



1st Announcement of the Meeting

Stars and Stones:

Voyages in Archaeoastronomy and Cultural Astronomy - *A meeting of different worlds*

September 19 - 23, 2011, Évora (Portugal)

An International Conference on Archaeoastronomy and Ethnoastronomy

<http://www.ciuhct.com/seac2011>

Under the Patronage of the



<http://www.archeoastronomy.org>

RATIONALE

Since Prehistory that the sky was always been integrated as part of the cosmovision of human societies. The sky played a fundamental role not only in the space orientation, in the time organization, in the ritual practices or in the celestial divination but also as an element of power.

Migrations and voyages are intrinsic to the humankind, they opened the routes for cultural diffusion and trade, but also for power dominance. Following their routes is also to follow their cultural diversity and how they met or clashed. The sky and astronomical phenomena provided the tools for time reckoning, calendar organization and celestial navigation that supported those voyages. Astronomy gives us today the capacity to reproduce the sky, opening a window through which we can glimpse how those societies perceived, integrated and manipulated the sky into their world views and their myths, and, ultimately, into their society organization.

A voyage is always a meeting of different worlds and a process to accept diversity. We wish that this Conference will be also a meeting of different worlds in the invited lectures, in the public lectures, in the LOC/SOC and in the audience.

The main conference topics are:

- Techniques of celestial navigation and orientation of the past. Astronomical navigation and nautical instruments in XIV, XV and XVI centuries.
- Expressions of astronomical knowledge in architecture and monuments, rock art, archaeology and landscape. People migration, a meeting between different cultures
- History of astronomy. A meeting between different conceptions
- Astronomy and the Jesuits. A meeting between different worlds
- Astronomy in antiquity. A meeting between different knowledges
- Ethno-astronomy, Cultural Astronomy and myths, voyages in space and in time through different cultures.
- To where is Archaeoastronomy voyaging? A round table about Archaeoastronomy, Cultural Astronomy and Education

We will challenge the speakers to start their lectures as a voyage history, presenting different perspectives:

- an history from a discovery or excavation,
- a voyage through cultures,
- a meeting between cultures.

DATES

Sunday, September 18, 2011: arrival

Monday, September 19 – Friday, September 23, 2011: conference

Saturday, September 24 and 25, 2011: post-conference excursion

Sunday, September 25, 2011: departure

PLACE

The town of Évora, Portugal.

ORGANIZER

APIA, (Portuguese Association of Archaeological Investigation), under the patronage of *Société Européenne pour l'Astronomie dans la Culture* (SEAC).

LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Chairpersons: Fernando Pimenta (fernando.pimenta@apia.pt) and Nuno Ribeiro (nuno.ribeiro@apia.pt) (APIA, Portugal)
Luís Tirapicos (CIUHCT, Portugal)

Anabela Joaquineto (APIA, Portugal)
Jorge Oliveira (Évora University, Portugal)
Leonor Rocha (Évora University, Portugal)
Manuel Calado (Lisbon University, Portugal)
Bárbara Pimenta (APIA, Portugal)
António Sérgio Pereira (APIA, Portugal)
Maria João Cordeiro (APIA, Portugal)
Ricardo Ventura (APIA, Portugal)
Fábio Silva (Sophia Centre, TSD & CECD - IoA, UCL, UK)

SCIENTIFIC ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Juan Belmonte Aviles (IAC & President of SEAC, Spain)
Michael A. Rappenglück (SEAC secretary, vhs Gilching, INFIS, Germany)
Clive Ruggles (Leicester University, UK)
Cândido Marciano da Silva (CIUHCT, Portugal)
Nuno Ribeiro (APIA, Portugal)
Fernando Pimenta (APIA, Portugal)
Jorge Oliveira (Évora University, Portugal)
Manuel Calado (Lisbon University, Portugal)
Henrique Leitão (Lisbon University, Portugal)
Maria Soledad Corchón (Salamanca University, Spain)
Luíz Oosterbeek (Tomar Polytechnic Institute, Portugal)
Mila Simões de Abreu (Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro University, Portugal)
José Manuel Rolão (Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa, Portugal)
Stanislaw Iwaniszewski (National Institute of Anthropology and History, Mexico)
Lionel Sims (University of East London, UK)

CONTACT FOR REGISTRATION AND ABSTRACT

- Fernando Pimenta fernando.pimenta@apia.pt
- Nuno Ribeiro nuno.ribeiro@apia.pt

SPONSORS

APIA (Portuguese Association of Archaeological Investigation), Évora Cityhall, Évora University, CHAIA, CHFCi, CIUHCT, Eugénio de Almeida Foundation.

VENUE

SEAC 2011 takes place in Évora, Portugal. It will be hosted by the History department of Évora University and will take place in the University Auditorium.

Évora and its University offer a unique setting for a SEAC conference. The Évora district is one of the richest areas of megalithic Iberia and has been systematically studied by archaeoastronomers in recent years. The University of Évora occupies the former building of the only Portuguese Jesuit University and has auditoriums for more than 100 participants. Évora is also linked to Lisbon by public transportation systems (Bus and Train).

This museum-city, whose roots go back to Roman times, reached its golden age in the 15th century, when it became the residence of the Portuguese kings. Its unique quality stems from the whitewashed houses decorated with *azulejos* and wrought-iron balconies dating from the 16th to the 18th century. Its monuments had a profound influence on Portuguese architecture in Brazil (source: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/361>).

SEAC 2011 will be integrated in the 25th anniversary celebration of Évora being in the UNESCO World Heritage list.

CONFIRMED INVITED SPEAKERS

Michael Rappenglück
Lionel Sims
Manuel Calado
Marciano da Silva
María Soledad Corchón Rodríguez
Stanisław Iwaniszewski
Emilia Pasztor
Giulio Magli
Cesar Gonzalez
Malhão Pereira
Jarita Holbrook
Henrique Leitão
Shi Yunli
David Pankenier
Ivan Sprajc
Alejandro Lopez
Nick Champion

PUBLIC SESSIONS

Juan Antonio Belmonte
Luísa Pereira
Clive Ruggles
Mila Simões de Abreu

ABSTRACTS

Extended abstracts (length: 400-500 words + at least 3 references) written in English are to be sent to the chairpersons of the LOC:

Fernando Pimenta fernando.pimenta@apia.pt

Nuno Ribeiro nuno.ribeiro@apia.pt

Deadline for the submission of abstracts: May 1, 2011

You will be informed till June 1, 2011 whether the abstract has been accepted.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

We will publish a volume of the contributions having about 300-320 pages. The volume includes the preface, the invited lectures, the normal contributions, the posters, and a subject index, too. Important: All contributions are going through the peer review process. Further information will be provided in future announcements and/or on the website.

GRANTS AND ACCOMMODATION AIDS

There are a few grants. Additionally we are trying to arrange some possibilities of free accommodation. These aids will be preferably assigned to young postdocs and PhD students. Those wishing to get such an aid should send their abstract and the grant application form till March, 15th to the chairpersons of the LOC:

fernando.pimenta@apia.pt

nuno.ribeiro@apia.pt

Eligibility: the applicant either must be a postgraduate student working on a Masters or PhD degree with a subject on some aspect of astronomy in culture or must have completed such a degree no earlier than 2008. The grant may be shared by two or more authors of the same paper.

Application requirements: 1) An extended abstract with bibliography of the paper to be presented (i.e. 1500 words not including the bibliography). 2) A curriculum vitae. 3) A reference from the applicant's advisor.

You will be informed till May 1st, 2011 whether your application has been accepted.

PRESENTATIONS, LECTURES, ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

The conference will consist of invited talks, oral presentations, and posters. Invited talks are fixed to 30 minutes (25 minutes for the talk + 5 minutes for the discussion). These contributions on special topics will be given from speakers invited by the organisers. Oral presentations are limited to 20 minutes (17 + 3).

A special poster session will be held. Like the oral presentations, posters will only be accepted for presentation at the conference if the author is personally present. In case that there are too many applications for oral presentations, the LOC will decide which ones should instead be presented as posters. Posters are no "second class" presentations! Posters which have been accepted for publication in the conference proceedings will get the same number of pages as the oral presentations. Posters can be sized up to 1 page following the ISO 126 (A0: 841 x 1189 mm or 33.1 x 46.8 in.)

Two public lectures and one round table discussions are planned.

REGISTRATION

The **registration fee** for regular participants will be 270€ (plus 100€ per each accompanying persons). It includes the abstract book, the printed volume of the conference proceedings, the welcome-reception, 9 coffee-breaks, the closing dinner, and the half-day excursion. For accompanying persons, the fee includes the welcome reception, the closing dinner and the half-day excursion. The deadline for regular registration is July 1st, 2011.

The registration fee for students will be 80€. It includes the abstract book, the conference proceedings in CD format and 9 coffee-breaks. The deadline for regular registration is September 1st, 2011.

Cancellation policy:

If you cancel your registration till July 31, 2011, the fee will be refunded completely (minus 10,- € for money transfer and administration costs).

Cancellation till September 1, 2011: 125,-€ will be refunded (accompanying person: 50,- €).

Cancellation after September 1, 2011: There is no refunding of fees possible.

Deadline for paying the regular registration fee: July 1, 2011.

Deadline for paying the student registration fee: September 15, 2011.

The exact program and the costs for the two day excursion at September 24-25 are still under negotiation.

LODGING

The organization will not take care of lodging! A list of *recommended facilities* is indicated by the LOC at the website and the delegates are expected to make the appropriate reservations for themselves and at their own responsibility.

Since Évora is a touristic destination, the accommodations are highly coveted, particularly during Summer and beginning of Autumn. Therefore we made special arrangements to keep a pre-reserved number of rooms in the recommended facilities offered in the webpage. Please consider booking your room as soon as possible since this pre-reserve will not be available after the indicated deadlines and it may become difficult to find a room at a convenient price after the deadline expiration.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Monday, 19th

8h30 – Registration

9h30 – Official opening by local hosting committee and SEAC President.

10h00 – Invited opening speaker

10h30 – Morning session.

11h10:11h40 – Coffee Break

13h00 – Lunch break.

14h00 – Afternoon session.

15h45:16h15 – Coffee Break

19h00 – End of session

19h30 – Welcome reception in the Évora City Hall

Tuesday, 20th

8h00 – Walking tour inside Évora's walls

9h00 – Morning session
11h10:11h40 – Coffee Break
13h00 – Lunch break.
14h00 – Afternoon session.
15h45:16h15 – Coffee Break
19h00 – End of session
21h30 – Public Lecture I
23h00 – End of Public Lecture I

Wednesday, 21st

9h00 – Morning session
11h10:11h40 – Coffee Break
13h00 – Lunch break.
14h00 – ½ day excursion to Anta Grande do Zambujeiro and Almendres
20h00 – End of excursion

Thursday, 22nd

9h00 – Morning session
11h10:11h40 – Coffee Break
13h00 – Lunch break.
14h00 – Afternoon session.
15h45:16h15 – Coffee Break
19h00 – End of session
21h30 – Public Lecture II
23h00 – End of Public Lecture II

Friday, 23rd

9h00 – Morning session
11h10:11h40 – Coffee Break
13h00 – Lunch break.
14h00 – Afternoon session.
16h00 – Closing of the Conference
16h15:16h45 – Coffee Break
16h45 – 19th General Assembly of SEAC
19h30 – Closing Diner in “Celeiros de Évora” with “Grupo de Cantares de Évora”

Saturday, 24th

8h00 – Departure for the excursion to Interpretative Center of Rock Art in Seia

Sunday, 25th

8h00 – Departure to Évora, via Lisbon Airport, with a stop at Conímbriga (Roman City)

SESSIONS AND INVITED SPEAKERS

Opening of the meeting

Invited Speaker: Michael Rappenglück “Different people, different sky perceptions – A voyage in Cultural Astronomy”

Archaeoastronomical voyages in Paleolithic and Neolithic cultures

Invited Speaker: Manuel Calado / Marciano da Silva

Invited Speaker: María Soledad Corchón Rodríguez / Michael Rappenglück

Poster Session

Round Table "To Where is Archaeoastronomy voyaging? Archaeoastronomy, Cultural Astronomy and Education"

Invited Speaker: Stanisław Iwaniszewski

Invited Speaker: Lionel Sims

Archaeoastronomical voyages in Chalcolithic, Bronze and Iron Ages

Invited Speaker: Emilia Pasztor

Introduction to the week-end excursion: Nuno Ribeiro / Fernando Pimenta / Luís Tirapicos and Andrew Smith

Archaeoastronomical voyages in Antiquity, Egypt, Middle East and Mediterranean

Invited Speaker: to be confirmed

Invited Speaker: Giulio Magli

Archaeoastronomical voyages in Medieval Time in Orient and Occident

Invited Speaker: Cesar Gonzalez

Invited Speaker: to be confirmed

Astronomical Navigation – A Meeting of Worlds

Invited Speaker: Malhão Pereira

Invited Speaker: Celestial Navigation in U.S. Pacific and Africa, Jarita Holbrook

History of Astronomy – A Meeting of Cultures

Invited Speaker: Henrique Leitão

Invited Speaker: Shi Yunli

Ethnoastronomical voyages in Africa, Asia, Europe and Oceania

Invited Speaker: David Pankenier

Invited Speaker: Nick Campion

Ethnoastronomical voyages in North America, Mesoamerica and South America

Invited Speaker: Ivan Sprajc

Invited Speaker: Perception of the sky in South America, Alejandro Lopez

PUBLIC SESSIONS

The Conference will offer two Public Sessions open to the general public:

Public Session 1:

Voyages in Archaeoastronomy from Egypt and Middle East to Iberia, over the Mediterranean (*Juan Belmonte*)

The voyage of human genes (*Luísa Pereira*)

Public Session 2:

Voyages in the sky perception over the world (*Clive Ruggles*)

Voyages over the prehistoric art expressions (*Mila Simões de Abreu*)

Please forward this announcement to others who might be interested.

We are looking forward to meeting you in Évora!

The chairpersons of SEAC 2011:

Fernando Pimenta and Nuno Ribeiro