Overturning Certainties In Near Eastern Archaeology A Festschrift In Honor Of K Asl Han Yener

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Recent Developments in Hittite Archaeology and History

This collection of scholarly essays centered in Hittitology pays tribute to the life and distinguished career of Hans Güterbock. Stemming from research papers presented at the 1997 meeting of the American Oriental Society, this volume reexamines the philological, historical, and archaeological evidence from the Hittite period. Reporting on new archaeological excavations, philological study, and historical research, these scholars inform and sharpen our knowledge of ancient Anatolia.

Culture Through Objects

Published in honour of P.R.S. Moorey, one of the foremost Near Eastern scholars of his generation, Culture through Objects brings together nineteen studies by leading international specialists on aspects of the archaeology of the ancient Near East. The volume focuses on three main themes that have been central to Moorey's extensive contributions to the field: tracking cultural transfers, understanding images and the study of ancient materials and manufacture. Ranging widely in space and time from

Egypt to Central Asia and from the Neolithic to the Sasanian period, the studies are linked by their shared methodology, namely a commitment to the crucial role played by objects in the reconstruction of past cultures and the recognition of the importance of contextual analysis in evaluating the material evidence. The papers present the results of current research on a variety of topics, including the origins of pharaonic iconography, the spread of writing, stone vessels, prehistoric figurines, the iconography of seals, early metallurgy, ancient cuisine and the use of works of art in ancient societies. Together they provide a useful survey of some of the most active areas of ancient Near Eastern archaeology and will be of interest to both students and scholars.

Nairi Lands

This study analyses the social and symbolic value of the material culture, in particular the pottery production and the architecture, and the social structure of the local communities of a broad area encompassing Eastern Anatolia, the South Caucasus and North-western Iran during the last phase of the Late Bronze Age and the Early Iron Age. This broad area is known from the Assyrian texts as 'Nairi lands'. The second part of the study, furnishes a reassessment of pottery production characteristics and theories, as well as of the socio-economic structure and issues, tied to the sedentary and mobile local communities of the Nairi lands. The study brings into focus the characteristics, the extension and the distribution of Grooved pottery, along with other pottery typologies, by providing an accompanying online catalogue with detailed descriptions and high-resolution images of the pots and sherds obtained from public and private institutions in Turkey and Armenia. Moreover, the socio-political organisation and subsistence economy issues are addressed in order to advance a possible reconstruction of the social structure of the Nairi lands communities. Particular attention is devoted to the pastoral nomad component and the role played within the Nairi phenomenon. The study includes a very large corpus of text images and high-resolution color images of the pottery of the area under examination, gathered by the author in order to offer a reliable tool and compendium.

Sagalassos I

Sagalassos, once the metropolis of the Western Taurus range (Pisidia, Turkey), was only thoroughly surveyed in 1884 and 1885 by an Austrian team directed by K. Lanckoronski. In 1986-1989 this work was resumed by a British-Belgian team co-directed by Dr. Stephen Mitchell (University College of Swansea) and by Prof. Dr. Marc Waelkens (Catholic University of Leuven). In 1990 Sagalassos became a full scale Belgian project and a leading center for interdisciplinary archaeological and archaeometrical research. Due to its altitude, the site is one of the best preserved towns from classical antiquity, with a rich architectural and sculptural tradition dating from the second century BC to the sixth century AD. From early Imperial times until the early Byzantine period a complete range of coarse and red slip wares was produced locally. Excavations are concentrated on the upper and lower agoras to document the political and commercial life in the town and also in the area where a late Hellenistic fountain house, which still functions to date, and a Roman library were discovered. Major efforts are undertaken to restore the excavated monuments in their old glory. Several disciplines integrate the town again within its ancient environment and document the central role which Sagalassos played in the area.

Prehistoric Mersin, Yümük Tepe in Southern Turkey

The excavations at Tell Atchana (Alalakh) are a part of long-range, broadly-based archaeological investigations in the Turkish state of Hatay's Plain of Antioch, today called the Amuq Valley. Tell Atchana is located at the southern center of the valley close to the major westward bend of the Orontes River and was for nearly a thousand years the capital of a small Bronze Age principality called variably Alalakh and Mukish. This volume presents the major new archaeological campaing from 2006-2010, which was designed to revisit the phasing and dating of previously excavated strata, to explore untouched areas of the site, to establish a typology and seriation of local artifact types, and to study local cultural and political history in the dynamic and international Late Bronze II period. The Alalakh Excavations project's ongoing research on chronology, political history, material culture, city landscapes, international relations, and many other topics is beginning to form a coherent picture of ancient Alalakh. Coming into focus is a small city with ancient roots that dared to play a hard game of territorial checkers with its larger LB II neighbor kingdoms and empires. Today Alalakh continues to engage and amaze as excavations and analyses reveal surprise after surprise. The Alalakh Excavations project has taken great care to include a wide variety of scholarly voices and opinions and to challenge preconceptions and conventional wisdom at every turn. In keeping with the tradition of

sound methodology and perseverance begun by Woolley, and the interdisciplinary and international spirit of the Alalakh Excavations project, this volume now proudly presents the excavation results of LB II strata from 2006-2010.

Mersin-Yumuktepe

Mit Pax Hethitica erscheint die Festschrift fur Itamar Singer, langjahriger Professor an der Universitat Tel Aviv und fuhrender Hethitologe und Historiker des Alten Orients. Die Festschrift enthalt 34 Beitrage von seinen Kollegen aus der Altanatolistik und Altorientalistik vor allem zu hethitologischen, aber auch zu assyriologischen, syrischen, indogermanischen und agaischen Themen. Die vielfaltigen Beitrage entsprechen den umfassenden Forschungsinteressen des Jubilars, die weit uber die Grenzen Anatoliens und der Hethitologie hinausreichen. Mit Beitragen von: A. Altman, A. Archi, T. Bryce, B.J. Collins, L. d'Alfonso, S. de Martino, A. Dincol, B. Dincol, Y. Feder, M. Forlanini, M. Giorgieri, S. Gordin, J.D. Hawkins, V. Haas, S. Heinhold-Krahmer, H.A. Hoffner, Jr., C. Karasu, H.C. Melchert, C. Mora, N. Oettinger, I. Peled, F. Pecchioli Daddi, M. Poetto, M. Popko, A.F. Rainey, E. Rieken, D. Schwemer, O. Soysal, I. Tati'vili, P. Taracha, G. Torri, T. van den Hout, G. Wilhelm, I. Yakubovich, A. Yasur-Landau und R. Zadok

Tell Atchana, Alalakh

This title provides comprehensive overviews on archaeological philological, linguistic, and historical issues at the forefront of Anatolian scholarship in the 21st century.

Pax Hethitica

Combines wide-ranging research with the author's artistic skills to reveal the techniques used to create the patterns adorning buildings in the Islamic world

The Oxford Handbook of Ancient Anatolia

In this richly illustrated book Oleg Grabar not only shares a veteran art historian's love for the sheer sensuality of Islamic ornamentation, but also uses this art to show how ornament in general enables a direct, immediate encounter between viewers and art objects from any culture and time period. Based on universal motifs, ornamentation occurs in many artistic traditions, although it seems to reach its most expressive, tangible, and unique form in the art of the Islamic world. Grabar analyzes early and medieval Islamic objects, ranging from recently discovered frontispieces in Yemen to tilework in the Alhambra, and compares them to Western examples, treating all pieces as testimony of the work, life, thought, and emotion experienced in one society. From this discussion ornament emerges as a consistent intermediary between viewers and artistic works throughout time. Grabar defines ornaments as agents that are not logically necessary to the perception of a visual message but without which the process of understanding would be more difficult - they in fact often draw us into a work by strengthening the pleasure derived from looking at it. A major portion of this book explores four particularly influential forces on the development of ornament: writing (calligraphy), geometry, architecture, and nature. Throughout Grabar seeks to serve admirers of Islamic art as well as readers interested in the ways of perceiving and understanding the arts in general.

Excavations at Gozlu Kule, Tarsus

This collective study focuses on a unique undated anonymous primary source on ornamental geometry featuring geometrical constructions and textual instructions in Persian. The chapters interpreting this fascinating medieval source are followed by a facsimile, transcription, English translation, and supplementary drawings.

Inscriptions from Alishar and Vicinity

The Hittites were an Anatolian people living in what is now Turkey, Syria, and Lebanon. The empire started in the 18th century BCE, peaking in the 14th century BCE and finally trailing off around 1180 BCE with the collapse of the Bronze Age. Author Sayce traces the history of the Hittite people, attempting to demonstrate that this was an empire of significance that is not afforded the credit it deserves. The book begins with an analysis of the references to the Hittite people in The Bible, which is an oft-cited source of information throughout Sayce's work. Divided into chapters, the book goes on to explore topics such as Hittite monuments, the Hittite Empire, Hittite cities, Hittite religion and art, and

the trade and industry of the Hittities, amongst other topics. Several illustrations are included, primarily of Hittite artifacts. The book concludes with a detailed index.

Islamic Geometric Design

Prof. James D. Muhly has enjoyed a distinguished career in the study of ancient history, archaeology, and metallurgy that includes an emeritus professorship at the University of Pennsylvania and a term as director of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens as well as receiving the Archaeological Institute of America's Pomerance Award for Scientific Contributions to Archaeology. In Muhly's honor, a total of 38 eminent scholars have contributed 30 articles that include topics on Bronze and Iron Age metallurgy around the Eastern Mediterranean in such places as Crete, the Cyclades, Cyprus, and Turkey.

Field Seasons 2001-2003 of the Tarsus-Gözlükule

Biographies of twelve often-overlooked woman archaeologists

Structuring and dating in Hittite archaeology

This richly illustrated volume is a historical and ethnographic study of one important aspect of Arab-Islamic material culture - clothing. Surveying the evolution, transformations, and semiotics of modes of dress over 1400 years throughout the Middle East, North Africa, and medieval Islamic Spain.

The Mediation of Ornament

Pejoratively referred to as "idols" in the Hebrew Bible and in western tradition, the cult image occupied a central place in the cultures of the ancient Near East. In Mesopotamia, a ritual (mis pi) was used to "give birth" to the god represented by the cult image. In this volume, three separate essays examine the topic within different ancient Near Eastern cultures, and a fourth provides a modern analogy as counterpoint.

The Arts of Ornamental Geometry

While biblical prophets ridiculed the notion of humans fashioning an idol that they would then worship, ancient Near Eastern theologians developed a sophisticated religious system in which divine beings could be physically manifest within the material of a cultic image without being limited by that embodiment. The four essays in this compact volume examine the intriguing subject of cultic images and divine iconography in Mesopotamia, Egypt, Anatolia and Syria-Palestine. This interesting and eclectic group of essays explores the textual and artifactual evidence for the creation and veneration of divine images in the ancient Near East. The recent resurgence of scholarly interest in the study of divine representation in ancient Israel and the Near East makes this comprehensive reexamination especially timely.

The Hittites: The Story of a Forgotten Empire

This volume presents the original texts and annotated translations of a collection of Mesopotamian wisdom compositions and related texts of the Late Bronze Age (ca. 1500–1200 B.C.E.) found at the ancient Near Eastern sites of Hattuša, Emar, and Ugarit. These wisdom compositions constitute the missing link between the great Sumerian wisdom corpus and early Akkadian wisdom literature of the Old Babylonian period, on the one hand, and the wisdom compositions of the first millennium B.C.E., on the other. Included here are works such as the Ballad of Early Rulers, Hear the Advice, and The Date-Palm and the Tamarisk, as well as proverb collections from Ugarit and Hattuša. A detailed introduction provides an assessment of the place of wisdom literature in the ancient curriculum and library collections.

Metallurgy: Understanding How, Learning why

Arranged in sections such as concrete, wood, stone metal, plastic, ceramic, paint, moisture barriers, sealants, and glass, provides information on specification and performance for over 200 architectural building materials. Sections also discuss the benefits and pitfalls of combining different materials, taking into account safety criteria, toxicity, and environmental impact. Annotation copyright by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

Breaking Ground

The concept of pharaonic Egypt as a unified, homogeneous, and isolated cultural entity is misleading. Ancient Egypt was a rich tapestry of social, religious, technological, and economic interconnections among numerous cultures from disparate lands. This volume uniquely examines Egypt's relationship with its wider world through fifteen chapters arranged in five thematic groups. The first three chapters detail the geographical contexts of interconnections through examination of ancient Egyptian exploration, maritime routes, and overland passages. The next three chapters address the human principals of association: peoples, with the attendant difficulties differentiating ethnic identities from the record; diplomatic actors, with their complex balances and presentations of power; and the military, with its evolving role in pharaonic expansion. Natural events, too, played significant roles in the pharaonic world: geological disasters, the effects of droughts and floods on the Nile, and illness and epidemics all delivered profound impacts, as is seen in the third section. OPhysical manifestations of interconnections between pharaonic Egypt and its neighbors in the form of objects are the focus of the fourth set: trade, art and architecture, and a specific case study of scarabs. The final section discusses in depth perhaps the most powerful means of interconnection: ideas. Whether through diffusion and borrowing of knowledge and technology, through the flow of words by script and literature, or through exchanges in the religious sphere, the pharaonic Egypt that we know today was constantly changing-and changing the cultures around it.0Exhibition.

Arab Dress

Ideals of character and beauty, and conceptions of self and society, were in flux during Late Antiquity, a period of extensive dramatic cultural upheaval for the Roman world, as the extraordinary growth of Christianity eclipsed paganism. Textiles from Late Antiquity document transformations of cultural traditions and societal values at the most intimate level of the individual body and the home. These textile artifacts are fragile, preserved only in arid conditions, often in fragments, and only rarely intact. The textiles selected for the exhibition Designing Identity at New York University's Institute for the Study of the Ancient World present an aesthetic of vibrant colors, fine materials, technical virtuosity of professional production, and variations on designs that display personal identity in the clothing of men, women, and children, as well as hopes for prosperity and protection in the textile furnishings of households. Prized for their artistry since the earliest discoveries beginning at the turn of the nineteenth century, such textiles were eagerly collected by designers, artists, scholars, museums, and captains of industry. This exhibition catalogue explores the parallel histories of ancient textile production and consumption, and the modern business of collecting Late Antique textiles. Contributors include Jennifer Ball, Edward Bleiberg, Kathrin Colburn, Helen Evans, Christine Kondoleon, Brandie Ratliff, Thelma Thomas, and Elizabeth Williams. Cover photograph © Bruce M. White, 201?

Born in Heaven, Made on Earth

This book explores the lands of the ancient Near East from around 3200 BCE to 539 BCE. The earth-shaking changes that marked this era include such fundamental inventions as the wheel and the plow and intellectual feats such as the inventions of astronomy, law, and diplomacy.

The Reception of Sumerian Literature in the Western Periphery

Mathematics and the Divine seem to correspond to diametrically opposed tendencies of the human mind. Does the mathematician not seek what is precisely defined, and do the objects intended by the mystic and the theologian not lie beyond definition? Is mathematics not Man's search for a measure, and isn't the Divine that which is immeasurable? The present book shows that the domains of mathematics and the Divine, which may seem so radically separated, have throughout history and across cultures, proved to be intimately related. Religious activities such as the building of temples, the telling of ritual stories or the drawing of enigmatic figures all display distinct mathematical features. Major philosophical systems dealing with the Absolute and theological speculations focussing on our knowledge of the Ultimate have been based on or inspired by mathematics. A series of chapters by an international team of experts highlighting key figures, schools and trains of thought is presented here. Chinese number mysticism, the views of Pythagoras and Plato and their followers, Nicholas of Cusa's theological geometry, Spinozism and intuitionism as a philosophy of mathematics are treated side by side among many other themes in an attempt at creating a global view on the relation of mathematics and Man's quest for the Absolute in the course of history. Mathematics and man's quest for the Absolute history highlighting key figures, schools and trains of thought. An international

team of historians presenting specific new findings as well as general overviews · Confronting and uniting otherwise compartmentalized information

The Transmission of the Pyramid Texts of Nut

"Were there countervailing cosmic realms ruled by Yahweh and Asherah in late pre-exilic Israel? Brian B. Schmidt presents five case studies corroborating the existence of a daimonic realm replete with intermediary protecticve spirits and a pandemonium that wreaked havoc upon both the living and dead. Having converged with Egypt's protective deities Bes and Beset, YHWH and Asherah also possessed the enhanced powers to govern a counteractive apotropaic realm from which Asherah mediated divine portections for humanity." -- bck cover

Cult Image and Divine Representation in the Ancient Near East

Tracing the connections—both visual and philosophical—between new media art and classical Islamic art. In both classical Islamic art and contemporary new media art, one point can unfold to reveal an entire universe. A fourteenth-century dome decorated with geometric complexity and a new media work that shapes a dome from programmed beams of light: both can inspire feelings of immersion and transcendence. In Enfoldment and Infinity, Laura Marks traces the strong similarities, visual and philosophical, between these two kinds of art. Her argument is more than metaphorical; she shows that the "Islamic" quality of modern and new media art is a latent, deeply enfolded, historical inheritance from Islamic art and thought. Marks proposes an aesthetics of unfolding and enfolding in which image, information, and the infinite interact: image is an interface to information, and information (such as computer code or the words of the Qur'an) is an interface to the infinite. After demonstrating historically how Islamic aesthetics traveled into Western art, Marks draws explicit parallels between works of classical Islamic art and new media art, describing texts that burst into image, lines that multiply to form fractal spaces, "nonorganic life" in carpets and algorithms, and other shared concepts and images. Islamic philosophy, she suggests, can offer fruitful ways of understanding contemporary art.

Wisdom from the Late Bronze Age

Issued in conjunction with the exhibition of the same name held at the McMullen Museum of Art, Boston College, Sept. 1-Dec. 31, 2006, and at the Alfred and David Smart Museum of Art, University of Chicago, Feb. 1-May 20, 2007.

Textiles of Late Antiquity

This book is an exciting new look at how archaeology has dealt with the bodily senses and offers an argument for how the discipline can offer a richer glimpse into the human sensory experience. Yannis Hamilakis shows how, despite its intensely physical engagement with the material traces of the past, archaeology has mostly neglected multi-sensory experience, instead prioritising isolated vision and relying on the Western hierarchy of the five senses. In place of this limited view of experience, Hamilakis proposes a sensorial archaeology that can unearth the lost, suppressed, and forgotten sensory and affective modalities of humans. Using Bronze Age Crete as a case study, Hamilakis shows how sensorial memory can help us rethink questions ranging from the production of ancestral heritage to large-scale social change, and the cultural significance of monuments. Hamilakis points the way to reconstituting archaeology as a sensorial and affective multi-temporal practice.

Pharaoh's Land and Beyond

This first integrated study of the role of textiles in the development of the Persian nation (now Iran) reveals their unique importance to international trade and economics and to the cultural environment. The result of extensive scholastic research, the touring exhibition traces the evolution of the art through the major textile-producing eras, of the Safawid and Kajar dynasties, from the sixteenth to early twentieth century.

Designing Identity

The Melammu Project, founded in 1998, organized five successive conferences and a sixth in 2008. Melammu Symposia 7 now represents a new dawn for the project publishing the contributions of the meeting in Obergurgl in November 2013. This time it will not be an isolated event: Further conferences have already taken place and been planned (Kiel 2014, Helsinki and Tartu 2015, Kassel 2016, and

Beirut 2017), the project board has been renewed, reinvigorated and rejuvenated, and plans are underway for a thorough reworking and updating of the project database. Its focus (now slightly reworded to be somewhat wider) is to investigate "the continuity, transformation and diffusion of Mesopotamian and Ancient Near Eastern culture from the third millennium BCE through the ancient world until Islamic times" (quoted from the Melammu Project website). Of course, Mesopotamia was not the source of all culture; but it was an important area in ancient history, that without doubt deserves such a project, dedicated to the study of its cultural impact and heritage. This volume assembles 42 contributions devoted to the topics "Prayers and Incantations\"

The Ancient Near East: A Very Short Introduction

This volume presents a series of studies by scholars working in Middle Eastern archaeology who actively apply social theory to interpret their fieldwork. It aims to highlight the value of using social theory in the interpretation of field work in a region where, traditionally, such approaches have not played a major role. There are a number of factors that account for why social theory is often under-exploited by archaeologists in this part of the world. In many countries, where large numbers of the foreign archaeologists are involved, a division between those doing fieldwork and those undertaking archaeological interpretation can easily arise. Or, the lack of interest in social theory may stem from a legacy of positivism that overrides other approaches. There is also the fact that archaeology and anthropology often belong to separate academic departments and are considered two separate disciplines disconnected from each other. In some cases the centrality of historical paradigms has precluded the use of social theory. There are also divisions between universities and other research institutions, such as departments of antiquities, which is not conductive to interdisciplinary cooperation. This factor is especially debilitating in contexts of rapid destruction of sites and the exponential growth of salvage excavations and emergency surveys. The papers integrate a wide range of perspectives including 'New' or 'Processual' archaeology, Marxist, 'Post-Processual', evolutionist, cognitive, symbolic, and Cyberarchaeologies and touch on many topics including 3D representation, GIS, mapping and social theory, semiotics and linguistics, gender and bioarchaeology, social and technical identities, and modern historical modellingy and social practices in Middle Eastern archaeology.

Mathematics and the Divine

The Materiality of Power

https://mint.outcastdroids.ai | Page 7 of 7