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Archaeological Research Unit

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In the frame of the

TEXNH: Making, creating, and agency networks in the Ancient Mediterranean world

lecture series and discussion forum, we kindly invite you to the lecture

On artistic transformations and models in Minoan iconography:

Some examples of warlike scenes

by

Prof. Fritz Blakolmer

Institute of Classical Archaeology, University of Vienna

Discussant: Dr. Vasiliki Pliatsika, National Archaeological Museum

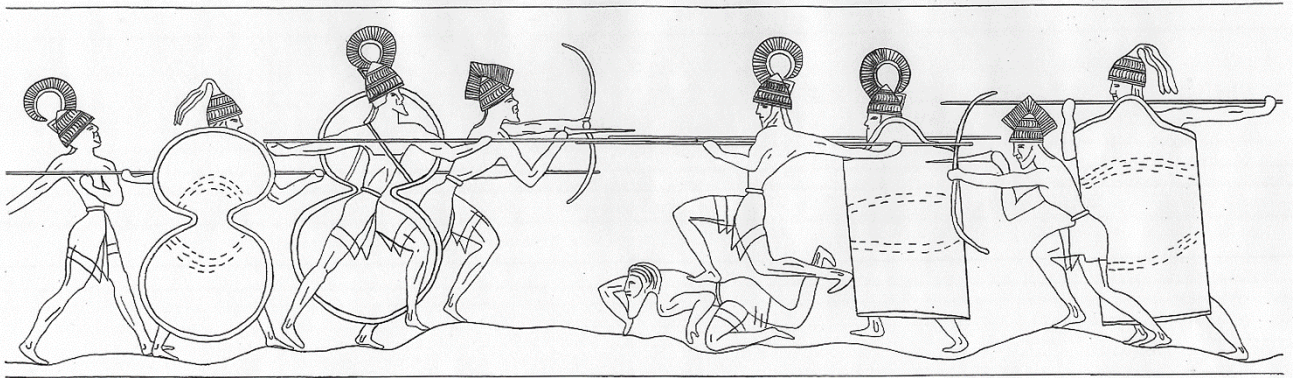


Illustration: Reconstruction of the frieze of the silver Battle Krater from Shaft Grave IV at Mycenae

24 April 2024, 18.00

at the Netherlands Institute at Athens

11, Makri str., 117 42 Athens



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The event will also be streamed live. For registration please visit:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclf-qpqjkoG9y_df2479DLrC0hK9k4gklG

Abstract

Our actual knowledge of Minoan iconography permits us to investigate more closely aspects of cross-craft interaction or, at least, to make some observations on the interrelation between different artistic media. Especially in the Neopalatial period of Crete (17th-16th century BCE), Minoan imagery mainly consists of iconographic cycles, which allows us to approach issues such as pictorial prototypes and imitations in diverse artistic media such as relief vases made of stone or precious metal and seal images.

Based on two prominent examples of warlike iconography from early Mycenaean mainland sites, the silver Battle Krater from Shaft Grave IV at Mycenae and the prominent Combat Agate seal stone from the Tomb of the Griffin Warrior at Pylos, both most probably imported from Minoan Crete, this lecture aims at tracing the possible origin of their frieze-like iconography back to (badly preserved) large-scale scenes in monumental stucco reliefs in the Palace of Knossos.

Literature:

F. Blakolmer, The Silver Battle Krater from Shaft Grave IV at Mycenae: evidence of Fighting “Heroes” on Minoan Palace Walls at Knossos? in: R. Laffineur and S.P. Morris (eds.), EPOS. Proc. of the 11th Intern. Aegean Conf., Los Angeles, UCLA - The J. Paul Getty Villa, 20-23 April 2006, *Aegaeum* 28 (Liège and Austin 2007) 213-224.

S.R. Stocker and J.L. Davis, The Combat Agate from the Grave of the Griffin Warrior at Pylos, *Hesperia* 86 (2017), 583-605.