



The Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archaeology
The Jacob M. Alkow Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures
The Chaim Rosenberg School of Jewish Studies and Archaeology
The Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities

הקרן הלאומית למדע
المؤسسة الإسرائيلية للعلوم
Israel Science Foundation



Research Workshop of the Israel Science Foundation

Ancestral Stones: Reimagining the significance of stone from the Paleolithic to the Present

September 12-15, 2022
Tel Aviv University

The workshop will focus on integrating other ways of knowing and understanding the material world with human pasts, particularly regarding human-stone interactions, including stone technologies and its social/cosmologic/other significance; stone quarrying, engagements with specific stones; stones in special contexts in archaeology; stone and symbolism; gender issues and whatever else that might be relevant. We envision a workshop in which scholars will exchange ideas and bring new insights to the relationships between humans and stone creating inclusive histories to human past behavior and human cultural evolution.



Stone: Dov Ganchrow, Photography: Dan Perez

Organizers: Ran Barkai & Kathryn Weedman Arthur

Confirmed Participants & (provisional) titles

Clive Freeman and Peter Markovic | Coordinator Aboriginal Interpretation Programs Sydney Living Museums
Stories of Yuni stones; a southeast costal Aboriginal Australian story collection (three mini-sessions and demonstrations)

Kathryn Weedman Arthur | University of South Florida
Ontologies and Assemblages: Knappable Bodies and Their Offspring

Meir Finkel and Ran Barkai | Tel Aviv University, Israel
Interpreting Paleolithic Flint Extraction and reduction Sites in the Upper Galilee, Israel: Human-stone interactions in light of relevant insights from indigenous groups

Lambros Malafouris | University of Oxford
The unspeakable becomes spoken: On the dialogue between maker and material

Dov Ganchrow | Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem
To Computational Archaeology and Back: The round-trip journey of stone artifacts between a physical and a digital existence, is leveraged for the creation of new design works

Bar Efrati | Tel Aviv University, Israel
Standing On the Shoulders of Giants: Understanding Palaeolithic Human-Tool Encounters and interactions using Readymade Concepts and Techniques

François B. Lanoë and Maria Nieves Zedeno | University of Arizona
The petroformed landscape of the Blackfoot

Catherine Allen | George Washington University
Don't Fall Asleep by a Boulder: Time, Communication, and Consciousness in relation to Andean Stone

Miguel Astor-Aguilera | Arizona State University
Maya Lithic Ontologies: Cosmological Embodiment and Materiality

Steve Brown | University of Canberra Australia
Talking with Stones: Indigenous stone artefacts, material memory, and rights-based futures

Lia Genovese | Thammasat and Silpakorn Universities Bangkok, Thailand
The rock-solid powers of ancestral stone

Erica Hill | University of Alaska Southeast
Stone Acting Like People in the North American Arctic: Inuksuit as Polysemic Features

Rachel Horwitz | Washington State University
Symbolic Trash: Lithic Debitage, Ritual, and Political Power among the Preclassic and Classic Period Maya

Paul Sillitoe | Durham University, UK
Known & Unknown Stone: A Papuan Petrological Heritage

Edward Swenson | University of Toronto
Fluid Rocks: The (de)Territorializing Power of Sacred Stones

David Wayne Robinson | University of Central Lancashire UK
Awakening Dreams: ancestral capacities in human and stone assemblages

Ella Assaf | Tel Aviv University
When human-animal relations are set in stone: the case of stone balls and horses

Leore Grosman and Keren Nebenhaus | The Hebrew University, Jerusalem
Curiosities from a 12,000-year-old ritual context