



Preliminary Schedule for CTR meetings and lectures

Every-other Wednesday at CTR, we have administrative meetings running through the semester, followed by a scientific presentation, either by a CTR member or an invited scholar. We kindly invite everyone interested to join these lectures.

Meeting 14:00-15:00

The first hour, 14:00-15:00, is mainly reserved for CTR members, yet if people like to join, they are welcome. The meeting consists of general administrative and CTR related news and information, as well as “News around the table”, where everyone shortly gives an update on their projects. Anyone participating in the meeting is expected to join this, also if you are not a member of CTR.

Presentation, c. 15:15-16:00

The presentation, of different research topics followed by a discussion, will start around 15:00. Please see the program below. Please join the zoom link and you will be let in. We expect everybody to turn on the camera and have your name as the “name tag”. You are also more than welcome to join us at CTR, considering current covid restrictions. University of Copenhagen South Campus, room 11b.1.05.

A few dates are still open. You are welcome to right us if you have any suggestions.

Zoom Link:

It is possible to join us via zoom, if you are not able to be here at the center. In that case, simply follow this link:

<https://kpdk.zoom.us/j/66029568324?pwd=cU9TZ2dlWkJPSTG9sVEgwdEEsRFg2Zz09>

Lectures (Abstracts below)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 14th September 2022
13:30-15:00 | Thomas Palaima
Note that this lecture starts earlier than usual. |
| 28th September 2022
15:15-16:00 | Sarah Croix |
| 12th October 2022
15:15-16:00 | Tove Engelhardt Mathiassen |
| 26th October 2022
15:15-16:00 | Ane Kirstine Preisler Skovgaard |
| 9th November 2022
15:15-16:00 | Laura Cristina Viñas Caron |
| 23rd November 2022
15:15-16:00 | Morten Grymer-Hansen |
| 7th December 2022
15:15-16:00 | Corinne Mühlemann |
| 9th December 2022
14.15 - | Elsa Yvanez' inaugural lecture
Note that this lecture is on a Friday, starts an hour earlier than usual, and is being held at a different room at the university!
After the event, we would like to invite you to a small reception. |
| 21st December 2022
15:15-16:00 | TBA |



Abstracts for lectures at the CTR meetings fall 2022

14th September

Title TBA

Mycenologist, Robert M. Armstrong Centennial Professor and founding director of the university's Program in Aegean Scripts and Prehistory (PASP) in the Department of Classics at the University of Texas at Austin, Thomas G. Palaima.

Thomas G. Palaima has extensively worked on Aegean scripts, with a strong focus on paleography, scribal systems, the role of the Linear B tablets within the palace administration and economy, and the relationship between Linear B and the yet-to-be-deciphered Linear A. Palaima's other interests include writing public intellectual commentaries, researching about how humans respond to war and violence, and Bob Dylan's music and cultural influence.

Palaima was also awarded a MacArthur fellowship in 1985 and received an honorary doctorate from the Faculty of Humanities at Uppsala University, Sweden, in 1994.

28th September

Textile manufacture in Viking-Age Ribe: between réseau opératoire, gig economy, and household industry

Sarah Croix, Institute for Culture and Society - Centre for Urban Network Evolutions, University of Aarhus

Contrary to the other specialized crafts that characterized the economic activities of the Viking-Age emporia in Scandinavia, textile production is also abundantly documented in other contexts, such as farmsteads and coastal production sites. Therefore, its significance for the economic strategies and social relations of households and communities was probably equally varied. Through a careful analysis of the tools for textile production from Birka and Hedeby, Eva Andersson Strand has previously shown the degree of specialization of this craft in an urban context and proposed an

analytical model with four levels to characterize production: Household production; Household industry / putting out system; Attached specialist production; and Workshops.

Acknowledging the importance of the social and economic settings for understanding the role(s) of textile production, I will present in this lecture a close analysis of the contexts in which this craft occurred alongside other activities in the dwellings of the emporium of Viking-Age Ribe. In this way, I will show how textile production was integrated in the urban households' economic strategies and their everyday life. This will lead to a discussion of how fruitful the application of two additional concepts may be for understanding the significance of textile manufacture: *réseau opératoire*, focusing on collaboration and interrelation between textile manufacture and other crafts; gig economy, as a way of approaching the relative importance of this manufacture within the frame of the other economic strategies of these households.

12th October

The weavers Kirsten and John Becker into the light

Social anthropologist & weaving teacher, Tove Engelhardt Mathiassen, guest scholar at CTR
www.tove-engelhardt.dk

In textile circles in Denmark and in the other Scandinavian countries as well, Kirsten (1915-2003) and John Becker (1915-1986) are known today, but in the broader Danish public, their work is almost unknown. They had their own weaving workshop from 1946 to 1986 and educated generations of very talented weavers. Their oeuvre has been partly presented in smaller articles in journals, catalogues, newspapers and more comprehensively in encyclopedias and by Charlotte Paludan in 1999 (about their cooperation with the Danish firm Georg Jensen Damask) and in 2003 (about their works in the collections of Designmuseum Denmark). - My aim is to try to dig even deeper and to examine their textile art especially in churches, and to find out more about their importance for textile art today. In other words, I want to try to put together a new jigsaw puzzle about Kirsten and John Becker's work and imprint. From November 1, 2021, I embarked on a research project about them and in my lecture about this on-going research, I will focus on my methods, sources and aims and give you glimpses of Kirsten and John Becker's work with complex weaving techniques in their textile art for churches all over Denmark and their importance for Georg Jensen Damask.

My research is supported by "Stiftelsen Agnes Geijers Fond för Nordisk Tekstilforskning", "Aage og Johanne Louis-Hansen Fonden" & "Marie Jacobine Snedkers Mindefond".

Publications in connection with the project until now:

First short, online article in English:

<https://karenfinchtextiles.com/blog/karen-finch-and-gerda-henning/>

Small online articles in Danish about specific artworks in two churches:

Rungsted Church: <https://rungstedkirke.dk/page/5700/kirkens-antependium-1980-til-2018>

Risskov Church (page 8-9): https://www.risskovkirke.dk/fileadmin/group/1155/Blad/20-22/sommer_22.pdf

26th October

The Stuff of Agency

**About my PhD research on the power, capabilities and impact of textile,
Ane Kirstine Preisler Skovgaard**

Based on recent insight into how textile – as both material, technology and object – has influenced human history, my PhD research explores textile's power to shape cultures. The aim of my project was to comprehend the ways in which textile is able to shape people, the roles it assumes in relation to people and the means with which it exerts influence on its surroundings. I sought the answers to questions such as these using theories of materiality, new materialism, and non-human agency and I worked from the underlying assumption that textiles display an agency of their own and that the material possesses powers, which enable it to affect those who interact with it. By studying a specific case – the workings and effects of textile on Catholic culture in the late Middle Ages – I wanted to offer insight into textile's impact on, and co-creation of, a particular, historical culture. I however sought to apply my results from this study to offer knowledge on – and suggest approaches with which to study – how textiles, across time and culture, are able to transform and shape society; to demonstrate that textiles are not just man-made materials or objects. That they are similarly capable of shaping us.

9th November

Historical parchment as a biomolecular record of sheep husbandry practices in the Iberian Peninsula

Laura Cristina Viñas Caron

The study of animal remains in archaeology has typically focused on understanding the processes by which domestic cattle, sheep, and goats were first managed and domesticated, all of which occurred in the Fertile Crescent between 11000 and 10000 years ago. Nevertheless, later stages in the history of domestication have generally received less attention. During my PhD, I explored aspects of the domestication and evolution of sheep from the Iberian Peninsula in mediaeval and post- mediaeval times in relation to wool production. To do so, different methods, including genomics and proteomics, were applied to a largely unexplored material: the skin of sheep converted into parchment, the mainwriting material used before the advent of paper. I will present the results of my thesis with a special focus on wool production and sheep management.

23rd November

The coming of fashions and the decline of customs: Women in public space in Copenhagen c. 1750-1800

Morten Grymer-Hansen

The 1770s was a time of great societal reform in Denmark, political strife, and public discourse. It was also the decade, when the women of Copenhagen of all classes began to walk in the streets at any time of day. This was an event much remarked upon at the time but since all but forgotten and unresearched. In this talk I will present why this event was so remarkable, why it remains important, and how it shaped ideas of fashion, national identity, and gender in 18th century Denmark.

7th December

Final Presentation of “All the Goods of the Earth. Making and Marketing in the Pre-Mongol Marketplace”

Corinne Mühlemann

Islamic legal sources have received little attention by art historians when discussing the production, consumption, and reception of objects produced in the medieval Islamic world. The *Hisba* of al-Saqaṭī, the *Kitāb fī ādāb al-ḥisba*, written and compiled in Málaga at the end of the 11th century, allows us to dive into Málaga’s marketplace and its products. In this final presentation of my project, I will demonstrate the potential of *ḥisba* manuals to shed light on textile manufacture, loom technology, and the social status of the weaver in the medieval Islamic world. The *Hisba* of al-Saqaṭī not only reveals previously unknown textile terminology relating to the medieval drawloom, it also brings to light the shared knowledge traditions of weaving, poetry, and music. It presents a rare moment in which a combination of textual documents and material evidence helps to locate historical fact.

9th December: Inaugural lecture

(Re?)Building textile archaeology in the Nile valley: when ‘mummy cloths’ meet contemporary textile research

Elsa Yvanez, associate professor University of Copenhagen

From the modern Sudanese capital Khartoum, to its northern counterpart Cairo in Egypt, the arid climate pertaining along most of the Nile valley has offered ideal conditions for the preservation of archaeological textiles. Here, organic material - and textiles in particular - are common finds during excavations, complemented by an astonishing number of human remains, naturally or artificially mummified and wrapped in many textile layers. Nevertheless, textiles have yet to become a prominent subject in Egyptology and Sudanese archaeology. Upon the creation of a new position of associate professor of textile archaeology at Saxo Institute, this lecture will discuss the potentials of the discipline in the Nile Valley context, combining different sources and crossing disciplines, and framing the material in a wider theoretical framework. This can only be fulfilled by collaborative work, in which researchers and students actively participate in the creation of new data and discourse. These developments will be illustrated through the presentation of diverse projects now underway at CTR and beyond, which are today advancing textile archaeology in the Nile valley and pushing this rich material towards its full historical potential.

Venue:

The University Copenhagen

South Campus

Emil Holms Kanal 6, 2300 Copenhagen S

Room 24.4.11