterranean. Thus, this communication intends to analyse how a geographical frontier integrated Assyrian textual and visual discourses, acquiring political, ritual, and ideological meanings.

8B. Security and Conflict in the Modern Middle East II

Chair: Onn Winckler, University of Haifa

Onn Winckler, University of Haifa, “Against the Odds: A Century of Jordanian Economic Survival”

Abstract: Following independence, but particularly following the 1948 Palestine War and more so in the wake of the assassination of King ‘Abdallah I, a common prediction among both intelligence units and academics was that Jordan, at least in its initial form, namely as a sovereign political entity under the rule of the Hashemite family, would have a limited lifespan. These pessimistic projections were largely intensified following the June 1967 War and the Black September events. In retrospect however, Jordan is currently not only more politically stable than most of the other non-oil Arab countries, but also its socioeconomic situation is better. The aim of this paper is two-fold: first, to examine the major socioeconomic challenges which the Kingdom had to deal with that led so many to