

Southeast Malta: A Gateway to Cultural Change

Dr Claudia Sagona MOM, FAHA
University of Melbourne

The Subject: Margaret Alice Murray was a pioneer for women in Egyptology and archaeology. When she could no longer work with Flinders Petrie in Egypt during winter field seasons, she turned to the Maltese Archipelago. Her accounts of work in Malta hold gems of information and her contribution to archaeological investigations on the islands should not be overlooked. Fieldwork and research since then have clearly demonstrated that the southeastern sector of Malta played a significant role in cultural and economic change through trade and immigration from the eastern Mediterranean. This lecture draws on her work as a springboard for a closer examination of cultural change in the southeast of the main island of Malta and the archaeological sites in the region.

The Speaker: Claudia Sagona is an Honorary Principal Fellow in Archaeology in the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies, at The University of Melbourne. She is also a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. Her research has taken her from Syria to north-eastern Turkey and the Caucasus. Since its inception in 2008, she has been a co-director of the Georgian and Australian Investigations in Archaeology (G.A.I.A) conducted in the Republic of Georgia. In Malta, she excavated with the University of Malta at the Punic temple of Tas-Silġ. Her research on the extensive Phoenician-Punic burial sites in the islands culminated in a book, *The Archaeology of Malta: From the Neolithic through the Roman Period* (Cambridge UP, 2015). In recognition of her contribution to Malta, she was made an honorary member of the National Order of Merit of Malta (MOM) in 2007.



Following the lecture there will be light refreshments

6 pm Thursday 24 October, 2024

Venue: Australian Institute of Archaeology, Terrace Way, Macleod

La Trobe University, Building TER 11, Melways 873-4
(University parking restrictions do not apply after 5pm)

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