

The Canadian Institute in Greece

Bulletin

de l'Institut canadien en Grèce

Spring 2011, No. 27

printemps 2011, n° 27

President's Message

The Canadian Institute is preparing to welcome its first Neda and Franz Leipen Fellow in September, as well as its first intern to come from Wilfrid Laurier University. These are two new opportunities for Canadian students, one graduate and the other undergraduate, to study and experience life in Greece from the perspective of the Institute.

Despite rather dismal economic news emerging regularly from Athens, the intellectual life of the city, especially the various branches of Hellenic studies, has hardly been more vibrant. The lectures and other cultural events at Greek and foreign institutions in Athens seem almost overwhelming in their diversity and number, but it is the social events, often following lectures, where our students will meet peers of other nationalities, form friendships and develop future contacts. This is what I regard as most memorable, and most valuable, from the two years I spent as a student in Athens in the mid-'70s. Simply in terms of breaking the ice to develop these contacts and friendships, though, there surely is no better opportunity than "Darts Night" at the Red Lion Pub, close to the Athens Hilton, every Tuesday, organized for years now by our Assistant Director, Jonathan Tomlinson. Everyone can throw a dart, and is welcomed into this convivial gathering of the young and young-at-heart of the international community in Athens.

On the subject of our staff in Athens, both Dr. Tomlinson and Dr. David Rupp, the Director of the Institute, have once again been renewed in their positions for three year terms, at the latest meeting of CIG's Board, held in March at Wilfrid Laurier University. In total, 23 people attended that Board meeting, either in person or through a conference call hook-up. It marked an important milestone for CIG, the 50th meeting of the Board since the re-founding of the Institute in 1994, and an occasion to remember. So, as Lord Stanley's Cup, the Canadian grail, is fought over for the next two months, I shut down my computer for the evening and head home to watch some of the night's matches, wishing you all a very productive and enjoyable summer.



Board meeting participants, from left to right: Gerry Schaus, Sheila Campbell, Jane Francis, Zographia Welch, Alexis Young, Barb Hill and Jeff Banks

Gerry Schaus

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opening hours: Monday to Friday, 09:00-13:00
Directeur/Director of the Institute: Dr. David Rupp
Directeur Adjoint/Assistant Director: Dr. Jonathan E. Tomlinson

The Canadian Institute in Greece is a non-profit, charitable organization incorporated in Canada and dedicated to promoting Greek-related archaeology and scholarly research. It has legal and financial responsibility for the Canadian Institute in Greece, the body, active since 1976, through which the Greek government awards permits to Canadian scholars for field work. CIG maintains premises in Athens that include a research library, a lecture room and a small hostel. In both Greece and Canada it supports public activities that promote understanding of the history and culture of the Greek peninsula and islands. The *Bulletin* is published semi-annually by the Canadian Institute in Greece. The editor welcomes articles in English or French on relevant topics of interest and scholarship and on CAIA-related activities. Please send contributions by email to: ibegg@trentu.ca or by post to:
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L'Institut canadien en Grèce est un organisme philanthropique à but non lucratif enregistré au Canada dont la mission est de promouvoir l'archéologie grecque et la recherche académique. L'organisme, qui assume la responsabilité juridique et financière de l'Institut canadien en Grèce sert, depuis 1976, de pont entre le gouvernement grec et les institutions canadiennes au moment de l'octroi de permis de travail sur le terrain. L'organisme possède des locaux à Athènes lesquels sont dotés d'une bibliothèque, d'une salle de conférence et d'une hôtellerie. En Grèce comme au Canada, il subventionne des activités publiques visant une meilleure appréciation de l'histoire et de la culture de la péninsule et des îles grecques. Le Bulletin de l'ICG est publié deux fois par année par l'Institut canadien en Grèce.

Le rédacteur invite les lecteurs à contribuer au dynamisme du Bulletin en lui faisant parvenir des articles en français ou en anglais portant sur les activités ou des sujets d'intérêt de l'Institut. Les articles devront être envoyés par courrier électronique au : ibegg@trentu.ca ou par voie postale à l'adresse suivante:
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From the Editor

The Institute's website continues to make progress, thanks to the help of Chris Stewart, artist and photographer, as well as spouse of a staff member at the Canadian Embassy in Athens. We look forward to even closer cooperation with the Canadian Embassy through his kind assistance.

Nikitas Terzis is a Greek novelist who has included the Canadian Institute in his latest novel. We are privileged that he has contributed a wonderful article for this issue of our Bulletin.

At the recent AIA conference in San Antonio, Prof. Robert Weir gave a paper on ancient astrology used as propaganda on coins that caused a stir in the Greek press and he has kindly written an account for our readers about the subject of his paper and the reaction to it.

Once again I have been prevailed upon by our President, and have written an account of how far afield historical research can lead in Greece, in this case beyond the depths most archaeologists reach, right into the ancient Underworld itself.

Ian Begg
Editor

Director's Report

Since my last report we have had a busy and interesting five months at the Institute in Athens. Our hardworking graduate intern from Brock University, Lana Radloff, left in mid-December and she was followed in mid-January by another undergraduate intern, April Ross, from the University of Waterloo. Both of them continued the work of cataloguing the new books which we had ordered or that had been donated to the Library and then checking and correcting the Library's catalogue. Their work ethic was excellent!

We have also been joined by a volunteer. Chris Stewart is the husband of a member of staff of the Canadian Embassy in Athens, an artist and photographer with a background in IT as well. Chris is advising us on and assisting with increasing the Institute's visibility on the Internet. For example under his guidance we continued to improve the Institute's website, adding a guide to graduate programs in Classical Studies and Archaeology in Canada. Further, Jonathan and I started a blog at the beginning of February, www.cig-icg.blogspot.com. At least once a week we keep our friends and supporters up-to-date on the Institute's activities. Another regular feature is the "**Book of the Blog**". The purpose of these mini-reviews is to bring attention to the new additions in the Library and to emphasize the range of our holdings. Any Canadian scholar who donates his/her book, monograph or edited volume to the library will be featured. We hope the Institute's library will be the repository for all publications relating to Greece published by Canadian scholars. One can follow

us also through our Facebook and Twitter. In addition, Chris has started to examine and to catalogue the collection of b/w photographic negatives relating to Greek architecture donated by Prof. Fred Winter (University of Toronto).



Alison and Chris Stewart, Zoe Delibasis (Embassy of Canada)

As always we had an active series of lectures and events for our local Association of Friends. These well-attended affairs included:

November 3: Lecture, "Mycenaean Architecture and the Construction of the Mycenaean State" by Dr. Rodney D. Fitzsimons (Associate Professor, Department of Ancient History and Classics, Trent University)



Barbette Spaeth (ASCSA), Rodney Fitzsimons (Trent)



Stefanie Kennell, Rosemary Donnelly (Athens Centre), Nigel Kennell (CYA)



Sarah Madole (ASCSA), Rosa Tsakona (Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Tourism), Amalia Kakissis (Archivist, BSA)



Richard Anderson (Architect Emeritus, Agora Excavations, ASCSA), Marti Leiwo (Director, Finnish Institute)

December 8: Lecture, "Eastern Boeotia in the Late Bronze Age" by Dr Brendan Burke (Assistant Professor, Department of Greek and Roman Studies, University of Victoria)



John Cannis MP, Brendan Burke (Victoria), Alison Stewart (Embassy of Canada), Mayor of Kalymnos



Metaxia Tsipopoulou (Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Tourism), Irene Lemos (Oxford)

February 9: Lecture, "Rich Man, Poor Man: Reconstructing Social Status in the Ancient World from Archaeological Bones" by Michael MacKinnon (Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Winnipeg).

At Prof. MacKinnon's lecture, the Institute introduced a new "annual tradition." That is a pitta cutting to welcome in the New Year and to wish good health, productivity and love to the Institute and its members.



The cutting of the Institute's vasilopitta



Catherine Parnell (Irish Institute), April Ross (CIG, Waterloo intern)

February 23: The presentation of a murder mystery set in Athens involving stolen ancient coins, *Bird of Prey*, by the author Nikitas Terzis.

March 9: Lecture, "Making an Archaic City: The Social, Political and

Architectural Correlates of Urbanization at Azoria, East Crete" by Rodney Fitzsimons (Associate Professor, Department of Ancient History and Classics, Trent University)



Dione Dodis, Nikitas Terzis, Ann Baker, Zoe Delibasis (Embassy)

March 23: Lecture, "Searching for Plato's Academy: Post-war Efforts" by James S. Murray (Professor, Department of Classics and Ancient History, University of New Brunswick).

The last event on April 6th for our Friends was the screening of the Canadian movie *The Child Prodigy / L'Enfant prodige*. This examination of the bittersweet life of the pianist and composer Andre Mathieu was well received.

The Assistant Director and I rewrote, expanded and reorganized the "Guidelines for Permit Applicants and Permit Holders". The purposes were to update it in terms of the current Ministry of Culture and Tourism requirements, clarify ambiguous sections, add necessary information and requirements that were absent from the previous version, and to streamline the application process both for the applicant and for the Institute. This document is available now for perusal on the website.

The copy editing and correction of page proofs for the 16 contributions of monograph No. 6 in the series: *Publications of the Canadian Institute in Greece*, entitled, *Euboea and Athens: Proceedings of a Colloquium in Memory of Malcolm B. Wallace. Athens, 26-27 June 2009* were completed just before we closed for the *Pascha* break. We expect that this volume will be published in May.

The Institute's annual Open Meeting will take place on May 12th.

After a review of the fieldwork and activities of the Institute in 2010/11, the featured lecture will be given by Robert Weir (Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, University of Windsor). It is entitled "Antiochos VIII and the Star of Destiny". (See his article below)

We are looking forward to a busy spring and summer in Athens along with the arrival of the York University undergraduate intern. Please come and visit us in person at the Institute in the near future! In the meantime, keep following us on our blog and on Facebook.

David W. Rupp

Intern's Report

Last fall I had the pleasure of completing a three-month internship at the Canadian Institute in Greece. As a Master's student in the Classics Department at Brock University in Ontario, the opportunity to study overseas was beneficial for my thesis research which discusses the potential utility of unprovenienced antiquities. Though there are ethical issues associated with many unprovenienced artefacts, there are those that do not have this concern. My thesis proposes pedagogical approaches that make full use of these materials in museums and educational institutions through public displays and private instruction. During my internship in Athens, I had the opportunity to visit museums throughout Greece and to observe how they approach the display of antiquities with and without provenance and provenience.

In addition to visiting museums, I was able to participate in the larger international community to which the Canadian Institute belongs. As a result, there were lectures at the foreign institutes in Athens that I attended where I learned about various topics in Greek history and networked with other graduate students and professionals, whom I could ask about my research interests, doctoral applications and programs, and other

educational opportunities. Moreover, working at the Canadian Institute brought me into contact with Canadian scholars throughout Canada and allowed me to contribute to Canadian archaeological endeavours in Greece. Thank you to Dr. Jonathan Tomlinson and Dr. David Rupp for making this an amazing experience in every way possible.

Lana Radloff



Lana Radloff

Athens Association of Friends

Programme of events for Spring 2011

Wednesday 23 February, 19.30

Presentation by Nikitas Terzis
(Novelist; Author of *Bird of Prey*)
“Synthesis of a Thriller”

Bird of Prey is a mystery thriller set in the international archaeological community of Athens. The disappearance and secret auction of five ancient coins lead a Canadian professor of numismatics to the centre stage of a struggle without rules.

Nikitas Terzis will recall how he developed *Bird of Prey*, to show that writing a novel is a conscious process

with a procedure. He will explain how one's life experiences, carried to an extreme, can establish the framework of the book - its primary secret, basic plot and character relationships. One may then proceed to inject a thoughtful collection of scenes and a few secondary characters into a real environment to complete the closed world of the novel. In a thriller this world must be full of mystery, intrigue and excitement to draw us in and away from the drab one we inhabit.

Wednesday 9 March, 19.30

Lecture by Rodney Fitzsimons

(Associate Professor, Department of Ancient History and Classics, Trent University)

“Making an Archaic City: The Social, Political and Architectural Correlates of Urbanization at Azoria, East Crete”

Perhaps the most striking development accompanying the emergence of the Greek city-state (ca. 1200-480 B.C.) was the appearance of new urban centres whose form, contents and construction provided the most visible and effective means of creating, reinforcing and symbolizing the social, political and economic relationships that characterized the new “polis” system.

Excavations at the site of Azoria (East Crete), conducted from 2002 to 2006, brought to light an unparalleled collection of architectural data largely unobscured by later building activities that provides one of the best opportunities to study the architectural correlates of state formation and urbanization in the Greek world.

Wednesday 6 April, 19.30

Canadian Movie: “The Child Prodigy / L'Enfant prodige” (101 minutes; French with English subtitles; 2010)

On the keyboard, the young hands fly rapidly and the melody rises. For the child, nothing is easier; he hears the sounds in his head. These hands belong to 6-year-old André Mathieu. He won his audiences and inspired concerts halls in London, New York, Paris and around the world. Adulated,

hailed, praised, the child prodigy seemed to have everything to succeed.

From the top of his vertiginous successes, to depths of torment, the life of the “Little Canadian Mozart” blends into his music. A romantic and passionate composer wishing for happiness, his story is nevertheless played on tragic notes.

Luc Dionne's movie is a fanciful reconstruction of Québécois pianist and composer André Mathieu, who began composing at the age of 4. At age 6 Mathieu gave his first recital of his own composition, and was later pronounced by Rachmaninov to be “a genius, more so than I am”.

Ottawa Friends

During Fall/Winter 2010-11 the Friends of CIG – Ottawa Chapter organized the following lectures:

The first lecture entitled “*Radiochemical Dating Methods in Archaeology-The Shroud of Turin and More*” was presented by Don Wiles, Professor Emeritus, Carleton University, Ottawa, ON. This lecture was organized by the Canadian Institute in Greece –Friends of Ottawa Chapter in partnership with the Archaeological Institute of America in Ottawa and was held at the Library and Archives Canada on October 19, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

Prof. Wiles, described several technical methods for dating ancient objects and discussed which of these could be applied to archaeological artifacts and which are not useful for this purpose. A number of the methods involved the use of radioactive atoms noting that carbon dating was one such candidate but potassium-argon was not a useful alternative. Thermoluminescence was another useful method. The famous case of *The Shroud of Turin* and other relevant examples were presented and discussed.

The more than 150 guests attending this lecture had a chance to meet the speaker and discuss his informative presentation at a pleasant reception that followed the lecture.

A second lecture entitled “*The Humble Dead- Mortuary Ritual in the Mycenaean Hinterland*” was presented by Prof. R. Angus K. Smith, Brock University. The lecture was organized by the Friends of CIG, Ottawa Chapter, in partnership with the local society of the Archaeological Institute of America, the Canadian Institute for Mediterranean Studies, the Parnassos Hellenic Cultural Society and the Embassy of Greece. It was held at the Library and Archives Canada on November 16, 2010. The generous contribution by Mr. Peter Fustanellas, a prominent businessman in Ottawa, helped offset much of the expenses for this event.



Prof. R. Angus K. Smith



Dr. Andreas Vikis, Dr. Helen Tryphonas, Prof. Angus Smith, Senator Pana Mercharnt, Ambassador of Greece to Canada, Mr. Eleftherios Anghelopoulos, Mr. Theodossis Demetracopoulos, Embassy of Greece

In this eloquent presentation, Prof. Smith informed the audience that during the summers from 2006 to 2008 the Canadian Institute in Greece sponsored excavation of the Mycenaean cemetery of Ayia Sotira near Koutsomodi in the Nemea Valley in Greece which contains a total of six chamber tombs. One of these was rescued from looters in a 2002 salvage operation by the 4th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities, and the project led by Prof. Smith excavated the other five. Sadly, the

area is one where illegal searching and excavation is a constant threat. As a consequence, methods were developed that were useful in recovering as much information as possible, even of the most thoroughly ransacked remains. Such information presented evidence for mortuary rituals used in the Mycenaean cemetery of Ayia Sotira.

Among the more than 200 guests present were many dignitaries including Senator of Parliament, Miss Pana Mercharnt and the Ambassador of Greece to Canada Mr. Eleftherios Anghelopoulos who highly complimented the efforts of CIG to bring to Ottawa such informative lectures and thanked the speaker saying that people like Prof. Smith are the true ambassadors of Hellenic culture to Canada. The lecture was followed by a reception kindly provided by the Embassy of Greece.

A third lecture entitled “*The Oracle of Zeus at Olympia and the Projection of Power in the Peloponnese*” was presented by Prof. Susan Downie, Greek and Roman Studies, Carleton University, Ottawa, ON. It was held at the National Library and Archives Canada on February 1, 2011. This lecture was organized by the local chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America in partnership with the Friends of CIG – Ottawa Chapter, and the Parnassos Hellenic Cultural Society of Ottawa.

In this most informative lecture, Prof. Downie, traced the history of the oracle from its origins lost in time (3000 BCE) through its most active usage 7th-4th centuries BCE. The lecture was highlighted by photos of numerous votive artifacts and of the thick layer of fatty burnt soil—a testament to the enormous number of burnt offerings (animals). The speaker went on to say that the altar itself, which has not survived, was a mound of ash/bone ‘plaster’. However, there is a great deal of written evidence relating to the shrine (Pindar, Sophocles, Xenophon, Plutarch). While there was a single *Mantis* (high priest) at the height of the shrine’s use, there were numerous ‘wandering seers’ experts in divination. There is

little direct evidence of the type of questions put to the oracle, but evidence suggests that the vast majority were of a practical nature involving the solution to present problems such as the outcome of wars, business dealings, court cases, etc. The shrine was the subject of power struggles over the centuries among various states with Sparta dominating. Control of the oracle and its sanctuary enjoyed great prestige and the opportunity to get divine blessing for its activities. Shrines were also the repository of fantastic treasures in precious metals in the form of votives which could be readily converted into funds to fuel campaigns. The recourse to the oracle flourished at the time when there were many small competing city states (early in Greek history) because there were many current issues to be addressed. While the widespread practice of divination continued after the 4th century BCE, it probably became obsolete because the oracle likely ceased to be consulted by the absolute monarchs of the new Hellenistic kingdoms who did not want their power to be diluted by reference to higher powers.

The presence of many students from the Ottawa and Carleton Universities among the over 150 guests present, was welcome. A reception followed the lecture.

On March 2011, Carleton University, Greek and Roman Studies Programme, invited Christos Doumas, emeritus professor of pre-historic archaeology at the University of Athens to speak to a large audience of students and other guests. The first lecture entitled ‘*Akrotiri, a Cosmopolitan Bronze Age Harbour Town on the Mediterranean*’ was presented by Prof. Doumas on March 22, 2011 at the Minto Centre, Carleton University. Prof. Doumas is well-regarded as one of Greece’s most outstanding experts on its ancient past. The Archaeological Institute of America in partnership with the Friends of CIG – Ottawa Chapter, and the Parnassos Hellenic Cultural Society seized this opportunity and organized a second lecture by Prof.

Doumas entitled '*The Art of Thera (Santorini)*'. This truly interesting lecture based on his beautiful publication '*The Wall Paintings of Thera*' (1992), was presented to an equally large number of guests in the presence of the Ambassador of Greece to Canada Mr. Eleftherios Anghelopoulos. It was indeed a unique experience to have such a distinguished guest speaker in Ottawa!

Another lecture entitled '*The Kyrenia Ship: A Voyage of Discovery*' is scheduled to be presented by Helena Wylde Swiny, Curator of the Semitic Museum, Harvard University, on May 8, 2011 at 7:30 p.m., Library and Archives Canada, Room A. The ancient Kyrenia Ship, around 2300 years old, was found off the port town of Kyrenia (Cyprus) in the late 1960's. It remains the most complete ancient ship to have been found, excavated, lifted, preserved and reconstructed. Two replicas of the ancient merchantman have sailed the Mediterranean and have been filled with a replica cargo-contributing much to experimental archaeology. This lecture is organized by the Parnassos Hellenic Cultural Society in partnership with the Archaeological Institute of America and the Friends of CIG – Ottawa Chapter.

In summary, thanks to the continuous presence and support of members and friends of CIG, the AIA, the CIMS, the Parnassos Hellenic Cultural Society, the Embassy of Greece and the generosity of Mr. Fustanellas, CIG in Ottawa made available to all present a rich lecture program for the past season and look forward to another equally successful series of lectures in the upcoming Fall/Winter session.

Helen Tryphonas, Ph.D.
President

A Fake Archaeologist

Some of us are not just perplexed or confused but all muddled-up. At least it seems that way.

Take me for instance.

I was born in Greece, raised and educated in Canada and now live in Greece. What am I, Canadian or Greek? Let's look at my professional life. I am a practising electrical engineer who writes mystery-thrillers. Am I a realist or a dreamer? And what am I doing here, rubbing shoulders with the archaeologists on the adjacent columns of the Bulletin? It doesn't make sense, does it?

Most of life's mysteries don't make sense. But as soon as we learn a thing or two, lo and behold, the oddest item suddenly becomes the most natural. I mean heavier than air flying machines didn't make any kind of sense two hundred years ago, but when we discovered the venturi principle and jet propulsion, they became flying buses.

My first contact with archaeology came on May 10th, 1957 when I was hardly four. I know the exact date because I have a photograph with a date. I am the little guy in the picture. The big guy is my Dad. It was a very eventful day. It was the day I visited the temple of Olympian Zeus, the day I first set foot on the Acropolis, and the day I saw my first real snake as I was looking down from the ramparts. I saw a much larger snake made of marble, inside the Acropolis museum. "I don't know what's so important about all of this," Dad had said, "but people come from all over the world to see and admire these stones." Well now, what was this that *even Dad* couldn't explain?

Many years later, I was a fourth year engineering student looking for an interesting non-technical course I had to take. 'Psychology' was filled and 'African politics' seemed boring. One of my friends came to the rescue.

"There is this course" he said, "where 90% of the class is women."

My God! What an incredible figure! After three whole years in the engineering desert of 3% femininity, here was an oasis! I attended the next class, and it was only after I checked the audience, that I wondered what the course was about.

"Fa something," said my friend.

"It fits right in."

The course was FAH 101, Ancient Art History. At the end, I had no time to date the girls I had met in class. But I did have to pass the exam, so I learned all about pediments and metopes and even Hermes of Praxiteles. What Dad couldn't explain, Professor Shaw had absolutely no difficulty with.

Time passed on. I moved from Canada to Greece, I earned my living as an electrical engineer and I started writing mystery-thrillers as a hobby. It was just before the 2004 Summer Olympics that I started to think about my third novel. My first one, *The Edge of Oblivion*, had just been published in Greek as *The Adventures of Asher, Frude, Bonham*, and I had just completed my second one, *Fantasy Land*. So as I embarked on my third novel. Besides the characters which I had already sketched out in my head, I wanted an interesting environment - something I would love to research and enjoy writing about. This had to be archaeology.

What happens in any novel is extraordinary. It has to be, to hold our attention. We don't want to read about John taking the garbage out and Mary cooking; we can see them doing that next door. So to offset the extremities in character and plot, and to make the story believable, we need an authentic setting. Internet and library research can provide information, but archaeologists move in a human environment not easily accessible to those outside it. If my characters and their academic world were to be real, I had to gain access to it. I had to meet the appropriate people and visit them at their place of work.

I write in the first person and my narrators are much like myself: Canadians who find themselves in Greece. If my characters were to be English-speaking archaeologists, they had to operate within the international archaeological community in Athens. I 'googled' my enquiry, and being Canadian, I found myself on the doorstep of the *Canadian Institute in Greece*. From there on, things moved very quickly. Dr J. Tomlinson gave

me the e-mails of archaeologists and I attended a few events given by the CIG and other schools. I had a lively four-hour lunch with Dr. Mac Wallace, sadly no longer with us, who filled me in on real archaeology and numismatics. I visited the upper storey of the Stoa of Attalos II and walked on the grounds of the British and American Schools. I found myself listening to archaeologists and talking with archaeologists. I noticed how they dressed and how they behaved. I began to understand what they were like. All this study was probably enough for an actor, but certainly insufficient for a writer. You see, a writer must proceed even further; he must convince his readers that he is an archaeologist himself.

It took more work to manage that, and when I thought I had grasped it, I started writing my new novel. And the people I had met in their professional lives soon stood in as my characters. I gave them fictional private lives of course. It's one thing to be muddled-up personally and quite another to muddle the very people who have helped you. The result? My new book, *Bird of Prey*, is now available from Amazon.com. Dr. G. Schaus and Dr. Tomlinson have said some nice things about it, but more important, they offered me the chance to write something in the CIG Bulletin.

You may feel that I am out of place. What am I doing writing something in here? Call me a fake, if you like. I won't be offended. A storyteller is a fake by definition. But in writing a mystery-thriller with an archaeological and numismatics background, I was given a very real place in your world. I am being treated like I am one of *you*. Do I deserve this honour? Well, *you* should be the judge of that. Buy, borrow or download my new novel, and read it. Hopefully I will not only convince you that I know your world and its sinister side, but make your heart beat a little faster, make you miss your bus-stop, force you to sit up while you are reading it in bed. And after you read it, you may pass your verdict. Am I a convincing fake, or not? Does my place here

make as much sense as heavier than air flying machines?

But even if I am a poor fake archaeologist, I did do one thing properly. One day, not too long ago, I took my father up to the Acropolis. I stood him on the corner of the Parthenon and showed him the stylobate curvature and the columnar inclination and spacing. I didn't take a photograph and I have truly forgotten the date. There's one thing though I will never forget:

The smile on his face.

Nikitas Terzis

Visit my website: www.nikterzis.gr and my blog: nikitasterzis.blogspot.com

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Read my 3 novels:

The Edge of Oblivion (2004)--A man with amnesia investigates his turbulent past on the island of Karpathos, Mount Athos and Toronto.

Fantasy Land (2008)--Love, friendship and revenge on the island of Ios.

Bird of Prey (2010)--The auction of a stolen coin becomes a struggle without rules. Mystery, intrigue and peril in the archaeological community in Athens. *Bird of Prey* is available through Amazon at http://www.amazon.com/Bird-Prey-Nikitas-Terzis/dp/1453771670/ref=tmm_pap_title_0?ie=UTF8&qid=1285295926&sr=1-7

The Star of Destiny

I have been interested in ancient coins since 25th January, 1983, the precise day when I happened on a London, ON coin shop, in whose window display was a velvet-lined tray bearing a few, dark coppers and a card reading "ROMAN COINS! Your choice: \$15 each." I couldn't believe my eyes, so I went inside to find out more: could they possibly be genuine? A few days later, I returned with a coin, reputedly Roman, that my

grandfather had found on the hills outside Edinburgh in 1934 to have it vetted by the knowledgeable shop-owner. It was indeed a coin of the Roman period, in fact a tetradrachm of emperor Probus minted in Alexandria in 277/8 AD, which meant that it was inscribed in Greek (hence my and my father's inability to read its "Latin" inscription!). But how did such a coin get from Egypt to Scotland, especially in a time after the abandonment of the Antonine Wall? From that point on, I've been hooked, principally by the idea of the stories, the unknown history, that coins must have witnessed and perhaps could be induced to tell. So, I make it my scholarly practice to pinch pennies until they squeal their secrets, which I've been doing in recent years for excavations at Mytilene, Stymphalos, Helike, and Kenchreai. I didn't, however, write my dissertation on a numismatic topic --something which, as an advisor told me, would be the "kiss of death" when trying to find an academic position-- though my work on Roman Delphi did involve some coins.

I have been interested in astronomy for even longer, ever since I got a book on the subject for my seventh birthday. Indeed, until I was in grade twelve and discovered that professional astronomers are really just a kind of mathematician -- something I could handle, but totally devoid of romantic appeal-- I was planning to do astronomy as a career. Nevertheless, I've kept up my interest in backyard observing and have a couple of telescopes in my garage (a 90 mm refractor and a 200 mm Schmidt-Cassegrain).

The idea to combine these two interests in the paper that I presented at AIA and will be doing again for CIG next month came to me while I was walking the picket line during the three-week faculty strike at the University of Windsor in the fall of 2008. Fresh air, exercise, and an indefinite postponement of professional

commitments greatly foster a state of creative lassitude, I find.

I had often been struck by the odd iconography on the reverses of the very common tetradrachms of Antiochos VIII, an obscure Seleukid ruler. So far as I could tell, it was a unique representation of Zeus with a star hovering above the palm of his outstretched right hand and a crescent Moon just above his head. Given the lack of obvious parallels or inspiration, I began to wonder if the crescent and the star actually referred to real, astronomical bodies and were not simply decorative elements (as so often is the case). The more I looked into the culture of the late Hellenistic period, the more I thought that I was on to something here, i.e. that some kind of astronomical phenomenon was being represented and reinterpreted in some astrologically favourable way. A big help here was the work of Michael R. Molnar, an astronomer who also collected ancient coins (e.g. his *Star of Bethlehem; The Legacy of the Magi* book, Rutgers U.P., 1999).

Various spectacular events (solar eclipses, comets, a supernova) are attested for the 2nd century BC, but they are only special to a modern observer, and not at all significant or beneficent to an ancient expert. The only possible phenomenon that could involve both the moon and a bright object represented on the coins by a star, and that would be both significant and propitious to the astrologers of the Hellenistic period - after all, why advertise a disaster, literally a dys-aster? - was the lunar occultation (or eclipse) of a planet.

When I looked up what occultations would have occurred in the time of Antiochos VIII and

visible from Antioch, the capital of the Seleukid Empire, I found a set of very favourable occultations of Venus as well as of Jupiter in Cancer by the Moon at the beginning of his sole reign in January 121 BC, i.e. around the time he killed his mother, the overbearing Kleopatra Thea. This, I felt, was the explanation for the coin type.

Why was this type so short-lived, i.e. just seven years, until he was expelled from Antioch by his brother, Antiochos IX? The answer here, I believe, is also astrological: a series of very baleful occultations by the Moon not only of Mars and Saturn but of them both at the same time, a very rare event that happens only once every 2000 years or so, soon marred his sole reign and foretold his expulsion from the throne.



Antiochos VIII

I gave my paper at the AIA meeting in San Antonio this January and it seemed to be positively received at the time. I was pleased but didn't think much of it until a few days later when I



Zeus

received an email out of the blue from one Owen Jarus who puts out an online magazine (Unreported Heritage News), had read my abstract for the AIA paper, and wanted to do an interview by telephone. I obliged, and a few days later I had word from him that my story was now online, both at his site:

<http://www.unreportedheritagenews.com/2011/01/2100-year-old-greek-copin-may-have.html>

and at another one:

<http://historyoftheancientworld.com/2011/01/2100-year-old-greek-coin-may-have-marked-rare-astronomical-event/>

One of these two postings seems to have been the source of a story in a Greek newspaper, *Ta Nea*, which ran a version of my story a few days later, on January 17th:

<http://www.tanea.gr/default.asp?id=2&ct=4&artid=4613426>

Since then, I have had sporadic emails from interested people around the globe who are curious for more details. At this point, I am strongly considering working my paper up as an article for publication.

Robert Weir

Mission to the Underworld

For several years, I have been studying the archival papers of the late Prof. Gilbert Bagnani in preparation for a book on his life in Greece from 1921 to 1924. When you are pursuing research, it can lead you to very unexpected places.

In August of 1923, an Italian border mission was trying to define the frontier between Greece and Albania when its members were forcibly removed from their car and shot to death. In retaliation, Mussolini, who had only recently seized power in Rome, sent his navy to bombard and occupy the island of Corfu, and he also demanded a public funeral, an enormous fine and an investigation among much else.

At this time, Gilbert Bagnani was studying archaeology at the Italian School. His father Gen. Ugo Bagnani, had served before the war as a military attaché in London where he met Count Ferdinando Perrone, who was now the Italian military attaché in Athens. Perrone asked Gilbert to check out the military possibilities of the railway along the south shore of the Gulf of Corinth, and especially what points were vulnerable from the sea. Three decades earlier Italian engineers had constructed a very narrow gauge railway running southward up a winding gorge from Diakopto on the Gulf to Kalavryta. In addition, the Italian ambassador asked Gilbert to report on the political feeling in the Peloponnese.

For his first effort at “spying,” as he wrote to his mother in Rome, he decided as a cover to invite two older Greek ladies to join him on a hike through Arcadia to the so-called Source of the River Styx.

One of the legendary rivers of the Underworld, it was famed for its miraculous powers, whether protective or lethal, and to take an oath by the Styx was the most sacred oath. Oddly, both Hesiod and Pausanias described it as a high waterfall, now identified

with a trickle cascading about 200 metres straight down a precipitous cliff into a small stream of the Krathis river, which flows into the Gulf of Corinth. It was this waterfall that Gilbert and his friends trekked to see.

After taking a train from Athens to Diakopto, the travelers went up to the cave monastery at Megaspeleion (which later blew up in a disastrous explosion in 1934), and on to the historic town of Kalavryta before hiking up Mt Chelmos and on to the waterfalls of the Styx. In late summer there was not even a trickle of water to be seen, and then they hiked back to the coastal railroad at Akrata. Today there are several hiking paths in the area but those closest to the waterfall itself are arduous and treacherous with loose stones and, since the cliff can be seen from a distance, it seems likely that Gilbert and the ladies hiked only within viewing distance of the cascading Source of the Styx. Even so, the waterfall is several mountainous kilometres inland away from any railway line, and a very credible cover for the real reason for his trip there.

When I was driving around the area in a rented car and studying the local topography to determine the easiest “assault” on the arduous trek to the waterfall in order to retrace Bagnani’s steps, I came upon a local tourist attraction, the Cave of the Lakes at Kastria near Kalavryta, Το Σπηλαίο των Λιμνών. On a hot summer’s day it was irresistible to join a tour group and enter the cooler, nether regions.

Part of the length of this serpentine cave consists of a long series of small underground lakes and pools. In places it is perhaps about 40 metres high and is at least a few kilometers long, with only a half kilometre being publicly accessible (“Photographs forbidden”). Distant vistas beyond enormous hanging stalactites are awe-inspiring, and certainly well worth the visit. Although water gushed out above ground from a lower level in 1922, the upper levels were not discovered until about 1964. The region’s geology suggests that there may well be other

similar underground rivers waiting to be discovered.

Modern speleologists traveling around the small lakes in inflatable rubber boats have discovered Neolithic tools. The same region of ancient Arcadia was known in classical antiquity for its caves, when in Greek mythology the maddened daughters of King Proitos believed that they were cows and took refuge in a cave.

This underground river is strikingly reminiscent of what we think the ancient Greeks envisioned as the entrance to the Underworld. It can hardly be a coincidence then that the River Styx of ancient Greek myth and legend was located in this area, and so may have been inspired by such underground rivers.

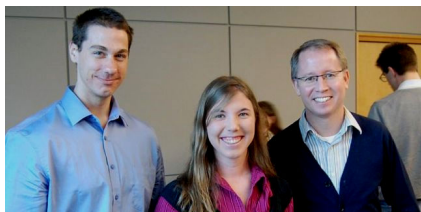
Thus it was that researching Gilbert Bagnani’s spy mission of 1923, which had been conducted under the guise of a hike to the Source of the Styx in Arcadia, led me to an underground river flowing straight from the Underworld.

Ian Begg

Student Conference

On March 18th and 19th the Greek and Roman Studies Department of the University of Victoria hosted the biannual CIG Graduate Student Conference, entitled ‘People and Peripheries: Living on the Edge’. Graduate students and undergraduates from the University of Victoria, Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Toronto presented excellent papers spanning Mediterranean history, culture, and archaeology. The keynote speaker was Professor Mark Lawall of the University of Manitoba, whose talk, ‘Blurry Edges: Transport Amphoras and Economic Zones in the Eastern Mediterranean (ca. 550-100 BC)’ perfectly encapsulated the tone of the conference. The quality of papers was excellent, and attendance was very healthy with several members of the

CIG Board of Directors in attendance, including Board President Gerry Schaus, and members Elaine Godwin, Brendan Burke, in addition to Mark Lawall.



Ryan Hughes, Jessica Romney, Brendan Burke



Mark Lawall, Elaine Godwin, Gerry Schaus



Group photo at end of conference

One excellent paper (among many), may serve as an example: Ruben Post, a graduating student from the University of Victoria, examined the development of an official military training regimen in the Boeotian League during the Hellenistic period. In the early fourth century BC, the Boeotians, known as military innovators, became predominant in Greece, but this hegemony was lost to the Macedonians in 338 BC, and the Boeotian League soon after slipped into political unimportance. In the fourth century BC, training programs for citizen infantry had been all but nonexistent in the Greek world, and yet by 245 BC it became compulsory for Boeotian men to train intensively in various forms of combat from the age of twelve until they left military service around sixty years of age. This

ultimately reflected a desire among not just the Boeotians, but most Greeks to train their citizen troops to defend their territorial integrity in a world dominated by predatory superpowers.

With papers like this the conference attendees were confident that the study of the Greek past in Canada has an excellent future.

Brendan Burke

Agora

Jacques Y. Perreault (ed.) *Women and Byzantine Monasticism. Proceedings of the Athens Symposium, 28-29 March 1988. Publications of the Canadian Archaeological Institute at Athens*, No. 1, 1991

Efthalia C. Constantinides, *The Wall Paintings of the Panagia Olympiotissa at Elasson in Northern Thessaly. Publications of the Canadian Archaeological Institute at Athens*, No. 2 (2 vols.), 1992

David Jordan, John Traill (eds.). *Lettered Attica: A Day of Attic Epigraphy. Proceedings of the Athens Symposium, 8 March 2000. Publications of the Canadian Archaeological Institute at Athens*, No. 3, 2003

Nigel M. Kennell, Jonathan E. Tomlinson (eds.). *Ancient Greece at the Turn of the Millennium: Recent Work and Future Perspectives. Proceedings of the Athens Symposium, 18-20 May 2001. Publications of the Canadian Archaeological Institute at Athens*, No. 4, 2005

Gerald P. Schaus, Stephen R. Wenn (eds.). *Onward to the Olympics. Historical Perspectives on the Olympic Games. Publications of the Canadian Institute in Greece*, No. 5, 2007

D. W. Rupp, J. E. Tomlinson *et al.* (eds.). *Euboea and Athens: Proceedings of a Colloquium in Memory of Malcolm B. Wallace.*

Athens, 26-27 June 2009. Publications of the Canadian Institute in Greece. No. 6, Forthcoming 2011

For further information about CIG monographs, see "Publications" on the Institute website: <http://www.cig-icg.gr>

See also: Stefanie A. H. Kennell (ed.). *On Site: Canadian Archaeologists in Greece. Motibo Publishing* 2005

Open Meeting

The Canadian Institute in Greece /
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**Annual Meeting / Réunion
Annuelle**

Prof. David W. Rupp (Director /
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**The activities of the Institute,
2010-2011**

Prof. Robert Weir (University of
Windsor)

**Antiochos VIII and the Star of
Destiny**

Thursday 12 May / Jeudi 12 mai,
19.00

Danish Institute at Athens / Institut
Danois à Athènes
Herefondos 14A, Plaka

Reception

Το Καναδικό Ινστιτούτο στην
Ελλάδα

Ετήσια Εκδήλωση

Καθ. David W. Rupp (Διευθυντής)
**The activities of the Institute,
2010-2011**

Καθ. Robert Weir (University of
Windsor)

**Antiochos VIII and the Star of
Destiny**

Πέμπτη 12 Μαΐου, 19.00
Ινστιτούτο της Δανίας στην
Αθήνα

Χαιρεφώντος 14Α, Πλάκα
Δεξίωση

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Cash (on hand and bank accounts)	14,898	7,903	5,838	17,811
Operating Endowment Fund	257,100	172,640	93,147	82,791
Rosenbaum-Alföldi Fellowship Fund	90,200	77,816	47,987	44,473
Desmarais-Foreman Library Fund	61,600	55,398	53,522	52,038
Thompson Fellowship Fund	89,700	78,160	60,313	56,018
Leipen Fellowship Fund	200,900	164,621	1,078	
Building Fund	10,700	9,808	21,329	15,968
Director's Honorarium Fund	8,800	6,758	6,860	5,281
Total	733,989	572,964	290,073	274,380
CURRENT ASSETS GREECE				
Cash on hand*	4,463	4,169	(3,591)	1,308
Dollar account	5,193	188	9,929	8,357
Euro account*	3,325	13,569	6,365	4,778
Transfer from Canada - in transit	15,000	10,000	-	-
Total	27,981	27,926	12,703	14,443
Canada and Athens: Net current assets	761,970	600,890	302,776	288,823

N.B. All figures are reported for information only and are unaudited.

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