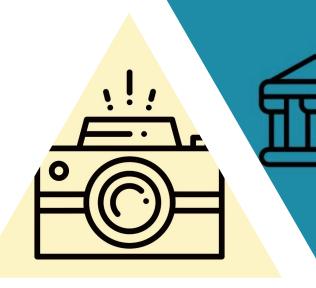# LA SCIENZA (IN)UTILE.

PROSPETTIVE DI RIFLESSIONE E CONFRONTO
TRA ARCHEOLOGIA, ANTROPOLOGIA
CULTURALE E STORIA.

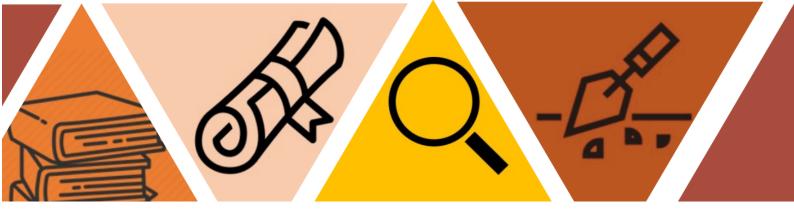5 – 6 Ottobre 2021,
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DISCI.

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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MEDIA VALLE DEL CEDRINO PROJECT: ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH, LAND AND PEOPLE.

Since its beginning, the Media Valle del Cedrino Project has maintained an interdisciplinary and attentive approach to the territory and the community that inhabits it, the residents of the municipalities of Oliena and Dorgali. Archaeological research is not the ultimate goal of the Project, but rather the backbone for the realization of an organic and diachronic study of population in the area and above all of the relationship between man and land. For this reason, the study of geomorphology, flora and fauna must be accompanied by the analysis of the traces of ancient population, to obtain a complete picture essential for research and enhancement.

In this paper, we will briefly describe the Project presenting the main archaeological contexts identified. We will talk about the relationships with landowners and local population during the survey and the presentation of the research results culminating in a conference broadcast in streaming (due to Covid-19); a peculiar example of the so-called "public archeology" will be outlined. In a territory like Sardinia, with people so linked and interested in their land and their culture, an interdisciplinary study as this permits to create interest and enhancement. We will discuss how the pandemic and digital media have changed the relationship with the public.

Finally, we will describe the future prospects of the Media Valle del Cedrino Project.

DISCIPLINE: Landscape Archaelogy.

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STORYTELLING: LA NARRATIVA EPIGRÁFICA EN LAS REDES SOCIALES.

To Covid-19, fortunately or unfortunately, we owe much of the boost in epigraphic divulgation. One of the socio-academic effects of the pandemic situation has been the need to change the

transmission of knowledge and the way it is expressed, both in epigraphy and in other sciences. During the Pandemia we have been able to see how social networks have become (even more) in a virtual repository of epigraphic material, not only for diffusion purposes but also, on some occasions, of scientific aims. Therefore, we believe it is necessary to emphasise that publications focused on epigraphy are not simply passive objects, but that the profiles that share this sort of publications have become active subjects, repositories of memory, with the awareness and potential to become actually divulgative tools.

The analysis here proposed will focus on the subjects and objects that interact on social networks such as Instagram, Flickr, Twitter, and Facebook. The main objective is to answer the following questions: What is the future of these virtual applications in the divulgation of Greek and Roman epigraphy? Is it possible for them to become useful tools for researchers? Is it necessary to study these digital tools in depth for their application in museums, archaeological sites, and research groups? Would it be possible to put into practice didactic experiences through these platforms? We will try to answer these questions by analysing the constants that dwell on this new reality of epigraphy and social networks.

DISCIPLINES: Public History, Public Archaeology, Digital Humanities, Ancient History, Epigraphy.

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ROAD TERMINOLOGY AND ITS VARIATIONS IN THE MEDINA OF TUNIS ACCORDING TO ISLAMIC JURISPRUDENCE.

The expansion of the Islamic world and the creation of new cities have been accompanied by the problems and conflicts developed due to the nature of its urban fabric, the typology of its habitat, its road system, and the neighborhood. To resolve these questions, the public turned to jurists and qadis, the intermediary between the disputants, to restore the rights to their owners and preserve the harmony of the city based on what Islamic jurisprudence has provided of rules and laws governing the city and its organization.

The Islamic jurisprudence has taken charge of various aspects of the life of Muslim individuals, including their acts of worship and transactions. This interest also encompassed the spatial framework of this life, namely the city; while establishing the laws and rules necessary to organize its urban fabric and define the appropriate procedures for its architectural development. Among these laws, those concerned with the street and whose related texts present a rich and varied road vocabulary due to the hierarchy characterizing the road network in the Islamic medina.

In this presentation, we are interested in the study of a Hanafi law manuscript, whose analysis could present the role of Islamic jurisprudence _passed from one generation to another becoming a custom and a cultural heritage_ in the organization of the city and the control of one of its most important components, the road network in the example of the zāʾigha (impasse). In the light of this manuscript of Hanafi fiqh entitled: Hussein bin Ibrahim al-Baroudi al-Hanafi (1700-1773), "Risālat fī bayān ḥukm al-Zāʾigha ʾidhā tachaʿaba ʿanha Zāʾigha ʾukhrā wa tafārīʿ suwarihā [Epistle

on the Order of the impasse and its configurations], ms n° 07709, National Library of Tunis; we will have the opportunity to examine a rich road vocabulary, its meaning and its characteristics.

Through a multidisciplinary analysis in which history, architecture, heritage, urbanism, toponymy are combined in a way in which a legal text is approached to perceive technical and material questions. We will examine the vocabulary used for different figures and appellations of the impasse presented by the jurist and especially we will identify a terminological glossary of the road in the medina of Tunis; while discussing the process of transition from an Arabic legal language to other languages, mainly Italian of architectural and urban domain.

DISCIPLINES: Architecture, History of Architecture and Urbanism, Archaeology, Islamic Studies.

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RESEARCH COLLABORATION WITH MARGINAL-NATIVE COMMUNITIES: A CASE STUDY FROM SUNDARBANS.

This paper aims at articulating and implying an intersectional -participatory research methodology by introducing a "community integration approach", especially for marginal communities where they are not treated as a subject but as an active collaborator. This gives the marginals, especially the 'women' a space to voice their opinions and contentions, instead of academicians becoming their voices. The paper proposes the applicability of various community integrated methods like 'Participatory Learning Action' to denounce the reductionist approach of one particular method and emphasize more on empirical evidence to decolonize the knowledge produced in the scheme of different research activities. This will open up discussions on various dilemmas of ethical integrity and precarious-positionality a social science

researcher faces especially when working with marginal communities. It will further ideate us how to measure the validity and reliability of our research and ensure a safe intersectional lens among the community by deconstructing the social science methodology and go beyond the scientific epistemic discourses. I will respond to these arguments through the case study of my own research on native communities in Indian Sundarbans who negotiate their survival through constant re-adaptation to natural

disasters. The purpose is to initiate a learning process between the community and the researcher and further disseminate the acquired knowledge from the locals and their lived experiences to the world such that their traditional knowledge systems are accounted for in scientific or contemporary knowledge spaces and give them the required authorship and credibility.

DISCIPLINE: Environmental Anthropology.

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«UNA SUFFICIENTE IDEA DELLO STATO DELLE COSE»: DELL'UTILITÀ DELLE OPERE DI ERUDIZIONE E DELLE LORO EDIZIONI CRITICHE.

If you take care of the critical edition of a document, it means that you analyze it, study it in depth and disseminate the outcome of your investigations to an audience that is hoped to be as broad as possible, also making use of the techniques of public history and digital humanities. The aim of this paper is to demonstrate the usefulness of the research in the historical, philological and archival fields starting from a personal experience: the critical edition conducted on "Serie de' Governatori di Milano dall'anno 1535 al 1776 con istoriche annotazioni" (Milano, La Vita Felice, 2020, "Biblioteca Milanese", 26). The work was compiled by Francesco Bellati and it was published in 1776 by the milanese printer Giuseppe Richino Malatesta. It hands down the list of governors from 1535 to 1776, with notes and erudite insights. The analysis of the volume allows to learn about two centuries of milanese history. This text presents a significant insight into life, culture and skills of an eighteenth-century government employee. If you study this work, you could deduce interesting ideas for a different role of the public administration employee, that can be considered not as a passive executor of tasks, but as a vital gear in the bureaucratic machine. In fact, Francesco Bellati tried to understand the mechanisms of government and he wrote a work to tell the stories and the historical events of the people involved (governors, chancellors, government consultants and provisional rulers). This example demonstrates the importance and the usefulness of social sciences and humanities and their role in the ongoing global situation. Historical, philological and archival researches interact and communicate with the society. Social sciences and humanities contribute significantly to the discussion and understanding of contemporary issues.

DISCIPLINES: Italian Philology, Modern History, Archival Studies.

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LE ESPERIENZE AUTO-ETNOGRAFICHE DELLA CRISI. L'"UNIVERSITÀ DIGITALE" COME NUOVO CAMPO DI RICERCA.

Clifford Geertz argued that the ultimate goal of anthropology is to enlarge the field of the "being human" experience, by proving the variety of meanings this experience can reach. During a sudden health emergency, the use and the social value of research in the humanities field are deeply questioned and, in such a scenario, the anthropologist must restart by the crisis; from a narrow world to the World, the issues for the researcher in placing himself among people is strong. However, the "digital field" allowed the research field to improve different comparisons, which are even more participating and interpretive.

Should we try to approach present and future research by following the footsteps of the past? The history of these studies often shows anthropologists "doing ethnography" and ethnographers "doing anthropology". Probably the human side, as defined by Sandra Puccini, can turn into a refined anthropological tool, which is useful for a personal reflection and research.

There will be shown the witnesses of academics who used to experience - and still do so - the issues in doing research, living in a reality distorted between a cold digital dimension and spatial distance.

DISCIPLINES: (Ethno)anthropology

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ANCIENT HISTORY, WHAT CAN IT DO FOR YOU? DIGITAL HUMANITIES CREATING BRIDGES.

To build arguments for increasing budgets for research on ancient history is not easy, particularly when society is not demanding for such developments and decision makers define other priorities with more immediate and visible impact on public opinion and economy. Also, the tendency of humanities disciplines' for maintaining a certain distance from social community must be considered, not always communicating properly or transferring knowledge through engaging methods. Heritage is appealing for all social actors, but hardly considered beyond the museological approach and tendentiously not receiving the necessary support for more explorative research. In that sense, museums, universities, schools, libraries, local authorities and community must engage on real and synergetic interaction in order to promote mutual benefit at same time scientific knowledge is boosted. That can be achieved through merging education and entertainment, but many bridges between research, storing, knowledge creation and transfer must be built, and digital humanities may be the engine for constructing such bridges. The aim of this paper is to propose an exploratory analysis and perform a brainstorming on the possibilities for using digital humanities, in short and midterm, as a mean for potentiating social wellbeing, heritage preservation and scientific research.

DISCIPLINES: Knowledge Management, Digital Humanities, Ancient History, Knowledge Transfer, Science Management.

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SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING E ARCHEOLOGIA PUBBLICA: ALCUNE RIFLESSIONI.

The use of digital media represents one of the most interesting developments in public archeology. There is a significant change in the way of conceiving the relationship between culture and technology and a greater awareness, in Italy, of the potential of these tools. Indeed, in the last few years, the use of digital platforms such as websites and social media by museums and cultural

institutions has increased significantly. The percentage of museums with at least one official account on the most important social media has increased from 52% in 2016 to 83% in 2021. This growth was obviously accelerated by the pandemic. While the use of social media in the cultural sector has increased, some doubts arise in terms of quality. How many museums have adopted a social media strategy? How many museums have the right knowledge and skills? And how many archaeological projects have a social account and a communication strategy? The aim of this paper is to analyze the current situation on the use of social media in all cultural areas in Italy, in particular by archaeological projects. Furthermore, the aim is to identify some communication strategies that archeologists can and must implement to reach a wider public by using social media marketing.

DISCIPLINES: Medieval archaeology, landscape archaeology, public archaeology, digital heritage

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TRACCE DI PASSATO NELLE FUTURE GENERAZIONI.

The Roman site of the ancient house of the emperor Neron in Antium represents a perfect setting to prove the social utility of the archaeology, especially in order to bring young students to the history and the art of their territory. Learning was articulated in a lot of different moments: some explanations about the old houses of the ancient Romans, of the emperors and of the rich people; some drawings about it and an hypothetical reconstruction; the performances of the roles of "dominus" and "servi" by the reading of the ancient sources; the compilation of the boards regarding the comparison between the way to live in the present and the way to live in the past; an imaginary interview to the emperor and the others inhabitants of the residence.
In this regard, the technology can be used in this society that is becoming ever more complicated and advanced. By the way, learning across playing can make known the ancient world to the students, transfer it in the everyday life and turn into part of cultural heritage of themselves. The games of computer can reconstruct the ancient houses, graves, streets and aqueducts in three dimensions.

DISCIPLINES: History, ancient literature, archaeology and technology.

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LA IMPORTANCIA DE LA HISTORIA ANTIGUA EN LA CONSTRUCCIÓN DE LA IDENTIDAD DE NAVARRA.

There is an interest among historians, and particularly among the ones devoted to Antiquity, in the understanding and study of the identity problems. The investigation in Ancient History has not been far in the last years from the national controversies and has produced very recently many works

that have brought again the issue of ethnic groups and the role that Antiquity plays in the construction of modern identities.

That´s why in the case of Navarra, region in the north of Spain, it is particularly interesting to pay attention to the pre-roman peoples of Ancient Vascones and to the different political purposes to which they have been employed to build the modern identity of Navarra. This manipulation has raised a lot of topics about Vascones that can be easily refuted if we look at the historical knowledge that we have regarding literary, epigraphic and numismatic sources and, moreover, to the archaeological rests that we have been discovering during the last decades.

As a result, the Ancient History is essential to understand the identity of Navarra, whose interest is especially high because there is in this region a very strong cultural feeling that has been built over centuries.

DISCIPLINE: Ancient History

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UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE IN SHAPING THE LIFE OF LOCALS: A CASE STUDY OF DHOLAVIRA, RANN OF KUTCH, GUJARAT, INDIA.

This paper elucidates the concept of 'citizen science' and different nuances of 'landscape archaeology' for understanding the relation between an archaeological site and the current residents of that region. It also tries to reflect on the effect of active participation of a person in archaeological work around their domicile among the community of its origin. A study was conducted in the villages located near the archaeological site of 'Dholavira', one of the largest metropolises of the Harappan civilization dated back to 2650-2000 BCE. Through last few decades, this excavated archaeological site had played an important role in shaping the landscape and the human interactions of a region. It had left a profound effect on the people of that region, particularly the ones living within a short purview of the site. Archaeological sites have been the centre of tourist attraction all over the world and it has been subjected to numerous governmental and nongovernmental interventions. Other than defining the cultural landscape of the region, it had left an unprecedented impact on the livelihood and the identity of the local communities .The situation is more or less identical in India, an excavated archaeological site, even in the remotest part of the country had brought an immense change in the people of that region and sometimes active public participation and temporary employment excavation related activities had redefined the economic conjecture of that particular region. This paper observes the lives of the local people and their interactions around a globally reputed archaeological site like Dholavira.

DISCIPLINES: Landscape Archaeology, Public Archaeology

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La búsqueda de fuentes en pandemia: la experiencia de inicio de un estudio doctoral interdisciplinar en tiempos de Covid-19.

Starting social sciences research always means starting a challenging journey of sources research and analysis. In history area, this journey is carried out from a heuristic process that is originated, mainly but not exclusively, in the historical archives. In the case of our research, whose study perspective is interdisciplinary, we try to articulate not only the contributions of historical discipline but also those of archeology, to address issues related to the use of space in the Quebrada de Humahuaca - Province of Jujuy, Argentina– during pre- and post-Hispanics times.

However, at present, the beginning of our research and the aforementioned archival search process finds us inserted in an unusual national and international panorama, in which a large part or all of the documentary collection institutions are closed, therefore, the current challenge is twofold. This leads us to propose the following question that has given purpose to this presentation: how to circumvent the search for sources in this context? The answer that we state in these initial instances for our work revolves around two central questions: the importance of documentary digitization and the search and intersection of materials and sources present in repositories and funds in different geographical spaces.

Disciplines: History, Archaeology

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ArchaeoTrail App: Opening a window into the past.

Archaeological sites offer valuable insights into the past. Without a good presentation, however, it is difficult to communicate this knowledge to the general public. The newly developed ArchaeoTrail App does just this and offers the opportunity for visitors to discover the archaeological sites on their own.

The ArchaeoTrail App is based on the successful two-folded system of MathCityMap (www.mathcitymap.eu), which entails a web portal and an actual app for mobile devices. The portal (www.archaeotrail.org) aims at the scientists and research institutions that want to generate archaeological tours for sites all around the world. With just a few clicks, texts, photos, audio files and videos can be uploaded in the web portal. By doing so, a new tour is automatically created. In

the smartphone app, visitors are guided by their GPS along a suggested route to the various stations of the tour. They receive brief information in the form of texts and multimedia and, for school groups and families, small quizzes are even provided.

ArchaeoTrail was initiated and is currently run by Stephanie Döpper in collaboration with Matthias Ludwig and his team, who are responsible for the project's technical realisation. The project is sponsored by the Volkswagen Foundation within the framework "World Knowledge – Structural Support for 'Rare Subjects'". Luise Loges is the public relations officer of the project.

DISCIPLINE: Archaeology

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BETWEEN VOLUNTARY OBLIVION AND MEMORY: RETHINKING THE WAY OF WORKING WITH TRADITIONAL CHANE SONGS.

Both the chronicles of the Franciscan missionaries written between the 18th and 19th centuries and the contributions of ethnographers and historians who registered systematically the culture of the Chiriguanos and Chanes throughout the 20th century have left us with relevant information about these Guaraní-speaking groups settled in the west of South American Chaco. Their descriptions represent an important point of departure from which to begin approaching some aspects of their social life. Most of these works, however, share a fatalistic view about the future of their cultural practices, predicting their disappearance in the short term in the face of the inexorable advance of modernity. Yet despite this, recent research shows that many of the elements that make up the cultural heritage of these groups still circulate and maintain a social value. Based on our own field experience among the Chanes of Northwest Argentina and the explorations we have carried out on the subject, we intend here to give an account of the contexts of production and the social uses of the traditional song repertoire among this group, taking into account the social dynamics in which these practices are inserted. Finally, we will reflect on the importance of changing the way we approach the work with these artistic expressions and those who create them, as well as on the relevance and social role of scientific research within indigenous communities.

DISCIPLINES: Ethnohistory, Musical practices, Ethnography, Verbal Art.

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CRISES OF AUTHORITY AND THE ROLE OF THE SACRED IN REMAKING POLITICAL LIFE: THE USE OF THE STUDY OF MEDIEVAL ITALIAN POLITICAL CULTURE.

This paper reflects on the value of the study of medieval political culture, in particular the utility of the historical laboratory offered by the early Italian communes and the first Norman political entities in the Mezzogiorno. By focusing on the ways in which these societies used strategies of storytelling and deployed thematic tropes resonant with the language of holy war, scholars can develop a more nuanced understanding of both medieval and modern notions of political life, and how politics is necessarily entangled in ideas about the sacred and the profane. The first part of this paper identifies comparisons between twelfth-century crises of authority in the Italian peninsula and modern political disruption in consensus neoliberalism and global capitalism. Subsequently, the second part outlines the relevance of the study of the politico-religious culture of central medieval Italy for comprehending the interrelated phenomena of climate catastrophe and the growing strength of illiberalism in the twenty-first century. And finally, the third part narrowly focuses on the particular use of the study of medieval political theology as it appears in history-writing, and suggests that the necropolitics of the present can be understood in similar terms. For pre-modern and modern societies alike, collective narratives impinging on sacrality are at the heart of how humanity navigates political life. Ultimately, this paper argues that the study of how medieval communities engaged in the creation of political mythologies (which touched on distinctly Christian notions of justice, belonging, and sacrifice) is crucial to making sense of our own cultural responses to a warmer and more dangerous world. Adding to the discussion offered in Climate Leviathan by Geoff Mann and Joel Wainwright, this paper proposes that confronting our future should necessarily involve studying the ways in which past people understood political life as a series of answers addressed at fundamental questions of life and death.

DISCIPLINE: Medieval History

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LO STUDIO DELLA TOPONIMIA PER CAPIRE IL PRESENTE E RIPENSARE IL FUTURO DEI WICHÍS NEL NORD DELL'ARGENTINA.

What is the point of writing about the landscape when it is disappearing? Or rather, why dedicate oneself to collecting place names and reconstructing their histories through toponymy, when those same places seem destined to disappear? This question is not a purely rhetorical exercise. Rather, it is a question that emerged during my fieldwork among the Wichís who live in San José, in the heart of the forests of the Chaco (northern Argentina), and then came up again when processing the data and the interviews collected in the field. So why collect place names? If the scientific usefulness of such an activity is obvious, or at least it is for a geographer, what is the social usefulness of giving names to places that are disappearing as the bulldozers advance? Abandoning them in the process would mean giving in to the advance of deforestation, accepting that they will raze the land,

both environmentally and culturally. On the contrary, drawing up a toponymy map is an excellent way of giving visibility to an issue which is at once environmental, cultural, social and political. It is not only a question of "making visible" to the whole society the drama being perpetrated in the Chaco and the daily difficulties faced by the Wichís. It is also a way of constructing a memory of the landscape, thereby contributing to the valorization of a culture that has long been despised and, at the same time, to the formation of a political awareness necessary to assert indigenous' rights.

DISCIPLINE: Geography.

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L'ETNO-TOPOGRAFIA: DAL GENERALE AL PARTICOLARE, DA MATERA AI MATERANI.

Places and people have always been interconnected: topography studies a given territory following its historical and urban development. Considering all this features without the human presence would be impossible. This study is born from the observation of the close link between the city of Matera and its inhabitants: every year, they stage complex rituals that have roots in very remote times along the streets of the city on the occasion of the patronal feast of the Madonna della Bruna. A link was sought between medieval topography and cultural anthropology using archaeological findings, ancient documents and topographical studies and the reconstruction of the processions routes that take place on the day of the feast. The main purpose was to reconstruct, in a completely new way, the history of the city of Matera. In this perspective the study of popular festivals is considered as a "magnifying glass" with the aim of creating a broader point of view about the humanities. It shows how the city and the community have been able to adapt themselves in every period of the city's history, considering also the problems related to the pandemic from Covid-19. Eventually, we tried to let the materani know the history of their city through something they feel particularly close: precisely the feast. In this way you will have an extra chance to discover the riches of Matera and, at the same time, you really make sure that the "non materani" know the traditions and history of this wonderful city.

DISCIPLINES: Medieval Topography, Cultural Anthropology

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Antofagasta de la Sierra is located on the Andes mountains in Northwestern Argentina. Its capital is also the most densely populated village and the base for the anthropologists and archaeologists working in the area. Villagers have recently started to manifest more active participation in the reconstruction of local history: they are not only interested in knowing the cultural heritage of their territory, but also in interpreting their own history. As fellow participants, we aim to facilitate strategies to make this interaction possible. This presentation concerns one of the activities in process: the celebration of participative workshops for the study and revitalization of local pottery. Despite its long pottery-making tradition, in the late generations this activity has virtually been abandoned; however, some villagers preserve related knowledge and are interested in recovering the craft. This query was shared with our research team; consequently, we designed a program based on pottery, which included the study of material, interviews and community workshops. In this presentation we want to share the organization of activities, the participation of the parts involved and the challenges of pursuing an archaeological model adapted to the needs and concerns of the local community, that is, archaeology with social impact.

DISCIPLINE: Anthropological Archaeology

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SITY: CRISI, BLOCCO E RIPARTENZA.

Sity is an App developed to notify its users the archaeological areas and museums around them which, between 2017 and 2019 started to obtain some interest, so that a network of relationships between several museums and universities was started to understand how an app like this could be interesting to the public and helpful during their cultural visits. In order to assess this, it will be essential to monitor the users with a more extensive test. Unfortunately, the project had to be put aside due to the lack of an Institution of reference, the economic crisis of our country, and the consequent stalemate of the cultural sector. After the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, today museums are finally becoming interested again in investing not only in the physical presence of their visitors, but they are also investing more in digitalizing the museum experience through virtual tours and social media. For this reason, promoting and evaluating even the smallest archaeological realities and museums is essential now, which can be possible also through a meticulous mapping of civic and ministerial museums, with the aim of understanding the visitor flow, statistics, entrances and visitors' interests. In addition, the Sity Project would support Universities in promoting their research. In fact, a part of the relaunch project would involve the academic studies, making use of the interconnectivity between different study areas. The project wants to create a web page for each individual museum which will include publications, scientific articles, monographic and non-monographic posters about the remains preserved in that specific place. The platform would not be

for experts only, but it would like to be a way of sharing and introducing the general public to more serious, scientific, and specialized information, thus improving the divulgation of information about these places of interest.

DISCIPLINES: Archaeology, Computational Archaeology, Museology.

ABOUT THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Caterina Francesca Fidanza, Carolina Manfredini, Serena Nicolini and Valentina Uglietti are currently beginning their third year as PhD Students in the PhD program in *History and Archaeology. Studies on Heritage, Memory and Cultures* at the Department of History and Cultures (DISCI) of the University of Bologna, Italy.