

The two-days international Conference "The Preservation of archaeological Metals: from first Aid to long-term Conservation" is organized by the FAW (Federation of the Archaeologists of Wallonia and Brussels, asbl), the CReA-Patrimoine (Centre for Research in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage) of the Free University of Brussels, and the Directorate of Archaeology of the Public Service of Wallonia (Heritage Dpt-DG04), in the framework of "2014, Year of Archaeology in Wallonia" (www.archeo2014.be).

The conservation-restoration and the setting-off of archaeological metals are obviously complex issues. In the last decades, the development of archaeology, and particularly preventive archaeology, requires from the archaeologists to deal with an increasing amount of artefacts. Nowadays, the effectiveness of new archaeology allows the preservation of fragile objects which need to be preserved. With the development of the heritage industry, the number of contributors dealing with the study and treatment of the archaeological metals is increasing, from the excavation fields to the museums showcases, and these contributors are more and more specialized. Nevertheless no holistic thinking has yet tried to put together the different interventions in a well thought-out procedure.

Regarding the conservation-restoration, the methods are evolving fastly. From the scalpel restoration to the plasma, the means of intervention are numerous but the aptness of their use is still debated in the international scientific community. What means? For what purposes? Other problem: the dialogue between the protagonists of the metals treatment, from the excavations to the restoration is frequently incomplete which hinders the optimization of the long-term preservation in itself. How to take a metal during the excavations for its good conservation? How the lab analyzer can help the restorer, for example by studying the corrosions or the antique patinas? How the restorer can help the museum curator with giving the object the best long-term preservation conditions? Maintaining the object for the study, stabilization, strengthening, passive preservation or restoration, how to deal collectively with these questions to best manage the technical gestures, and in particular in the emergency and low budget backgrounds of the preventive archaeology?

Aiming to be an international platform for the most possible effective dialogue, the conference seeks to fulfill a double purpose. In a scientific perspective, it is crucial to have a holistic thinking on the topic, dealing with all the issues of the treatment of the archaeological metals, from the excavations to the museums. The parallel treatment of these issues is thought to enrich each discipline practices through an interdisciplinary dialogue. On the other hand, from a methodological point of view, the conference aims to spur on a well-thought and collective attitude as to gather the technical gestures into holistic and coherent treatments.



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 ARCHÉOLOGIE
 EN WALLONIE

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THE PRESERVATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL METALS

from first aid
 to long-term conservation

International conference
 organized by:

L'Université libre de Bruxelles (CReA-Patrimoine)
 La Fédération des Archéologues de Wallonie et de Bruxelles (FAW)
 La Direction de l'Archéologie du Service public de Wallonie
 (Département du Patrimoine-DGO4)

Thursday 8th and Friday 9th May 2014

Université libre de Bruxelles





THURSDAY MAY 8th

8h15-9h00 Welcome-Coffee

9h00-9h15 Laurent BAVAY, Director, CReA-Patrimoine (ULB, Belgium)
Opening of the conference

9h15-9h30 Jean PLUMIER, Director, Directorate of Archaeology - SPW – DGO4
Presentation of "2014, Year of Archaeology in Wallonia"

9h30-9h45 Cristel CAPPUCCI, Sébastien CLERBOIS, Letizia NONNE, Marie-Hélène SCHUMACHER
Introduction

9h45-10h15 Régis BERTHOLON, Professor, Haute-École de l'ARC, Neuchâtel, Switzerland
Conférence inaugurale : La gestion des métaux archéologiques, de la fouille au musée : état des lieux et perspectives (The Monitoring of the Archaeological Metals, from the Excavations to the Museum)

1. Archaeological Metals Taking and Preservation from the Excavations: Sample Techniques and Preservation Methods on Excavations Fields

Chair: Jean PLUMIER, Director, Directorate of Archaeology - SPW – DGO4

10H15-10h35 Omid OUBASHI, PhD in Conservation of Historic and Cultural Artefacts, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Conservation, Art University of Isfahan, Iran
From Excavation to Preservation: Preventive Conservation Approaches in Archaeological Bronze Collections

10h35-10h55 Clotilde PROUST, Restorer, Head of the Restoration Dpt of the National Archaeology Museum, Saint-Germain-en-Laye, Paris, France
La conservation préventive des métaux *in situ*, dialogue entre l'archéologue de terrain et le spécialiste en conservation-restauration ? (The Preventive Conservation of Metals on Site, a Dialogue between the Archaeologist and the Preservator-Restorer)

10h55-11h15 Questions

11h15-11h35 Coffee-Break

2. The Contribution of Archaeometallurgic Studies for Preservation and Restoration of Ancient Metals

Chair: Marie-Paule DELPLANCKE, Professor, ULB, 4MAT -Faculté des Sciences appliquées/École polytechnique, Brussels, Belgium

11h35-11h55 Luc ROBBIOLO, Research Engineer, Lab TRACES, CNRS, Toulouse II University, France
Natural Bronze Patinas: New Developments for Conservation

11h55-12h20 Questions

12h20-14h00 Lunch

14h00–14h20 Philippe DILLMANN, Research Director, CNRS, Head of the Lab "Archéomatériaux et Prévision de l'Altération" (SIS2M CEA/CNRS et IRAMAT CNRS), Saclay, France
Corrosion des objets ferreux, bien comprendre pour mieux conserver (Iron Objects Corrosion, a Better Understanding for a Better Preservation)

14h20-14h40 Patrick STORME, PhD Researcher, Antwerp University, Belgium
Comparison of Composition and Corrosion Forms on Archaeological and Non-archaeological Historic Printing Letters from the Moravian Museum, Memorial of Kralice Bible, the Czech Republic and the Museum Plantin-Moretus Antwerp, Belgium

14h40-15h00 Dominique ROBCIS, Marc AUCOUTURIER (Research Directors, C2RMF, Paris, France), *et alii*
La prise en compte des surfaces et patines antiques dans la restauration des métaux archéologiques : étude de la plaque à l'Aurige (Taking into Account the Antique Surfaces and Patinas in the Restoration of the Archaeological Metals: the Survey of the Charioteer Sheet)

15h00-15h15 Questions

15h15-15h35 Coffee-Break

3. The Restoration Techniques: a Critical Approach

Chair: Patrick HOFFSUMMER, Professor, ULg, European Centre of Archaeometry, Belgium

15h35-15h55 Britta SCHMUTZLER, Lecturer, Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Stuttgart, Germany
Preserve All, Restore Nothing? Changes in Attitude Towards Metal Conservation

15h55-16h35 Katharina SCHMIDT-OTT, Head of archaeological objects conservation at the Collection Centre, Swiss National Museum, Affoltern am Albis, Switzerland
Comparison of Conservation Methods applied to Iron Artefacts

16h35-17h00 Natalie CLEEREN, Restorer, Belgium
Conservation of Archaeological Iron: Conservation, Restoration and the Retrieval of Archaeological Information

17h00-17h30 Questions

FRIDAY MAY 9th

9h00-9h30 Welcome-Coffee

4. Museums and Sustainable Preservation

Chair: Anne CAHEN-DELHAYE, President of the FAW

9h30-9h50 Florence BERTIN, Assistant Manager of Studies, in Charge of the Initial Training of Restorers, INP, Département de Restauration, Paris, France
La gestion des objets archéologiques métalliques au sein des musées : les contraintes de conservation pour la présentation (The Management of Metal Archaeological Objects in the Museums: the Obligations of Conservation for Display)

9h50-10h10 Françoise URBAN, Restorer, Belgium
Les méthodes de contrôle des polluants dans les musées (The Methods for the Control of Polluting Agents in the Museums)

10h10-10h30 Michel DUBUS, Head of Research, C2RMF, Paris, France
La conservation à long terme des métaux dans les dépôts archéologiques et dans les musées (Long-term Metals Preservation in Archaeological Storages and Museums)

10h30-10h50 Coffee-Break

5. Towards a Platform of Good Practices, Managing the Museum Reserves for Long-term Preservation

Chair: Laurent VERSLYPE, Professor, UCL, Centre for Research in National Archaeology, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium

10h50-11h10 Bernard SCHUELE, Head of the Objects Centre and Curator, Collection Center, Swiss National Museum, Affoltern am Albis, Switzerland
Le Centre des collections du Musée national suisse et l'entreposage des objets de collection (The Centre of Collections at the Swiss National Museum and the Storage of the Artefacts)

11h10-11h30 Silvia PAÏN, Restorer, Archaeology Dpt of the Yvelines – Direction of Culture, Montigny-le-Bretonneux, France
Le mobilier archéologique métallique dans un chantier des collections (Metallic Archaeological Findings in a Collections Care Improvement Program)

11h30-12h00 Questions

12h00-14h00 Lunch

14h00-14h20 Agathe MULOT et Solenne MILBLED, Preservators-Curators of Heritage, Rhenan interdepartmental Archaeology Dpt, Sélestat, France
La préservation des objets métalliques au PAIR : les procédures et leurs adaptations (The Conservation of Metal Objects at the PAIR: Procedures and Adaptations)

14h20-14h40 Cécile JUNGELS, Head of the Scientific Dpt at Ramioul Museum, Flémalle, Belgium
Des réserves du Préhistosite de Ramioul au CCED du Préhistomuseum. Histoire d'un déménagement de collections métalliques (From the Reserve Collection of Ramioul's Préhistosite to Préhistomuseum's CCED. The Story of the Moving of the Metal Collections)

14h40-15h00 Coffee-Break

15h00-15h20 Marie-Hélène SCHUMACHER, Attachée, DGO4 – Heritage Dpt/ Directorate of Archaeology of Wallonia/Preventive conservation and restoration workshop, Namur, Belgium
La mise en place d'un outil pour la conservation à long terme des collections archéologiques du Service public de Wallonie. Interactions au sein de la chaîne opératoire (The Setting up of a Tool for Long-term Preservation of the Archaeological Conservation of the Public Service of Wallonia. Interactions on the Operational Line)

15h20-15h40 Questions

15h40-16h15 Conclusions