

## Aim of the conference

Stylistic analysis is an essential tool for the interpretation of the origins and date of artifacts and the reconstruction of contacts and relations. However, in the broader disciplines of art history and archaeology, there has been a long-running debate about the concept of style that has challenged many of the assumptions underlying stylistic analysis.

Recently, Near Eastern art history has also begun to wrestle with these important theoretical and methodological problems, questioning the methods of connoisseurship and attribution studies and the debatable equation of style with ethnicity or local identity. Emerging perspectives interpret stylistic similarities and differences as denoting historically contingent communities or networks of practice that could be dispersed, shifting, and overlapping, rather than discrete socio-cultural groups. Shared stylistic practices are considered not as passive reflections of these communities, but as an active means of social boundary and identity construction and negotiation.

It is the goal of this conference to explore and define the emerging paradigm shift in ancient Near Eastern art history and archaeology in the treatment of style and stylistic analysis, with special reference to the highly interconnected visual cultures of the Late Bronze and Iron Ages.

## Registration

Please register to attend the conference. Attendance is open for all interested and free of charge.

Registration can be made via an informal email:

elisabeth.wagner@orient.uni-freiburg.de  
or  
virginia.herrmann@uni-tuebingen.de

You will receive all information needed to attend the online event via email. Please note that access is granted individually.

Registration deadline: 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2021

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Universität Tübingen  
Vorderasiatische Archäologie/  
IANES  
Schloss Hohentübingen  
Burgsteige 11  
72070 Tübingen

Universität Freiburg  
Vorderasiatische Archäologie/  
IAW  
Platz der Universität 3  
(KG III)  
79085 Freiburg



SFB 1070  
RessourcenKulturen

## Beyond Attribution?!

Style and Communication  
in Visual Media of the Late Bronze  
and Iron Age Near East

International Virtual Conference

12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> of April 2021

## Day 1, 12<sup>th</sup> of April

14:00 **Introduction and Welcome**

Herrmann / Wagner-Durand

### Section I: Theories of Style (Part I)

Chair: Martin Dorka Moreno

14:15 **Davide Nadali**

Style: A Manner of Making or Way of Being? On the Implications and Properties of Style in Creating and Shaping Visual Culture

14:50 **Silvana di Paolo**

Style as 'Brand': Mimesis as Performance of Sameness/Difference

15:25 *Coffee break*

### Section I: Theories of Style (Part II)

Chair: Andrea Worm

16:00 **Elisabeth Wagner-Durand**

The Style of a Smile. Style and Emotions Beyond Attribution?!

16:35 **Christoph Uehlinger**

Does Habitus Communicate? Style, Technique, Habitus and Other Aspects

17:10 **Giuliana Paradiso**

Visualizing Stylistic Networks: Patterns of Interactions among Early Iron Age Artisans of Southeastern Anatolia and Northern Syria

17:45 *(Coffee) break*

### Evening Lecture

18:15 **Marian Feldman**

Can There Be a General Theory of Style?

20:00 **Virtual Reception**

## Day 2, 13<sup>th</sup> of April

### Section II: Style–Iconography–Medium

Chair: Peter Pfälzner

13:00 **Virginia R. Herrmann**

Style Across Media: What Cross-Medium Interaction Tells Us about Art Worlds in the Iron Age Northern Levant.

13:35 **Aslı Özyar**

Content in the Guise of Style: Unraveling Meaning at Azatiwataya

14:10 **Steve Faust**

Issues of Stylistic Attribution of Middle Bronze-Iron Age Cylinder Seals in the Levant

14:45 *Coffee break*

### Section III: Comparative Perspectives

Chair: Richard Posamentir

15:30 **Christoph Huth**

Slow Motion. Style, Performance and Materiality in Prehistoric Temperate Europe

16:05 **Ann Gunter**

Defining 'Orientalizing' Styles Across Media, ca. 1880-1914

16:40 **Martin Kovacs**

Style as a Heuristic Category in Classical Archaeology. Necessity, Criticism and Perspectives

### Evening Lecture

18:15 **Irene Winter**

The Baby *and* the Bath Water, or the Necessity of Multi-variate Analysis: A 'Lingering Look' at Stylistic Analysis

20:00 **Virtual Apéro**

## Day 3, 14<sup>th</sup> of April

### Section IV: Style as a Performance of Identity (Part I)

Chair: Martin Bartelheim

13:00 **Ido Koch**

Egyptian-Levantine Entangled Iconography: The Case of Stamp-Seals during the Late Second Millennium

13:35 **Megan Cifarelli**

Style, Multivocality, and Resistance in Artistic Production at Hasanlu, Iran

14:10 **Dirk Wicke**

Emulation or Adaptation as Phenomena in the Iron Age *Kleinkunst* in the Northern Levant

14:45 *Coffee break*

### Section IV: Style as a Performance of Identity (Part II)

Chair: Jens Kamlah

15:30 **Dominik Bonatz**

Iron Age City-State Styles in the Northern Levant and What Makes them Different from the Assyrian Imperial Style

16:05 **Claudia Suter**

Stylistic Variation in Levantine Ivory Carving of the Iron Age: Possible Temporal Developments

16:40 **Holly Pittman**

Style in the Mercantile Environment of Bronze Age Iran

17:15 *Coffee break*

### Table Ronde

17:45 **Sarah Lange-Weber**

**Alexander Heinemann**