

The Cluster of Excellence
Understanding Written Artefacts
cordially invites you to the workshop

Inscribing Funerary Space(s)

Thursday, 30 March 2023, 9:30 am – 6:00 pm CEST

Friday, 31 March 2023, 9:00 am – 5:30 pm CEST

Saturday, 1 April 2023, 9:00 am – 1:15 pm CEST

Warburgstraße 26, 20354 Hamburg

Organised by Kaja Harter-Uibopuu, Leah Mascia, Peter Schmidt
(Universität Hamburg)

Registration:

<https://www.csmc.uni-hamburg.de/register-workshop37>

From antiquity to modern times, human beings have developed different attitudes toward death and different ways of performing mortuary practices and thus shaping privileged spaces. In almost every culture, written artefacts, which are extremely different in terms of materiality and function, are essential elements of structuring the funerary landscape.

From inscriptions carved or painted on the walls of funerary monuments to written artefacts accompanying the deceased in the long journey to the netherworld, they offer a glimpse not only into the lives of the individuals buried within these areas but also into how societies developed different cultural understandings of the mortuary space. In different ways, these written artefacts can be understood as valuable sources for understanding social and religious customs.

Various cultures over space and time perceive the necropoleis as intrinsically connected with the 'space of the living', a threshold between the world of mortals and the world of deities and spirits conceivable to the performance of a variety of ritual and social activities. On the other hand, other societies consider burial grounds as places of memory and sorrow that must necessarily be kept apart from the world of the living.

The variety of approaches to the social understanding of the mortuary landscape has already raised numerous questions regarding the cultural and religious response to death in different cultures and times. In this workshop, we will concentrate on the role of written artefacts and analyse how they framed and structured the 'cities of the dead'. We aim at opening an interdisciplinary dialogue meant to offer a cross-cultural perspective on the social understanding of the mortuary landscape as inscribed space.

Programme

Thursday, 30 March, 9:30 am – 6:00 pm

8:30 – 9:30 Registration

9:30 – 10:00 Introduction

Chair: Kaja Harter-Uibopuu

10:00 – 10:45 Monika Zöller-Engelhardt (Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz)
*Ancient Egyptian Inscribed Funerary Spaces in Middle Egypt – Affordances
and Care Practices in Rock-Cut Tombs Around 2000 BCE*

10:45 – 11:15 Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:15 Katja Lembke (Landesmuseum Hannover) and Stefan Pfeiffer
(Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg)
Anonymous Burials? Tombs and Texts in Roman Egypt

12:15 – 1:00 Leah Mascia (Universität Hamburg)
*How to Equip the Deceased for the Long Journey to the Underworld in the
Transitional Phase: Inscribing Burial Spaces in Roman and Late Antique
Egypt*

1:00 – 2:30 Lunch Break

Chair: Leah Mascia

2:30 – 3:15 Tonio Sebastian Richter (Freie Universität Berlin)
*Inscribing Funerary Space in a Monastic Landscape: The Case of the
Epigraphic
Corpus of the Monastery of Apa Hatre (Deir Anba Hadra) Near Aswan
(Southern Egypt)*

3:15 – 4:00 Stefan Heidemann (Universität Hamburg)
Serial Memory: Early Islamic Tombstones

4:00 – 4:30 Coffee Break

4:30 – 5:15 Jochen Sokoly (Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts)
Burial Fabrics of Fatimid Egypt: Funerary Contexts of Early Islamic Tiraz Textiles

5:15 – 6:00 Martina Massullo (Bibliothèque universitaire des langues et civilisations, Paris)
Inscribed, Employed, Re-Employed: Written Marble Artefacts from Funerary Spaces in Medieval Afghanistan

6:30 Dinner

Friday, 31 March, 9:00 am – 5:30 pm

Chair: Christof Berns

9:00 – 9:45 Martin Seyer (Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Wien)
Tomb and Epitaph: Archaeological-Linguistic Research on Sepulchral Life in Lycia

9:45 – 10:30 John Bodel (Brown University)
Dialogues with the Dead: Reader Response in the Roman Graveyard

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 11:45 Rubina Raja (Aarhus University)
Inscribed Funerary Spaces in Roman Palmyra

11:45 – 12:30 Rachel Nabulsi (Point University)
The Significance of Funerary Inscriptions from Iron Age Judah and its Neighbours

12:30 – 2:00 Lunch Break

Chair: Peter Schmidt

2:00 – 2:45 Joseph Lee Rife (Vanderbilt University)
The Written Cemetery: Text and Context at Roman to Early Byzantine Kenchreai, Greece

- 2:45 – 3:30 Adrián Maldonado (National Museums Scotland)
Materializing the Ancestors: Inscribed Funerary Space in Late Iron Age to Early Medieval Scotland
- 3:30 – 4:00 Coffee Break
- 4:00 – 4:45 Andreas Zajic (Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Wien)
Talking Tombstone – Funerary Monuments and What They are Called in the Inscriptions They Bear. Observations on Examples from Pre-Modern Central Europe
- 4:45 – 5:30 Christine Magin (Universität Greifswald)
Old Wine in New Bottles? Post-Reformation Inscriptions on Funerary Monuments from Germany
- 6:30 Dinner

Saturday, 1 April, 9:00 am – 1:15 pm

Chair: Elsa Clavé

- 9:00 – 10:00 Peera Panarut, Volker Grabowsky (Universität Hamburg)
Christian Funerary Inscriptions in Bangkok: A Comparative Case Study on Protestant and Catholic Cemeteries
- 10:00 – 10:45 Max Moerman (Barnard College, Columbia University)
Inscription and Mortality in Medieval Japanese Sutra Burials
- 10:45 – 11:15 Coffee Break
- 11:15 – 12:00 Javier Urcid (Brandeis University)
Inscribing Funerary Spaces in Ancient Oaxaca (350-750 ACE)
- 12:00 – 12:45 Adriana Corral Bustos (Colegio de San Luis)
Transformation of Attitudes Towards Death in Latin America: The Case of Mexico, XIX to XXI Centuries
- 12:45 – 1:15 Closing Remarks