

International Symposium



Aurignacian Genius

**Art, Technology and Society
of the First Modern Humans in Europe**



New York University

Center for International Research in the Humanities and
Social Sciences (UMI 3199 CNRS-NYU)

Center for the Study of Human Origins
Department of Anthropology

April 08-10, 2013

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INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Aurignacian Genius : Art, Technology and Society of The First Modern Humans in Europe



New York University
April 8-10, 2013
New York, USA



Monday, April 8 and Wednesday, April 10:
Hemmerdinger Hall, 100 Washington Square
East, New York, NY 10003

Tuesday, April 9: Kimmel Center, Room 914,
60 Washington Square South, New York, NY
10003

In the light of important advances in knowledge over the past few years concerning the Aurignacian culture, the Partner University Fund project Aurignacian Genius, led by Randall White and François Bon, announces an international symposium entitled "Aurignacian Genius: art, technology and society of the first Modern Humans in Europe." This symposium, which will take place at New York University, April 8-10, 2013, seeks to bring together scientists engaged in primary research on the Early Upper Paleolithic of Europe, with the more specific goal of addressing the question of the social, technological and environmental contexts of Aurignacian symbolic production. Inserted between two days of scientific meetings (April 8 and 10) restricted to the broader scientific community at NYU and beyond, a session for the general public (April 9) seeks to render accessible current scientific knowledge concerning the origins of the arts in Europe.

Riches des réflexions menées sur l'émergence de la culture aurignacienne, depuis ces dernières années, autant en Europe qu'aux Etats-Unis, dans le cadre d'un projet dirigé par Randall White et François Bon (centré sur l'Aurignacien du Sud de la France) et financé par le Partner University Fund, un symposium international intitulé « Aurignacian Genius : art, technology and society of the first Modern Humans in Europe », se tiendra à New York University du 8 au 10 Avril 2013. Cette rencontre a pour vocation de réunir les scientifiques engagés, pour partie, dans ce projet, et dont les travaux sont consacrés à une période charnière de la Préhistoire, celle du début du Paléolithique supérieur, mais plus particulièrement, d'aborder la question des production symboliques au travers de leurs différents contextes sociologiques, technologiques et environnementaux. Les journées du 8 et 10 avril sont réservées à la communauté scientifique ; l'après-midi du 9 avril sera, quant à elle, consacrée à la diffusion des connaissances sur l'origine de l'art en Europe auprès de l'ensemble de la communauté scientifique et du grand public.

Organizing Committee

Randall White, NYU, CSHO, CNRS-UMI 3199
Raphaëlle Bourrillon, UMR 5608, CREAP
Valérie Dubois, CNRS-UMI 3199

Scientific Committee

Randall White, NYU, CSHO, CNRS-UMI 3199
Raphaëlle Bourrillon, UMR 5608, CREAP
François Bon, UMR 5608

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Monday, April 8
Art and Society in the Aurignacian
Hemmerdinger Hall, 100 Washington Square East, New York, NY 10003
Moderator : François Bon (TRACES-UMR 5608, Toulouse, France)

8h30 : *Registration of participants*

- 9h00 : Welcoming of Participants by **Dean Thomas CAREW**, Faculty of Arts and Science, NYU
- 9h15 : Welcoming of Participants by **Terry HARRISON**, Chair, Department of Anthropology and Director, Center for the Study of Human Origins (CSHO), NYU
- 9h30 : Opening of the Symposium by **Randall WHITE** (NYU, CSHO, UMI 3199:CNRS-NYU, New York, USA)
- 9h45 : *The Diffusion of The Aurignacian in Europe: Paleo-Sociological and Paleo-Historical Implications of Current Evidence*
François BON (TRACES-UMR 5608, Toulouse, France)

10h30 : *Coffee break*

- 10h45 : *The Aurignacian Viewed From Africa*
Christian TRYON (CSHO, NYU, New York, USA)
- 11h25 : *Origin and Development of Aurignacian Osseous Technology: a Review of Current Knowledge and Questions*
Elise TARTAR (ArScan-UMR 7041, Nanterre, France)

12h15 : *Lunch break (Torch Club buffet lunch for participants)*

- 14h : *The Les Cottés Transitional Sequence: New Insights Into the Early Aurignacian Social Landscape*
William RENDU (TRACES-UMR 5608, Toulouse, France)
- 14h40 : *Factors Controlling Aurignacian Settlement in the Vézère Valley: the Example of the Vallon de Castel-Merle*
Matthew SISK (Adelphi University, Garden City, NY, USA), **Romain MENSAN** (TRACES-UMR 5608, Toulouse, France)
- 15h20 : *Early Aurignacian Graphic Arts in the Vézère Valley : Contextual and Technological Evidence*
Raphaëlle BOURRILLON (TRACES-UMR 5608, CREAP, Toulouse, France), **Randall WHITE** (NYU, CSHO, UMI 3199:CNRS-NYU, New York, USA)

16h : *Coffee break*

- 16h10 : *The Blanchard and Castanet Lithic Industries (Dordogne, France): Addressing Questions of Aurignacian Inter-Assemblage Variability*
Laurent CHIOTTI (Museum d'Histoire Naturelle de Paris, Paris, France), **Catherine RETIN** (CNP, Périgueux, and PACEA-UMR 5199, Bordeaux, France), **André MORALA** (Musée National de Préhistoire, Les Eyzies-de-Tayac, France)



- 16h50 : *Archaic to Early Aurignacian in the Grotte d'Isturitz (Pyrénées-Atlantiques, France): Discontinuity or Gradual Change?*
Christian NORMAND (SRA Aquitaine, France), **Nejma GOUTAS** (ArScan-UMR 7041, Nanterre, France), **Magen O'FARELL** (PIP, Les Eyzies-de-Tayac, France), **Carolyn SZMIDT** (University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK), **Randall WHITE** (NYU, CSHO, UMI 3199:CNRS-NYU, New York, USA), with the collaboration of **Aude LABARGE** (Grotte d'Isturitz, France), **Arnaud LENOBLE** (PACEA-UMR 5199, Bordeaux, France), **Marie-Cécile SOULIER** (TRACES-UMR 5608, Toulouse, France), **Jean-Pierre TEXIER** (PACEA-UMR 5199, Bordeaux, France)

17h30 : **POSTER SESSION (10 MIN PER POSTER)**

- *Exploring Holocene Impacts on the Record of Aurignacian “Genius” in the Vézère Valley*
Zenobie GARETT (NYU, CSHO, New York, USA)
- *Old Excavations and New research at the Abri de la Souquette, Dordogne, France*
John O'HARA (NYU, CSHO, New York, USA)
- *Ochre and the Aurignacian: the Hide Working Myth and Symbolic Reality*
Joelle NIVENS (NYU, CSHO, New York, USA)
- *New Approaches to Aurignacian Ornaments from Southwestern France*
Claire HECKEL (NYU, CSHO, New York, USA)
- *The Verpillière Caves at Germolles and the Aurignacian Occupation of Burgundy*
Harald FLOSS (Universität Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany), **Claire HECKEL** (NYU, CSHO, New York, USA) and **Christian HOYER** (Universität Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany)
- *Aurignacian in North-West Europe : Reappraising the Chrono-Cultural Sequence*
Damien FLAS (Université de Liège, Liège, Belgium)

18h45 : **Closing Remarks for the First Day of Symposium**

Tuesday, April 9 – Afternoon –

*Session for the general public sponsored by the Cultural Services
of the French Embassy*

Kimmel Center, Room 914, 60 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10003

- 13h00 : *Opening Remarks*
Discours de bienvenue
Antonin BAUDRY (Cultural Counselor, Embassy of France)
- 13h15 : *Aurignacian Genius : the Origins of the Arts in Europe*
Le Génie Aurignacien : l'Origine des Arts en Europe
Randall WHITE (Professor, New York University, Director, CNRS-UMI 3199, New York, USA)
- 13h30 : *Who Were the Aurignacians and From Where Did They Come?*
Qui Étaient Les Aurignaciens et D'où Venaient-ils ?
François BON (Professor, Université de Toulouse II-le Mirail, Toulouse, France)



14h00 : *Daily Life in the Aurignacian*
La Vie Quotidienne des Aurignaciens
William RENDU (Researcher, TRACES-UMR 5608, Toulouse, France)

14h30 : *Pause café / Coffee break*

14h45 : *Aurignacian Art (37000-28000 BP): an Overview*
L'Art Préhistorique Aurignacien (37000-28000 BP): une Vision d'Ensemble.
Raphaëlle BOURRILLON (Post-doctoral researcher, TRACES-UMR 5608, CREAP, Toulouse, France) and **Randall WHITE** (Professor, New York University, Director, CNRS-UMI 3199, New York, USA)

15h10: *Short Film on the Extraordinary Discovery in 2012 of an Engraved Aurignacian Block at Abri Blanchard (Dordogne), France*
Court Métrage sur la Découverte Exceptionnelle en 2012 d'un Bloc Gravé à L'Abri Blanchard (Dordogne), France.
Marc AZÉMA (Post-Doctoral researcher, TRACES-UMR 5608, CREAP, Toulouse, France)

15h35: *Sculptural Art and Musical Instruments From The Swabian Jura (Germany).*
Sculptures et Instruments de Musique du Jura Souabe, Germany
Harald FLOSS (Professor, Universität Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany) and **Sibylle WOLF** (Post-Doctoral researcher, Universität Tübingen, Tubingen, Germany)

16h00 : *Artists at Work in the Chauvet Cave, France*
Les Artistes de la Grotte Chauvet, France
Carole FRITZ (Researcher, TRACES-UMR 5608, CREAP, France) and **Gilles TOSELLLO** (Post-Doctoral researcher, TRACES-UMR 5608, CREAP, Toulouse, France)

16h30 : *Clôture de Séance / Closing remarks*

Wednesday, April 10
Toward a definition of Aurignacian art

Hemmerdinger Hall, 100 Washington Square East, New York, NY 10003

Moderator : Randall White (New York University, CSHO, UMI-3199, New York)

9h30 : *Absolute Chronology of Aurignacian Art : in Search of Lost Time*
Georges SAUVET (TRACES-UMR 5608, CREAP, Toulouse, France)

10h10 : *Early Upper Paleolithic Parietal Art : Shared Characteristics and Different Symbolic Traditions*
Stephane PETROGNANI (ArScan-UMR 7041, Nanterre, France)

10h50 : *Coffee break*



11h00 : *Animation and Graphic Narration in the Aurignacian*
Marc AZÉMA (TRACES-UMR 5608, CREA, Toulouse, France)

11h40 : *Artists at Work in the Chauvet Cave*
Carole FRITZ, Gilles TOSELLLO (TRACES-UMR 5608, CREA, Toulouse, France)

12h30 : *Lunch break (Torch Club buffet lunch for participants)*

14h : *Aurignacian Body Art: Elements for Understanding a Cultural Esthetic*
Randall WHITE (NYU, CSHO, UMI 3199:CNRS-NYU, New York, USA) and **Claire HECKEL** (NYU, CSHO)

14h40 : *Hominids and Sea During the Middle and Early Upper Paleolithic in Europe: a Critical Overview of Available Evidence*
Esteban ÁLVAREZ (University of Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain)

15h20 : *Evaluating Aurignacian Art in Iberia... if it Really Exists*
Diego GARATE (TRACES-UMR 5608, CREA, France), **Olivia RIVERO** (TRACES-UMR 5608, CREA, France), **Joseba RÍOS** (Centro Nacional de Investigación sobre la Evolución Humana, Spain)

16 : *Coffee break*

16h10 : *Aurignacian Portable Art of the Swabian Jura*
Harald FLOSS (Universität Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany)

16h50 : *Aurignacian Personal Ornaments of the Swabian Jura*
Sybille WOLF (Universität Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany)

17h30 : *Closing Remarks and Discussion*





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Although entry to the symposium is completely free, we only have a limited number of places.

We therefore ask you to send us this registration form **before April 1, 2013.**



REGISTRATION FORM

Name :

City :

Country :

Email address:

Institutional affiliation or address.....
.....

I would like to attend the full conference

I would like to attend on April 8

I would like to attend on April 9

I would like to attend on April 10

I would like to attend on April 8-9

I would like to attend on April 8-10

I would like to attend on April 9-10

*Please, return this registration form to the following email address :
valerie.dubois@nyu.edu.
You will receive a confirmation by e-mail.*