

# Ottawa Chapter Program Fall 2019

Sunday, October 6th, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

**Location:** Room 303 Paterson Hall, Carleton University

In cooperation with the Parnassos Hellenic Cultural Society of Ottawa

Lecturer: Dr Alexander Kitroeff, Professor of History, Haverford College, Haverford, Pennsylvania.

**Theme:**

*The Greeks of Egypt: Cosmopolitanism, Patriotism, Philanthropy*

**Biographical notes**

Professor Alexander Kitroeff, born in Athens, Greece, studied in the UK where he obtained his BA at the University of Warwick, his Masters at Keele University and his DPhil in Modern History at Oxford. Kitroeff began his academic career at the Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies at the City University of New York (CUNY).

He has taught at Princeton University, Temple University and New York University. He is at present Professor of History, coordinator of Middle East and Islamic Studies at Haverford College in Philadelphia. He has done research and published works that focus on the study of nationalism, ethnicity in Greece and the Greek diaspora and its manifestations across a broad spectrum from politics to sports.

**Summary:**

From the early nineteenth century through to the 1960s, the Greeks formed the largest, most economically powerful, and geographically and socially diverse of all European communities in Egypt. They were also the largest and wealthiest Greek diaspora community from the early nineteenth through the early twentieth centuries. Although they benefited from the privileges extended to foreigners and the control exercised by Britain, they claimed nonetheless to enjoy a special relationship with Egypt and the Egyptians, and saw themselves as contributors to the country's modernization.

Professor Kitroeff will discuss the three main characteristics of the Greeks of Egypt: their cosmopolitanism, their patriotism and their philanthropy, based on his recently published book *The Greeks and the Making of Modern Egypt* by the American University in Cairo Press. Although they were foreigners in Egypt, the Greeks forged ties both with the local population and the other European residents and played a central role in the development of Egypt's principal economic sector, cotton cultivation and export and they also pioneered a range of other economic activities such as cigarette manufacturing and textiles and they contributed to the opening and running of the Suez Canal.

They combined their commitment to Egypt's future with a strong attachment to Greece through their contributions to the pursuit of the Great Idea, the hosting of the first modern Olympic Games and the establishment of many schools and cultural institutions including the Benaki Museum in Athens. Finally, the

wealthy Greeks of Egypt built a network of churches, schools and ethnic associations and newspapers that fostered the development of Greek culture and major intellectual figures such as the poet C.P. Cavafy.

**Sunday, October 20th, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Location: Woodside Hall, Carleton Dominion Chalmers Center, 355 Cooper Street, Ottawa**

**In cooperation with the College of the Humanities, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Carleton University**

Lecturer: Professor John Osborne, Distinguished research professor and Dean emeritus, College of the Humanities, Carleton University.

**Theme:**

*The Capitoline wolf: Etruscan or medieval?*

**Synopsis:**

There are few more ubiquitous symbols of ancient Rome than the she-wolf which, according to Roman legend, nurtured the twins Romulus and Remus. It featured prominently on ancient Roman coinage, and even today serves as the symbol of A.S. Roma football club. While many statues of the lupa are recorded by ancient authors, only one has come down to the modern day: the famous ‘Capitoline Wolf’ (lupa Capitolina) which since 1471 has been housed in Rome’s Capitoline Museum. Long considered to date from the Etruscan period (5th c. BCE), recent scholarship has called that dating into question; and it has been argued that the statue is not in fact ‘ancient’ at all, but instead dates from the Middle Ages. This talk will examine all the evidence, both scientific and historical, in an attempt to answer the question posed in its title.

**Biographical notes**

John Osborne is a medievalist and cultural historian, with a special focus on the art and archaeology of the cities of Rome and Venice in the period between the sixth and thirteenth centuries. His numerous publications cover topics as varied as the Roman catacombs, the fragmentary mural paintings from excavated churches such as San Clemente and S. Maria Antigua, the decorative program of the church of San Marco in Venice, 17th-century antiquarian drawings of medieval monuments, and the medieval understanding and use of Rome’s heritage of ancient buildings and statuary. He is also interested in problems of cultural transmission between Western Europe and Byzantium.

A graduate of Carleton University, the University of Toronto, and the University of London, he has held faculty and administrative positions at the University of Victoria in the Department of History in Art (1979-2001) was Professor and Head of the Department of Art at Queen’s University (2001-2005), and was Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at Carleton from 2005 to 2015. Promoted to the rank of full professor in 1989, he has held visiting fellowships at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge; the Istituto Ellenico di Studi Bizantini, Venice; and the Dumbarton Oaks Center for Byzantine Studies, Washington. In 2006 he was elected as an Honorary Fellow of the British School at Rome.

He was also president of the Canadian Society of Medievalists: president (2012-14); Canadian Council of

Deans of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences: president (2012-13); Cavaliere dell'Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana (2013); Balsdon Fellowship, The British School at Rome (2018); Honorary Research Fellow, Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London (2019-2024). He is the author of numerous publications.

**Sunday, November 3rd, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Location: University of Ottawa, Room: Room 125, Simard Hall, 60 University Private**

In partnership with the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA)

Lecturer: Maureen Carroll, Professor of Roman Archaeology at the University of Sheffield, UK.

**Theme:**

*Fertility Cults, Votive Offerings and Women's Roles in Early Roman Religion.*

Biographical notes

Maureen Carroll earned her degrees in Classics and Classical Archaeology in Canada, the USA and Germany and upon completion of her PhD worked in Germany for many years, in posts at the Römisch-Germanisches Museum in Cologne and at Cologne University. She is now professor in Roman archaeology at Sheffield University. She is a Classical Archaeologist with research interests in Roman death and burial, Roman funerary commemoration, Roman childhood, the archeology of Roman rural Italy, Roman dress and identity as well as ancient Greek and Roman gardens. She has conducted extensive fieldwork in Italy, North Africa, Germany, Cyprus and Britain.

## Ottawa Chapter Program Winter - Spring 2020

February 16th, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

**Location:** Woodside Hall, Carleton Dominion Chalmers Center. 355 Cooper St. Ottawa

In cooperation with the College of the Humanities, Carleton University and the Archaeological Institute of

America AIA

**Lecturer:** Prof. Daryn Lehoux, Professor of Classics , Queen's University.

**Theme:**

*Greco-Roman Egypt and the History of Ancient Astronomy*

**Biographical notes**

Daryn Lehoux is Professor of Classics at Queen's University. He is the author of *What Did the Romans Know?* (University of Chicago Press, 2012), *Astronomy, Weather, and Calendars in the Ancient World* (Cambridge University Press, 2007), and *Creatures Born of Mud and Slime* (Johns Hopkins University Press, forthcoming).

**Summary:**

It is now well known that much of what the Greeks and Romans knew about the heavens came to them in some form or another from earlier Babylonian astronomical practices. This lecture will look at how and when this foreign knowledge came into the Greek-speaking world, what form it took, and how it was transformed by its new communities. A special focus on the papyrological evidence from Egypt will show how certain practices (astrology in particular) came to cement themselves in local communities even while more scholarly and cosmological work was being done in centres like Rhodes and Alexandria to try and integrate the new knowledge with older Greek cosmologies.

**Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.**

**Location:** Jewish Community Center - Social Hall, 21 Nadolny Sachs, off Carling Avenue

In Collaboration with the Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Center for Jewish Studies, Carleton University, Ottawa

University and the AIA

**Lecturer:** Dr. Jodi Magness,, Department of Religious Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Theme:**

*More than Just Mosaics: The Ancient Synagogue at Huqoq in Israel's Galilee*

Biographical notes

Dr. Jodi Magness is the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She earned her BA in Archaeology and History from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and her PhD in Classical Archaeology from the University of Pennsylvania. A trained archaeologist with more than 20 years of field experience Prof. Magness has excavated throughout Israel and in Greece and has co-directed excavations of the Roman siege works at Masada and a Roman fort at Yotvata. She is the author of numerous scholarly books on the archaeology of the Holy Land.

**Summary:**

Since 2011, Professor Jodi Magness has been directing excavations in the ancient village of Huqoq in Israel's Galilee. The excavations have brought to light the remains of a monumental late Roman (fifth century) synagogue building paved with stunning and unique mosaics, including biblical scenes and the first non-biblical story ever discovered decorating an ancient synagogue. Professor Magness will describe these exciting finds, including the discoveries made in last summer's season. CIMS is particularly interested in the Huqoq excavations as our Institute has contributed financially for several years to this project.