

SARAH KIELT COSTELLO

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EDUCATION

- 2002 Ph.D. Anthropology, Binghamton University, State University of New York
1997 M.A. Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology, Bryn Mawr College
1993 B.A. English, Minor in Fine Arts; Concentration in Medieval Studies, Georgetown University
1991-92 Université Sciences-Humaines, Strasbourg, France. Literature, art history, archaeology.

EMPLOYMENT

University of Houston – Clear Lake

Associate Professor, Art History. 2019 - .
Assistant Professor, Art History. 2014 to 2019.

University of Houston

Instructional Assistant Professor, Art History, University of Houston. 2007-2014
Affiliate, Art History, 2005-2007.

Rice University, Lecturer

Lecturer, History, 2013
Lecturer, Anthropology, 2011
Lecturer, Art History, 2005-2007

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- In press: *Object Biographies, Selections from the Art of the Ancient World in the Menil Collection*. (John N. Hopkins, Sarah Kielt Costello, Paul R. Davis, eds.). To be published by the Menil Collection in 2020.
- 2018 *Seals and Sealings in the Ancient World: Case Studies from the Near East, Egypt, the Aegean and South Asia*. Marta Ameri, Sarah Kielt Costello, Gregg Jamison, Sarah Jarmer Scott (eds). Cambridge University Press.
- 2007 *1,000 Sculptures of Genius* (with Joseph Manca, Patrick Bade and Victoria Charles). Parkstone Press.

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles & Book Chapters

- In press: *The Votive Statue of Eannatum: Who was King? Who was not King?* In: *Biographies of Objects, Selections from the Art of the Ancient World in the Menil Collection*. (Sarah Kielt Costello, Paul R. Davis, John N. Hopkins, eds.).
- In press: *Introduction: The Long Biographies of Ancient Objects*. With John Hopkins and Paul Davis. In: *Biographies of Objects, Selections from the Art of the Ancient World in the Menil Collection*. (Sarah Kielt Costello, Paul R. Davis, John N. Hopkins, eds.).

- Under review: Megaliths and Miniatures: The Visual and Haptic Worlds of the Early Neolithic. In *Handbook of the Senses in the Ancient Near East*. Kiersten Neumann and Allison Thomason, eds. Routledge/Taylor and Francis.
- 2019 Histoire d'Objets. (with Annelies van de Ven). *Le Courier* (Publication of the Musée L), no. 52, 20-23.
- 2018 A Collaborative Path for Research into Ancient Art and Heritage Objects. With John Hopkins. In: *Collecting and Collectors from Antiquity to Modernity. Selected Papers in Ancient Art and Architecture Vol. IV*. (Alexandra Carpino, Tiziana D'Angelo, Maya Muratov, and David Saunders, eds; Mireille M. Lee, series ed.) Archaeological Institute of America. 225-231.
- 2018 Rematerializing the Early Dynastic Banquet Seal. In: *Seals and Sealings in the Ancient World: Case Studies from the Near East, Egypt, the Aegean and South Asia*. (Marta Ameri, Sarah Kielt Costello, Gregg Jamison, Sarah Jarmer Scott, eds). Cambridge University Press. 68-80.
- 2018 Introduction: Small Windows, Wide Views. In: *Seals and Sealings in the Ancient World: Case Studies from the Near East, Egypt, the Aegean and South Asia*. (Marta Ameri, Sarah Kielt Costello, Gregg Jamison, Sarah Jarmer Scott, eds). Cambridge University Press. 1-10.
- 2013 Using Imagery to Interpret Late Neolithic Religion. In: *Interpreting the Late Neolithic of Upper Mesopotamia* (P. Akkermans, R. Bernbeck, O. Nieuwenhuys and A. Russell, eds.). Proceedings of a conference held in Leiden, the Netherlands, March 26-28, 2009. Brepols Press. 117-124.
- 2011 Image, Memory, and Ritual: Re-viewing the antecedents of writing. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* 21:2, 247-62.
- 2011 Yenice Yanı: Soundings at a Late Chalcolithic and Iron Age Hamlet. With Reinhard Bernbeck. In: *Salvage Projects of the Archaeological Heritage of the Ilisu and Carchemish Dam Reservoirs, Activities in 2002*. (N. Tuna and J. Öztürk, eds.). Ankara: Middle East Technical University. 653-686.
- 2010 The Mesopotamian 'Nude Hero': Contexts and Interpretations. In: *The Master of Animals in Old World Iconography* (Derek B. Counts and Bettina Arnold, eds.). Budapest: Archaeolingua. 25-36.
- 2004 Excavations at Yenice Yanı 2002. 25. *Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı*, Vol. I: 117-126, Ankara: Anıtlar ve Müzeler Genel Müdürlüğü (with Reinhard Bernbeck and Necdet Ünal).
- 2003 The Biography of an Early Halaf Village: Fistikli Höyük 1999-2000. *Istanbul Mitteilungen* 53: 9-77 (contributor, with Reinhard Bernbeck and Susan Pollock).
- 2002 Preliminary Report on the 2000 Season at Fistikli Höyük. With Reinhard Bernbeck, Susan Pollock, et al. In: *The Salvage Project of the Archaeological Heritage of the Ilisu and Carchemish Dam Reservoirs. Activities 2000*. (Numan Tuna, Jean Öztürk and Jale Velibeyoglu, eds). Ankara: Middle East Technical University. 26-39.
- 2000 Memory Tools in early Mesopotamia, *Antiquity* 74, No. 285: 475-6.

Short essays

- 2016 What is Processual Archaeology? In: *The Five-Minute Archaeologist in the Southern Levant*. (Cynthia Shafer-Elliott, ed.). Equinox Publishing, United Kingdom. 147-150.

- 2016 What is Post- Processual Archaeology? In: *The Five-Minute Archaeologist in the Southern Levant*. (Cynthia Shafer-Elliott, ed.). Equinox Publishing, United Kingdom. 151-153.

Book Reviews

- 2016 Review of: Jennifer Y. Chi and Pedro Azara (eds). *From Ancient to Modern: Archaeology and Aesthetics*. Princeton University Press. *American Journal of Archaeology*.
- 2012 Review of: Marchesi, Gianni, and Nicolò Marchetti. *Royal Statuary of Early Dynastic Mesopotamia (Mesopotamian Civilizations 14)*. Eisenbrauns, Winona Lake, Ind. 2011. *American Journal of Archaeology* 116:3.
- 2010 Review of: Guillermo Algaze, *Ancient Mesopotamia at the Dawn of Civilization. The Evolution of an Urban Landscape*. Chicago and London, University of Chicago Press, 2008. *Journal of World History* 21:4 (December 2010), 738-741.
- 2004 Review of: Ian Hodder and Scott Hutson, *Reading the Past* (third ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. *Near Eastern Archaeology*, Vol. 67, No.4: 232-233.

INTERVIEWS

"Cuneiform in Context," KUHF Artful Thursdays. May 14, 2013.
<http://app1.kuhf.org/articles/1368533230-MFAHs-Artful-Thursday-Dr.-Sarah-Kielt-Costello.html>

"The Gilgamesh Project," KUHF, The Front Row. October 23, 2007.
<http://www.kuhf.org/site/News2?page=NewsArticle&id=22086>

TEACHING AWARDS

- 2018 University Nominee, Piper Award for Excellence in Teaching
2012 Provost's Teaching Excellence Award, University of Houston
1998 Doris Sill Carland Prize for Excellence in Teaching, Bryn Mawr College

MAJOR GRANTS and FELLOWSHIPS

- 2013 Fulbright Greece Summer Classics Seminar Fellowship
2009 American Schools of Oriental Research, Platt Fellowship (to support excavation in Cyprus)
2008 Fellow, The Brown Foundation Fellows Program at the Dora Maar House, Menerbes, France

OTHER GRANTS and FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019 Faculty Development Support Fund (to support conference travel)
2018 Faculty Research Support Award (to support research in Cyprus)
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- 2016 Faculty Research Support Award (to support research in Cyprus)
- 2015 Faculty Development Support Fund (to support conference travel)
- 2002 IREX Short-Term Travel Grant, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.
Project Title, "Excavations at Yenice Yani 1: Local Developments and Culture Contact before the State in Mesopotamia."
- 2002 The Curtiss T. and Mary G. Brennan Foundation Grant. Project Title: "Excavations at Yenice Yani 1: Local Developments and Culture Contact before the State in Mesopotamia."
- 2001-02 Dissertation Year Fellowship, Binghamton University
- 2001 Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid research grant, to support dissertation fieldwork
- 2000 Dorot Foundation Travel Scholarship

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2019 Session Chair & Organizer, **Ecstatic Experience in the Ancient World**. Paper presented: "**Contextualizing the Study of Ecstatic Experience in Ancient Societies.**" Annual Meeting of the American School of Oriental Research, San Diego, CA.
- 2019 "**Object Biography: Adapting archaeological and art historical research to engage the museum audience.**" Institute for the Study of Civilisations, Arts and Letters, UCLouvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium. Invited lecture for the Midi de l'Antiquité lecture series.
- 2019 "**Collaborative Futures for Museum Collections.**" Musée L, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium. Invited lecture for representatives of regional university and museums.
- 2019 "**Les moulages: Moteurs de l'éducation et Objets d'inspiration.**" Invited lecture, UCLouvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium.
- 2018 "**All Creatures Great and Small: Animals carved in stone at Neolithic Göbekli Tepe, Turkey.**" Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American School of Oriental Research, Denver, CO.
- 2018 "**The Birds, the Beasts, & Humanity: Agency & Changing Worldviews in Early Mesopotamian Glyptic Contexts**" with Sarah Scott. Paper presented at the International Congress for the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East, Munich, Germany, April 2018.
- 2017 Invited workshop participant, **Researching Ownership Histories for Antiquities in Museum Collections**. Archaeological Institute of America Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada.
- 2017 Invited workshop participant, **Balancing Archaeological Fieldwork and Family Life**. Archaeological Institute of America Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada.
- 2016 Co-organizer. **Collaborative Futures for Museum Collections: Antiquities, Provenance and Cultural Heritage**: October 17-19, 2016. Conference with national and international attendance and participation. Houston, TX: The Menil Collection & Rice University.
- 2016 "**Rematerializing the Mesopotamian Cylinder Seal.**" Invited lecture, Art History Lecture Series, University of Texas, Austin TX.

- 2016 Invited workshop participant, **Object Biography III**, Annual Meeting of the American School of Oriental Research, San Antonio, TX.
- 2016 Invited workshop participant, **Career Options for ASOR Members: The Academy and Beyond**, Annual Meeting of the American School of Oriental Research, San Antonio, TX.
- 2016 **"Prastio Mesorotsos Archaeological Expedition 2016."** With Andrew McCarthy. Paper presented at the CAARI/Department of Antiquities Archaeological Workshop, Nicosia, Cyprus.
- 2015 **"Discerning biography, Ancient & Modern."** Paper presented in the Object Biography session, Annual Meeting of the American School of Oriental Research, Atlanta, GA.
- 2003-2012 (annual) Session Organizer, **Theoretical Approaches to Near Eastern and East Mediterranean Art and Archaeology**, Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research.
- 2012 **"Defining Principals, Determining Value."** Paper presented in the Secondary Contexts session, Annual Meeting of the American School of Oriental Research, Chicago, IL.
- 2011 **"The Seal as Social Media: The Early Dynastic Banquet Seal in Mesopotamia."** Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Sacramento, CA. March 30-April 3, 2011
- 2011 Session Organizer, **Glyptic Studies in the 21st Century**, Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America, San Antonio, Texas. November 2011.
- 2009 **"Using imagery to reconstruct Late Neolithic religion,"** Leiden, The National Museum of Antiquities, The Netherlands. Paper presented at the conference *Interpreting the Late Neolithic of Upper Mesopotamia*, March 26-28, 2009.
- 2006 **"From Image to Text,"** Paper presented at the "Art and Artifacts of the Ancient Near East" session, Annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Washington, D.C.
- 2002 **"Yenice Yanı, Turkey. Excavations at a Late Chalcolithic Site on the Tigris River."** Paper presented in the "Prehistoric Archaeology" session, Annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Toronto, Ontario.
- 2000 **"Coercion and Resistance: The Untold Story of the Assyrian Empire."** Paper presented in the "Theoretical and Anthropological Approaches to Near Eastern and East Mediterranean Art and Archaeology" session, Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Nashville, TN.

LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION - in HOUSTON, TX

- 2020 Invited speaker, University of Houston Center for Public History
- 2016 **"Finding the Sacred in the Art of Early Mesopotamia."** Invited speaker, St. Michael's Church and School.
- 2015 **"Beggd, Borrowed or Stolen: The Many Lives of a Work of Art."** Invited panelist. Rice University.

- 2015 **Object Biography: Chronicling the Life of a Votive Statue from Antiquity to the Present.** Paper presented at the Collections Analysis Collaborate Symposium, Rice University.
- 2015 **"The Aegean Bronze Age."** Invited speaker, St. John's School, Houston, TX. Part of the event "Discover the Greek Bronze Age."
- 2013 **"The Cyrus Cylinder: Cuneiform in Context."** Invited speaker, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston "Artful Thursdays" series.
- 2013 **"Interpreting the Earliest Art and Archaeology of the Near East."** Invited lecture, The Friends of Archaeology, Houston, Texas.
- 2013 **"International Relations in the Late Bronze Age."** Egyptology: Unraveling the Story, Glasscock School for Continuing Studies, Rice University. October 2013.
- 2012 **"Bringing Ancient Rome to Life."** Invited speaker, 8th Annual Italian Researchers of the World Conference, Consulate General of Italy, Houston TX.
- 2012 Moderator for the session, "The Importance of Place in Burial and Commemoration," The Art of Death and Dying symposium, University of Houston Libraries.
- 2011 **"Heroes and Ladies, Combats and Feasts: Exploring the Visual Culture of Early Mesopotamian Cities"** Spotlight on Rice's Anthropology Department lecture series, Glasscock School for Continuing Studies, Rice University. May 2011.
- 2011 **"The Heroic Age and its legacy."** The Glory that Was Greece. Glasscock School for Continuing Studies, Rice University. March 2011.
- 2010 **"Who's Invited to the Party? Women, Power and the Banquet in Third Millennium Mesopotamia."** Invited lecture, Rice University, History of Art, Brown Bag Lecture Series.
- 2010 **"The Western Silk Road."** Secrets of the Silk Road, Glasscock School for Continuing Studies, Rice University. October 2010.
- 2010 **"Early History: The Persian Empire and Alexander the Great."** Briefing on Iran, Glasscock School for Continuing Studies, Rice University. October 2010.
- 2008 **"The Menil Collection: Antiquities,"** The Menil Collection, Glasscock School for Continuing Studies, Rice University.
- 2007 **"Stealing Memory: Temples, Shamans, and the Struggle for Power in Early Mesopotamian State Formation,"** Invited lecture, Rice University, Scientia (an Institute for the History of Science and Culture).
- 2006 **"Image to Text: the Invention of Writing in Mesopotamia,"** Invited lecture, The Archaeological Institute of America, Houston Chapter.

TEACHING

Undergraduate Courses at UHCL

World Art Survey I
Ideas in Transition: Image and Text
Art of the Ancient Greek World
Greek Art: Landscape, Monuments, and Memory
Art of Ancient Iraq
Roman Art and Architecture
Museum Studies
Senior Seminar: Public Humanities

Graduate Courses at UHCL

Text and Images I
Issues in Art History I
Art of the Ancient Greek World: Graduate section
Art of Ancient Iraq: Graduate section
Roman Art and Architecture: Graduate section

Undergraduate courses at Rice University

Advanced Study in Museums and Heritage: The Arts of the Ancient Mediterranean at the Menil Collection
Origin of Cities and Civilizations in the Ancient Near East
Art & Archaeology of the Ancient Near East

Graduate course at Rice University

Art of the Ancient Near East: Directed Reading

INTERNATIONAL STUDY and TEACHING

2019 Invited Visiting Scholar, UCLouvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium.
2016 UHCL Study Abroad in Greece. Faculty leader.
2014 UH Art History Study Abroad in Rome and Florence. Faculty leader.
2013 American School of Classical Studies, Athens, Summer Session. 6-week intensive travel and study program in the archaeology of ancient Greece.
2012 UH in Rome. Instructor of Roman Art for a five-week course in Rome, Italy.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD WORK

2018 Ceramic analysis, Prastio-Mesorotsos Project, Cyprus.
2017 Ceramic analysis, Prastio-Mesorotsos Project, Cyprus.
2016 Ceramic analysis, Prastio-Mesorotsos Project, Cyprus.
2015 Area supervisor; field school supervisor. Prastio-Mesorotsos Project, Cyprus.
2010-2012 Area supervisor; field school supervisor. Prastio-Mesorotsos Project, Cyprus.
2009 Trench supervisor; field school supervisor. Pyla-Koutsopetria Archaeological Project, Larnaka, Cyprus.
2002 Co-director/Principal Investigator. Yenice Yanı, Diyarbakır, Turkey.
2001 Trench supervisor. Tell Kurdu, Antakya, Turkey.
1999-2001 Trench supervisor. Fistikli Höyük, Birecik, Turkey.
1998 Trench supervisor. Kazane Höyük, Sanliurfa, Turkey.

- 1996 Trench supervisor. Tell Ein Zippori, Israel.
1995 Volunteer. Excavations, survey and conservation at Isthmia, Greece.

SIGNIFICANT UNIVERSITY & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University:

- 2019- Program Director, Humanities
2018- Faculty Senator
2017-2018 Co-authored Museum Studies minor curriculum
2017 Co-authored new BA curriculum, Humanities program
2016 Steering Committee, Continuing Education
2015 Co-Chair, All-students Committee, Foundations of Excellence
2015 Co-authored new MA curriculum, Humanities program

University Committee participation:

- Faculty Life (Faculty Senate Committee) 2019-
Curriculum (Faculty Senate Committee) 2018-2019
Planning and Budget Committee (Shared Governance) 2018-

HSH Committee participation:

- Core Faculty Advisory Committee. Member. 2015- present
International Initiatives Committee. Member. 2015- 2018
Continuing Education Planning Committee. Member. 2016
Common Reader Selection Committee. Member. 2015- 2017

Professional/Community:

- 2015-2019 University Partner, Mellon Undergraduate Curatorial Fellowship Program, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.
2017-2019 Faculty participant, *Wonderworks* summer enrichment program for high school students, Houston, TX.
2010-2016 Docent trainer, St. Francis School Art a la Carte Program, Houston TX.
2010-2014 Advisory role, UH Art History MA program.
2007-2008 Board Member, Houston Society, Archaeological Institute of America.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

College Art Association
Archaeological Institute of America
American Schools of Oriental Research

LANGUAGES

French: proficient (reading and speaking)
German: good reading knowledge, basic comprehension/conversation
Spanish: basic reading/comprehension/conversation