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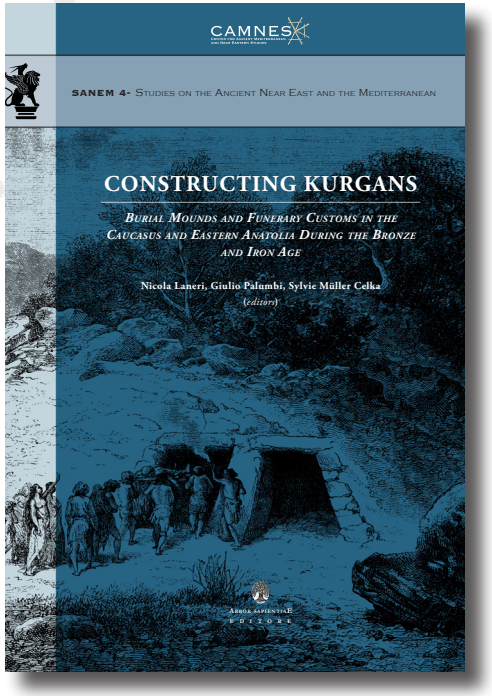
E D I T O R E

CONSTRUCTING KURGANS

Burial Mounds and Funerary Customs in the Caucasus and Eastern Anatolia During the Bronze and Iron Age

Nicola Laneri, Giulio Palumbi, Sylvie Müller Celka
(*editors*)



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ABSTRACT

The Workshop on 'Constructing Kurgans' that CAMNES hosted in Florence, Italy, in partnership with CNRS, Université Lyon 2 and Archéorient, was a small but tremendous event that took place on the 29th and 30th of March 2018.
During these two days of intensive presentations, questions and discussions, the Workshop, we think, contributed significantly to the on-going debate of decoding the kurgan event as well as for the communities that implemented this event within their funerary traditions, in particular for the Caucasian and Anatolian areas. The final discussion, in our opinion, was the pinnacle of the Workshop, free of from the academic formality required by a paper presentation. Participants, in fact, contributed greatly with their experience, knowledge and, most importantly, with their ideas on the archaeological issues and symbolic values of the kurgan event, the directions that future research should undertake and the various interpretations of the key elements linked to this multifaceted topic. The outcome of that discussion is present within each paper of the proceedings.
At this time, we would like to greatly thank all the contributors of the Workshop and the authors for their brilliant papers, which are collected and presented in these proceedings. A special thank you goes to Adam Smith, for his support and for opening the paper sessions with a special keynote, now part of the volume. In particular we would like to thank the rest of the organizing committee and curators of the present volume, Nicola Laneri, Giulio Palumbi and Sylvie Müller-Celka. Moreover, we would like to thank the Instituto Lorenzo de' Medici for hosting us in its facilities, as well as CEPAM and the Université Côte D'Azur for their support in finalizing the volume. Our most sincere gratitude to all of you.

Guido Guarducci, Stefano Valentini