

FROM THE VANTAGE OF THE VICTORY

THE SANCTUARY OF THE GREAT GODS AND ISLAND OF SAMOTHRACE

APRIL 2 – 4, 2020

ACKERMAN HALL, MICHAEL C. CARLOS MUSEUM, EMORY UNIVERSITY



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NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES
AND THE MICHAEL C. CARLOS MUSEUM

This symposium presents the results of the NEH-sponsored collaborative research project centered on the region in the ancient Greek Sanctuary of the Great Gods that coalesces around the famous Winged Victory (Nike) of Samothrace. While the statue in the Louvre has long captured the imagination of the world, it becomes all the more powerful when reunited with its ancient environment. From the Nike's vantage over the performative heart of the Sanctuary – Theater, Stoa, and Altar Court – we reframe the archaeological investigation of this Hellenistic international religious center by grounding the rich material record in the dynamic environmental factors underlying it, and the human actions through which it was determined and experienced.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND

LASZLO EXCALIBUR LECTURE

7:30 **LUDOVIC LAUGIER**, MUSÉE DU LOUVRE
The Winged Victory: Learning from a Masterpiece of Hellenistic Sculpture

FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD, MORNING SESSION: ARCHITECTURAL INITIATIVES FROM THE VANTAGE OF THE VICTORY

9:00 COFFEE

9:30 **BONNA D. WESCOAT**, Introductory Remarks

9:40 **SAMUEL HOLZMAN**,
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES, ATHENS
When Local Crafts Meet International Ambitions:
Reconstructing the Stoa

10:05 **CLAIRE SEIDLER**, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Building International Connections: Design and
Decoration in the Roof of the Stoa

10:30 **BONNA D. WESCOAT**, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Recovering the Theater and Framing the Victory

10:50 DISCUSSION AND COFFEE BREAK

11:20 **SUSAN BLEVINS**, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Adorning the Stoa Terrace: Major Monuments in the
Vicinity of the Nike

11:45 **YANNIS MANIATIS**, DEMOKRITOS LABORATORY OF
ARCHAEOLOGY, ATHENS
Marble Provenance Analysis of the Monuments on the Stoa
Terrace (via Zoom)

12:30 DISCUSSION AND LUNCH BREAK

AFTERNOON SESSION: ACCESS, MANAGEMENT AND MATERIALS

2:00 **JESS PAGA**, COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY
Unlocking the Fulcrum: The Altar Court and its
Relation to the Theater

2:25 **MAGGIE POPKIN**, CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
Access and Movement in the Region of the Stoa Plateau (via
Zoom)

2:50 **ANDREW WARD**, COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY
The Central Torrent: Iterative Water Management and Ritual
Implications

FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD (CONTINUED)

AFTERNOON SESSION: ACCESS, MANAGEMENT AND MATERIALS

3:15 **WILLIAM SIZE**, EMORY UNIVERSITY, EMERITUS

Tracing the provenance of building stone in the Sanctuary of
the Great Gods using Petrography and Geochemistry

4:00 DISCUSSION AND DINNER BREAK

KEYNOTE: AN ISLAND VIEW

7:30 **DIMITRIS MATSAS**, IO' EPHORATE OF PREHISTORIC
AND CLASSICAL ANTIQUITIES, KOMOTINI, EMERITUS
Samothrace, a Sacred Islandscape

CHRYSSA KARADIMA, EPHORATE OF ANTIQUITIES,
RHODOPI

Uncovering the Ancient City: Excavations in Palaiopolis

SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH

MORNING SESSION I: THE IMPORTANCE OF OBJECTS

9:00 COFFEE

9:30 **MADELEINE GLENNON**, INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS, NYU
Bronze Sculpture and Terracotta Figurines from the Stoa

9:55 **AMY SOWDER**, TOWSON UNIVERSITY
Metal Objects in the Stoa Fill

10:20 **ELLEN ARCHIE**, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Reflecting the Banquet: Glass from the Stoa Fill

10:45 **ALEXANDROS LAFTSIDIS**, XAVIER UNIVERSITY
Nike Precinct: The Ceramic Evidence

11:05 DISCUSSION AND COFFEE BREAK

MORNING SESSION II: VISUALIZING SANCTUARY AND ISLAND

11:30 **IAN BURR**, EMORY UNIVERSITY
From the Eyes of Ancients: 3D Walkthroughs of the
Reconstructed Sanctuary

11:55 **ARYA BASU**, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Studying crowd dynamics as a way of understanding
Initiation in the Sanctuary of the Great Gods

12:20 **MICHAEL PAGE**, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Environmental Context(s): Imaging, Mapping, and
Analysis in the Sanctuary of the Great Gods and Environs

12:45 DISCUSSION AND CLOSING COMMENTS