Identity Problems in Early Italy II
Continuity and change in ethnicity and culture from the tenth to the eighth century BC

Problemi d’identità nell’Italia preromana II
Continuità e cambiamenti nei caratteri etnici e culturali tra il X e l’VIII secolo a.C

Wednesday 18 June 2014
American Academy in Rome
Via Angelo Masina, 5 - 00153 Roma

Co-organized by:
Emma Blake, University of Arizona
Stéphane Bourdin, École Française de Rome
Christopher Smith, British School at Rome
The purpose of these workshops is to explore the methods employed in the study of Italy’s pre-Roman groups. The focus here is on practice, not results. Which types of evidence about ancient identity carry more weight? How can different kinds of evidence be combined in rigorous and effective ways? Can new methods be brought to bear on old data? When must we admit that there are some questions the intractable evidence is not equipped to answer? By bringing specialists in all three categories of evidence together, we hope that in a spirit of cooperation we may share our own perspectives on the challenging task of understanding the peoples of early Italy.

This year’s workshop concerns the Iron Age-Orientalizing period transition. The invention of the so-called orientalizing period is a phenomenon of art history, which has been permitted to acquire significant explanatory power; but it has also rightly been contested. Implying, as it seems to, an influence in one direction only, and being characterised by lifestyle choices which had been made before, and would be made again, the ‘orientalizing’ phenomenon appears increasingly diffuse and chronologically indistinct precisely as the understanding of the individual objects usually thought of as ‘orientalising’ becomes more sophisticated.

This workshop seeks to establish new paradigms for thinking about the orientalising phenomenon, looked at in relationship to the early Iron Age, and with an emphasis (as in a previous joint workshop on the late Bronze/early Iron Age transition) on identity and exchange.

9:00-9:45 Introduction (E. Blake; S. Bourdin; C. Smith)
9:45-10:30 Francesca Fulminante (University of Cambridge)
Networks, Complex Polities and Identities in Middle Tyrrhenian Italy
10:30-11:00 Coffee Break
11:00-11:45 Ariane Huteau (Université Paris 1 Panthéon - Sorbonne)
La questione sociale, politica ed etnica nella transizione dal Villanoviano all’Orientalizzante: il caso etrusco
11:45-12:30 Mariassunta Cuozzo (Università degli studi del Molise e Università di Napoli «L’Orientale»)
Dialettica interculturale e dinamiche identitarie in Campania tra prima età del Ferro e Orientalizzante
1pm Lunch
2-2:45 Maria Cristina Biella (University of Southampton)
Culture figurative centroitaliche di età orientalizzante a confronto: esclusivamente specificità artigianali?
2:45-3:30 Jessica Nowlin (Brown University)
Constructing Value and Wealth beyond Orientalizing Imports: a view from Campovalano
3:30-3:45 Break
3:45-4:30- Enrico Giovanelli (Scuola Archeologica Italiana Atene)
Il caso degli aegyptiaca nell’Italia Orientalizzante: semplice «paccottiglia» o segno di ricezione di idee allogene?
4:30-5:15 Discussant/moderatore: Alessandro Naso (University of Innsbruck)
Discussione sui temi sviluppati nella giornata
5:30 Rinfresco