

**SESSION 2G: WORKSHOP****Hellenistic Pottery Beyond the Euphrates: Regional Connections and Local Traditions from Northern Mesopotamia to the Caucasus, from Iran to Central Asia**

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**Workshop Overview Statement**

The Hellenistic pottery assemblages of the Levantine coast, western greater Syria, and western Turkey have been intensively studied and are now relatively well understood and widely published. The eastern reaches of the region (northeastern Syria, Iraq, southern Anatolia, the Caucasus, and Iran), however, still lack synthetic treatments and extensive publication. This workshop elucidates the complex assemblages that archaeologists have uncovered in survey and excavation east of the Euphrates, outlining the interregional networks and local traditions in this large but poorly understood area.

The main aim of the workshop is to exchange information about pottery assemblages in this broad geographic context. Our chronological range is from the late fourth century B.C.E. to the first century B.C.E., but we also incorporate material on either end of that period that ties assemblages into the Achaemenid and Roman/Parthian periods. The participants have been chosen to cover the entire geographic range: from Mesopotamia to central Asia and from the Caucasus to southern Iran. Because the aim of the workshop is to engender critical discussions of this material, the presentations will be circulated in advance with only five-minute summaries presented at the workshop. The remaining time will be spent asking questions, raising issues, and exchanging ideas and approaches to this material.

Presentations include theoretical approaches that offer models for networks of pottery exchange and local production, including identifying the cultural and fabrication sources of certain widespread forms, tracking local continuities with earlier material, and distinguishing functional variations within and between assemblages. Analytical approaches include stylistic, chemical, and petrographic analysis. Since these assemblages can be formally similar but with very different finishes or wares, emphasis will be on illustration, and participants are encouraged to provide multiple forms of illustration including plates, photographs, reconstructions, and ware samples if possible. Although the focus is on ceramics, fruitful discussions about broader issues—including the nature of Hellenism, hybridity, fluid cultural borders, and exchange and production systems that potentially transcend political borders—will arise out of presentations in the workshop.

PANELISTS: *Rocco Palermo*, Università di Napoli Federico II, *L. De Jong*, University of Groningen, *Bertille Lyonnet*, EPHE, Paris, *Carlo Lippolis*, Università di Torino, *Giulio Maresca*, Università di Napoli L'Orientale, *Lara Fabian*, University of Pennsylvania, *Susannah Fishman*, University of Pennsylvania, *Charlotte Maxwell Jones*, University of Michigan, *Stephan Kroll*, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, and *Hilary Gopnik*, Emory University