

## EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S PREFACE

*On the occasion of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the International Research Centre for Archaeology Brijuni - Medulin (1994 - 2009) and the International Archaeological Symposium Arts and Crafts from Prehistory to the Early Middle Ages.*

The introductory part of the 19<sup>th</sup> volume of *Histria Antiqua* review is dedicated to the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the life of Prof. Marin Zaninović, Ph.D. (1930), archaeologist and university professor. In 1944, Marin Zaninović, through the Institute of Archaeology of the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Zagreb, initiated the founding of the International Research Centre for Archaeology Brijuni - Medulin (IRCA) as an organisational unit of the University of Zagreb. Because of his merits regarding the founding of the IRCA, he has been named the honorary chairman of the International Council of the IRCA. While Marin Zaninović actively worked at the Department of Archaeology of the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Zagreb, he bestowed, in the humanistic spirit, classical education to numerous generations of archaeologists. He participated in a large number of scientific archaeological projects which promoted Croatian archaeology at home and abroad as an associate member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (formerly the Yugoslav Academy of Sciences and Arts), as a full member of the Centre for Balkan Studies of the Academy of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a member of the respected *Deputazione di Storia Patria per le Venezie*, and an honorary member of the Croatian Archaeological Society. In my own name, in the name of the members of the International Council of the IRCA and the professor's large number of student-archaeologists and admirers, I would like to thank Prof. Marin Zaninović, Ph.D., for his dedicated and successful perennial work for the benefit of Croatian archaeological science!

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In 2009, the International Archaeological Symposium *Arts and Crafts from Prehistory to the Early Middle Ages* was held and the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation and work of the International Research Centre for Archaeology Brijuni - Medulin was marked. The Centre was founded in 1994 as an organisational unit of the University of Zagreb following the initiative of the Institute of Archaeology of the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Zagreb. From 1995, following its *Development Strategy*, IRCA has been active in Istria as part of a strategic international centre for social sciences and humanities in the bordering area of the Northern Adriatic, performing archaeological excavations and investigations within the framework of projects of the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia, INTERREG (Istria) and the European Union. IRCA also systematically organises internationally renowned and noted thematic archaeological symposia and a large number of archaeological exhibitions at home and abroad. The centre's continued and affirmed publishing activity has resulted, among other publications, in the publishing of the scientific review *Histria Antiqua* imprinted with the emblem and under the high patronage of UNESCO.

It is necessary to recall that the centre was founded in order to systematically promote scientific research activity in the field of archaeology, to work for the preservation of the heritage of monuments in Istria, to organise archaeological excavations, to conserve and display antiquities, and to promote Croatian archaeology and related disciplines in Europe and the world. The centre is noted for its cooperation with Croatian and foreign universities and institutions, for organising archaeological field work, and for establishing links with related museums and scientific research institutions in Croatia and abroad. The IRCA is also active in promoting the archaeological and historical heritage of Istria, both inside and outside Croatia, by organising exhibitions, thematic international archaeological conferences, and in annually publishing *Histria Antiqua* (19 issues) and apposite exhibition catalogues in Croatian and foreign languages. Following unsuccessful negotiations (2006) for IRCA to become an independent branch of the Institute of Archaeology in Zagreb, in 2007 IRCA started operating within the Juraj Dobrila University of Pula as an "associated" archaeological research centre. Finally, from 17 December 2009, it has been operating within the Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar in Zagreb as the Centre for Archaeological Research - International Research Centre for Archaeology Brijuni - Medulin, as the functional centre for Croatian archaeology with its seat in Pula.

In the fifteen years of its work, IRCA has conducted protective investigations on part of the necropolis of Burle near Medulin from the period of Antiquity to Late Antiquity (1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> centuries AD) and on buildings from the period of Antiquity to Late Antiquity in Uvala Sv. Antuna i Sv. Lucije [the Bay of St. Anthony and St. Lucy] near Novigrad (1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD). The Centre is currently conducting systematic excavations and conservation of the maritime Roman residential complex of Vižula near Medulin (1<sup>st</sup> century BC to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD) in cooperation with the archaeology departments of the universities of Zagreb and Zadar, the Department of Art History of the Faculty of Philosophy of Rijeka, the Archaeological Museum of Istria in Pula, and the History Section of the Department of Humanities of Juraj Dobrila University in Pula. Cooperation is to be expanded with universities in Padua (Italy), Bordeaux (France), Barcelona and Tarragona (Spain), Koper (Slovenia), and Prishtina (Kosovo). Based on signed perennial contracts, special cooperation has been established with archaeological museum institutions in Zagreb, Zadar, Split and Osijek.

Under the high patronage of UNESCO and in cooperation with Croatian archaeological museums, the Institute of Archaeology of Zagreb and the Society for the History and Cultural Development of Istria, fifteen international thematic conferences of archaeology have taken place: *Urban and Landscape Archaeology* (1995); *Harmony in Stone: Shaping, Building and Decoration History*

(1996); *The Imperial Cult in the Eastern Adriatic* (1997); *The Roman Forum: An Economic, Cultural, and Cultic Centre* (1998); *Defence Systems Through the Ages* (1999); *The City of the Dead and the City of the Living* (2000); *Water as a Source of Life* (2001); *Settlements and Settling from Prehistory to the Middle Ages* (2002); *Economy and Trade through the Ages* (2003); *Cults and Beliefs through the Ages* (2004); *“Instrumenta Domestica” from Prehistory to Late Antiquity* (2005); *Viticulture and Olive Growing from Prehistory to the Middle Ages* (2006); *Otium - Leisure from Prehistory to the Early Middle Ages* (2007); *Routes and Trade, from Prehistory to the Early Middle Ages* (2008); and *Arts and Crafts from Prehistory to the Early Middle Ages* (2009).

In 1995, publication began of *Histria Antiqua*, an international archaeological review, under the UNESCO permanent emblem (temple). The review is distributed to 397 institutions in Croatia and abroad. The eighteen issues published so far have presented over 527 scientific and expert contributions on 7,669 pages of text and illustrations, and the Centre's specialist library in Medulin has obtained nearly 3,000 archaeological and historical works. *Histria Antiqua* is regularly presented at annual conferences and periodically at the Office of the Rector of the University of Zagreb, and in the UNESCO Palace in Paris. The publications of IRCA are referenced in the *Bibliography of the History of Art* (BHA) as the successor of the earlier index (*Répertoire d'Art et d'Archéologie*), through the *Research Libraries Group* and *Art History Information Program / J. Paul Getty Trust* (United States of America), as well as in the *Instituts de l'Information Scientifiques et Techniques* (INIST) of the *Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique* (CNRS), and since 2005 also in the *Catalogue of the work in the UNESCO Bibliographic Data Base* (UNESDOC).

In 2000 and 2001, an exhibition entitled *The Magic of Istria* was organised in cooperation with the Museum of Archaeology of Istria and the Mission of the Republic of Croatia at UNESCO. The exhibition was shown in many European cities (Vienna, Trieste, Eisenstadt, Lisbon, Berlin, Hannover - EXPO, Paris, Mostar, and Poreč). The Head of the IRCA was a member of the Scientific Board of the International Congress *“Murallas de ciudades romanas en el Occidente del Impero. Lvcus Augusti como paradigma”* held in Lugo in 2005 under the patronage of UNESCO. In 2005, an exhibition entitled *“Water as a Source of Life”* was organised by the Archaeological Museum of Istria and the IRCA and held at EXPO, Hekinan, Aichi (Japan). In 2007, the IRCA was a co-organiser of the exhibition *“Roma Senatus Populus Que Romanus”*, shown in Barcelona and Madrid, and in Lisbon and Merida in 2008. In 2009, an exhibition entitled *“The Path of Antique Gods in Istria”* (Padua, Pordenone), which is part of a larger project under the title *“The Path of Antique Gods in the North Adriatic”*, was held in cooperation with the University of Padua, Department of Archaeology, Antique Topography.

At a time of rapid changes in the international environment, of globalisation, and with the prospects of Croatia's accession to the European Union, special attention should be given to topics such as the investigation of the oldest basic knowledge of man and society, which is essential for Croatia's national development and for the preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage (of the prehistoric, antique, late antique, mediaeval, and modern ages), for its national identity and distinctiveness. In this sense, it is archaeology in Croatia that represents an essential medium which, at home and abroad, sends a true picture of a rich and stratified archaeological and cultural heritage. This knowledge must be based on a multidisciplinary contemporary approach, which should be the basis for defining objective truth.

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This issue of the review publishes a certain number of articles prepared for print which were presented at the 15<sup>th</sup> International Archaeological Symposium *Arts and Crafts from Prehistory to the Early Middle Ages* (Pula, 25 - 28 November 2009), traditionally held under the high patronage of UNESCO. The theme of the symposium, also present in this issue of the review, is a logical continuation of the topics of the successful international archaeological symposia held in Istria at the end of November each year. Thanks to the combined action of human mind and hands, the prehistoric, antique and early medieval civilisation of the Mediterranean, Central Europe and Middle East is rich in craft items produced over thousands of years. These items were used in the everyday life of people, and they enriched that life through their artistic value. For thousands of years, the question has arisen about the distinction and mutual relation of crafts involving practical art, and the classical meaning of trade involving items produced for everyday use. In fact, a craft is the skill of applying artistic inspiration while making items people need in their everyday life. The prehistoric use of bone to create items has indications of art, Hellenistic relief pottery bears the beginnings of applied arts, antique stone-carvers excelled in the artistic shaping of columns, wall panels, floors, sculptures and mosaics, and we should also not forget to mention the Roman producers of pitchers and vessels made of precious metal, the goldsmiths (*aurifices*), the craftsmen who worked with ivory (*eborarii*), and the producers of mirrors (*specularii*) and rings (*anularii*).

The review publishes, on this occasion, scientific papers of some thirty fellow researchers from nearly a dozen European countries (Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, France, Croatia, Italy, Kosovo, Slovenia, Serbia and Spain) which once again confirms the international interest of the archaeologist and broader scientific community. Highlighted is the fact that antique and late antique arts and crafts display the diversified talents of craftsmen, artisans, makers of artistic and related ideas, and brought about the creation of models, all of which spiritually enriched the everyday life of individuals and communities. Prehistoric torcs as products of artistic workmanship of unique elegance coming from the Late Iron Age, Roman ceramic products

such as the *Sarius - Sarus* type of vessel, *terra nigra* and *terra sigillata*, minutely crafted and decorated and recovered in Istria (Croatia), gems and stones of the famous artisan Skilax from Tarragona (Spain), gold and silver jewellery from central Balkan regions of the Roman Empire which originated in the East Mediterranean, jewellery recovered in Liburnian children's graves and jet jewellery from central Dalmatia, bronze items as products of artistic workmanship of the Roman Dardania, the high artistic execution of stone sarcophagi with iconographic elements from France or mythological relief representations on stone sarcophagi from the Roman province of Noricum are all just some of the topics of papers presented in this issue of the review and synthesised here. These papers in every way contribute to the growth of our knowledge of different aspects of arts and crafts, forming as they do just one segment of the overall prehistoric, antique and early medieval economy.

In addition, special attention should be paid to debates on whether the work of Roman land surveyors (*agrimensores*) was an art or a trade, and to the enviable artistic workmanship that can be observed on a large number of preserved Roman wall and floor mosaics, frescoes, stuccos and reliefs. It is astonishing that the antique man for his *forma mentis* despised crafts to the point that craftsmen and artisans were placed at the bottom of the social scale.

Together with the current *Novitates* which discuss the latest archaeological discoveries in the Adriatic area and the *Varia* section, where yet unpublished papers from former symposia are gathered, it is my belief that the content of the review will continue to stir the interest of the scientific and reading public at home and abroad, given that the papers are published in several languages and are accompanied by reviews of renowned scientists and by appertaining summaries.

This volume of the review is published with reduced assistance from the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia in times of recession. However, I do hope that reasonable force and financial understanding for the yearly publishing of the review will persist because the review is affirmed in the scientific and expert circles in Croatia and European countries. This is what inspires fellow researchers, reviewers and the technical staff to continue their diligent work and maintain the yearly rhythm of the publication. I would like to express my eternal gratitude to them all in my name and in the name of the Editorial Board!

Pula, October 2010

Editor-in-Chief



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