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**The Canadian Institute for Mediterranean Studies, Ottawa
Chapter
in collaboration with the
College of the Humanities, Carleton University,
The Embassy of Georgia to Canada,
and the Archaeological Institute of America, Ottawa Society**

Present

Exploring the Roots of the Vine:

The History and Archaeology of the Earliest Wines

By Professor Stephen Batiuk, University of Toronto

Sunday, 17 February, 2019, 2:00 p.m.

Woodside Hall, Dominion Chalmers United Church

355 Cooper St. (please use Lisgar St. entrance and parking)



Wine is one of the most commonly enjoyed alcoholic beverages in the modern world. But what is the antiquity and history of this otherworldly drink? When and how was it first developed? How did it spread from its point of origin? Dr. Batiuk will show how new archaeological fieldwork, bio-molecular chemistry and genetics are helping unlock this story, pushing its origins back to the Neolithic period and to the region of Caucasia, modern Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, and how one of our earliest and best-documented examples of an ancient migration probably led to the spread of wine and wine culture across the Ancient Near East, and eventually across the rest of the Mediterranean World.

Dr. Stephen Batiuk is Senior Research Associate and Lecturer with the Department of Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations, University of Toronto, as well as co-Director of the Gadachrili Gora Regional Archaeological Project Expedition (GRAPE) in Georgia, the Director of Excavations for the Tayinat Archaeological Project in Turkey, and the Project Manager for the Computational Research on the Ancient Near East (CRANE) Project. He has excavated and surveyed in Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Israel, Romania, Turkey, and Canada. With degrees from the University of Toronto (Ph.D.) and the University of Ottawa, his areas of specialization include Near Eastern archaeology (particularly the Bronze and Irons Ages of Turkey, Syria and the Caucasus). His work focuses on the development of complex and urban societies in the Near East, and inter-regional interactions in the Bronze and Iron Ages, and the origins of viticulture and viniculture in the ancient Near Eastern World. Dr. Batiuk uses archaeology, GIS and remote sensing, geomorphology and ceramic petrography to investigate the interplay between settlement, land use, and economy in the ancient world.

Refreshments to follow