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One State, Many Worlds Crete in the Late Minoan II-IIIA2 Early Period

ESTF ATTO

Proceedings of the International Conference held at Khania, Μεγάλο Αρσενάλι, 21st-23rd November 2019

edited by Anna Lucia D'Agata, Luca Girella, Eleni Papadopoulou, Davide G. Aquini



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STUDI MICENEI ED EGEO-ANATOLICI NUOVA SERIE

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Re-elaboration by Laura Attisani of the reconstruction – carried out by Émile Gilliéron *fils* (1885-1939) – of figures of men carrying ceremonial vessels in the Procession Fresco of the South Propylaeum, attributed to LM II, in the palace of Knossos.

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PREFACE



Anna Lucia D'Agata, Luca Girella, Eleni Papadopoulou, Davide G. Aquini

This volume originates from the international conference held in the premises of $M\epsilon\gamma \alpha \lambda \rho \sigma \epsilon v \alpha \lambda a$ Chania in November 2019 and organized under the auspices of the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR) and the $E\phi op \epsilon (\alpha A \rho \chi \alpha t o \tau v)$. Its specific aim was to resume the discussion on LM II-IIIA2 early Crete, one of the most crucial periods in the history of the island, which marked its inclusion in the political and cultural orbit of mainland Greece. Preceded by an overview of Crete in LM II-IIIA2, with an attempt to produce a critical definition of the term *event*, the contributions are organized on a geographical basis echoing the conference programme. They begin with Knossos and central Crete, then include western and eastern Crete, and end with a few mainland case studies and a reflection on iconography relevant to the subject. The authors were given freedom from the constraints of space, thus allowing their articles to have different lengths according to the kinds of approach adopted and amount of data analyzed. The volume as well as the conference also documents the deep divide, in terms of the mass of evidence accumulated, that exists between Knossos, undoubtedly the most – stratigraphically and from a history-of-research perspective – composite and investigated site of the island, and the rest of Crete. This explains why we had to strictly limit the number of contributions on Knossos, in order to avoid creating imbalances in the structure of the conference.

Our editorial policy required the elimination of the excessive number of inverted commas used to emphasise a word or phrase, which were originally present in most of the texts and diminished readability. Many of them were applied to the terms Minoan and Mycenaean. It is here assumed that the sense of both terms – whose adoption in almost all the contributions is conventional, meaning Cretan and mainland respectively – will be evident from the context in which they occur. All the dates must be intended as BCE, except for a few cases clearly referring to the modern and contemporary ages.

The conference also hosted a public lecture by Maria Andreadaki-Vlazaki at the Μεγάλο Αρσενάλι on the Chania excavations. It attracted such a large, civic audience that many people who attended the event had to remain standing, or even sitting on the floor around the perimeter of the hall. It was a lively demonstration of how much on Crete, as well as in the rest of Greece, archaeology, and especially Bronze Age archaeology, has contributed to creating a perception of national/local identity explicitly based on the idea of a perennial Hellenism.

We are very grateful to the Institute of Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP) for its encouragement. Lefteris Platon was kind enough to accept our invitation to write a summary of the evidence for the important site of Zakros in LM II-IIIA2, bridging the territorial gap that Michalis Zoitopoulos' decision to not submit a text for publication, had produced. Last but not least, our special thanks go to Todd Whitelaw who delivered the keynote lecture at the conference and whose excellent text has here been included as the first of the sequence on Knossos, and to Michael Galaty and Jeremy Rutter, for offering conclusions and recommendations at the final session that have been transformed in the masterly contribution placed at the end of the volume.

