

Thought, Image, and the Making of Social Worlds

An international conference of archaeologists, anthropologists, epigraphers, historians, and art historians will explore:

- how thought is externalised in material forms and images, across the broad sweep of human history,
- how images work to generate systems of knowledge distinct from language or text, and how these may co-exist with script,
- how comparative study of image systems throws into doubt distinctions between 'informal' vs. 'formal' mathematics, or 'oral' vs. 'literate' societies,
- how images are integral to the making and modelling of human social worlds.



City map, centre Freiburg
Venues marked in red

Venue Conference: Archäologische Sammlung
Herderbau, Entrance: Habsburgerstraße

Venue Opening Lecture: HS 1199, KG I

Organization: David Wengrow

Registration: Silvia Rußig

sekretariat@archaeologie.uni-freiburg.de We
kindly ask for registration in advance.

CONFERENCE

11th to 13th of July, 2019
Archäologische Sammlung
Opening Lecture: Carlo Severi
11th of July, HS 1199, KG I, 18:15

Opening Lecture

Thursday, 11th of July
KG I, 1199

- 18:15 Carlo Severi
*On Complex Picture Writings.
Images and Thought Processes in the Native American
Arts of Memory*

Day 1: Prototypes

Friday, 12th of July, Archäologische Sammlung

- 08:30 Registration and Coffee:
09:00 Welcome and Introduction: Fabian Stroth
Session 1: Material Ways of Knowing
Chair: David Wengrow
- 09:15 Paul Pettitt
*Palaeolithic Visual Culture. The Long-Term
Evolution of Symbolic Systems from the Body to Society*
- 10:00 Caroline van Eck
*Camouflage, Zoomorphism, and the Origins of
Image-Making*
- 10:45 Andrew Jones
*Making a Mark: Marking and Mattering in the
British and Irish Neolithic*
- 11:30 Discussion and Questions
Lunch break
Session 2: Performative Geometries
Chair: Ralf von den Hoff
- 13:00 Ellen Harlizius-Klück
*The Enigma of the Diamond Square
Reflections on Forms of Knowledge in Ancient
Weaving, Mathematics and the Social Fabric*
- 13:45 Susanne Küchler
*Why Image Systems Prevail
Or - Relational Thinking, Differential Logic and
Forms of Sociability*
- 14:30 Els Lagrou
*How do Amazonian Geometric Patterns Constitute
a Specific Way to Reflect upon the Relational
Constitution of Human and Non-Human Beings?*
- 15:15 Discussion and Questions
Coffee break

Session 3: Topology, Narrative, and Scale
Chair: Christoph Huth

- 16:15 Timothy Pauketat
*How Things and Ideograms Emerged from
Thin Air*
- 17:00 Jeffrey Quilter
*How to Read a Pot or Not
Moche Representational Art, Reconsidered*
- 17:45 Carl Knappett
*Types and Prototypes
Perspectives from the Aegean Bronze Age*
- 18:30 Discussion and Questions
19:00 Erhard Schüttpelz
Response to day 1: *Synthetic Images Reconsidered*

Day 2: Reconfiguring Image and Script

Saturday, 13th of July

Session 1: De-centering Script
Chair: Elisabeth Wagner-Durand

- 08:30 Ludwig D. Morenz
*The Interplay of Gesture and Language in the
Early Development of Egyptian Writing*
- 9:15 Gebhard Selz
*Beyond Speech
Cuneiform Writing and Metalinguistic
Knowledge Transmission*
- 10:00 Sybille Krämer
*Reconfiguring Script and Image
Reflections on 'Operative Iconicity'*
- 10:45 Discussion and questions
Coffee break

Session 2: Polythetic Aspects of Writing
Chair: Susanne Küchler

- 11:30 Flavia Carraro
*Signs, Threads and Codes
Chimères, Intellectual Technologies and Matrices*
- 12:15 Bérénice Gaillemin
*Signs in Three Dimensions
Sensitive Writing and Scriptural Landscape, Bolivia
- 21st century*
- 13:00 Discussion and Questions
Lunch break

Session 3: Image-Script Hierarchies
Chair: Caroline van Eck

- 14:00 Stephen D. Houston
What Writing Looks Like
- 14:45 Edward L. Shaughnessy
*Writing Natural Images and Reading China's
Classic of Changes*
- 15:30 Bárbaro Martínez-Ruiz
*Bakongo Graphic Writing Systems as a Basis for
Rethinking the Transmission of Knowledge*
- 16:15 Discussion and Questions
16:30 Carlo Severi
Response to day 2: *Other Genealogies of Writing*
- 17:00 Final word by David Wengrow
End of conference

