



# SCRIBBLING THROUGH HISTORY

COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF GRAFFITI FROM ANCIENT EGYPT ONWARDS

**23-25 SEPTEMBER 2013**

ERTEGUN HOUSE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

## OVERVIEW

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*Scribbling through History* is a three-day interdisciplinary workshop devoted to the relationships between graffiti, individual expression and social interactions, from ancient times until the present day. This exploratory workshop will address historical graffiti in a holistic manner as a specific cultural practice and as an anthropological object that illuminates these key aspects of human experience. By fostering cross-regional, diachronic and integrative approaches, the workshop will develop new frameworks and agenda for this research.

To apply for a place or to find out more, visit our website at [www.scribblingworkshop.wordpress.com](http://www.scribblingworkshop.wordpress.com), or write to [scribblingoxford@gmail.com](mailto:scribblingoxford@gmail.com).

**John Fell OUP  
Research Fund**

(conference fee : £ 50)



## CONTACT

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Organiser: Chloé Ragazzoli ([chloe.ragazzoli@orinst.ox.ac.uk](mailto:chloe.ragazzoli@orinst.ox.ac.uk))  
Conference Secretary: Charles Draper ([charles.draper@queens.ox.ac.uk](mailto:charles.draper@queens.ox.ac.uk))

Website: <http://scribblingworkshop.wordpress.com/>  
Research Logbook: <http://graffiti.hypotheses.org/>



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**ERTEGUN**  
Graduate  
Scholarship  
Programme  
in the Humanities

## **PAPERS AND PARTICIPANTS**

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ROGER S. BAGNALL (New York University)	<b>Solemnity and Play: the Mentality of the Smyrna Graffiti</b>
ALAIN DELATTRE (Université libre de Bruxelles)	<b>Local Cults, Pilgrimages, and Religious Life: Christian inscriptions in the Theban Mountain</b>
GLEN DUDBRIDGE (University of Oxford)	<b>Verses on walls in medieval China</b>
ELIZABETH FROOD (University of Oxford)	<b>Egyptian temple graffiti (TBA)</b>
SUSANNA GEBHARDT (Université de Genève)	<b>Early Modern Wall-Writing</b>
ÖMÜR HARMANŞAH (Brown University)	<b>Miraculous Image and The Living Rock: Event and Deep Time at Anatolian Rock Reliefs</b>
FRÉDÉRIC IMBERT (Université d'Aix-en-Provence)	<b>Arabic Graffiti in the Middle East: a return to the first hours of Islam</b>
CORNELIA KLEINETZ (Humboldt Universität)	<b>Writing and image making practices in the Meroitic world: contextualising the graffiti of Musawwarat es Sufra, Sudan</b>
MICHAEL MACDONALD (University of Oxford)	<b>Lapidarias litteras scio: literacy, graffiti, and their uses in the towns and deserts of pre-Islamic Arabia</b>
HANA NAVRATILOVA (Metropolitan Museum of Arts)	<b>Visitors' graffiti of ancient Egypt – graffiti in the pyramid complex of Senwosret III at Dahshur and graffiti in the Memphite necropoleis as a case study</b>
ELIZABETH OLTON (University of New Mexico)	<b>A Witness to History: Classic Maya Graffiti from Tikal, Guatemala (TBA)</b>
RICHARD SALOMON (University of Washington)	<b>Pilgrims, Sailors, and Calligraphers: Graffiti in the Indian World and Beyond</b>
KAREN B. STERN (Brooklyn College)	<b>Methods to their madness? Deciphering mortuary graffiti of ancient Jews and their Levantine neighbours</b>
PIERRE TALLET (Université Paris-Sorbonne)	<b>Desert inscriptions in Ancient Egypt: fieldwork in mining and expedition sites</b>
PAUL BETRAND (Université de Louvain)	<b>Medieval Graffiti and ordinary writing practices (TBA)</b>

## **CHAIRS AND DISCUSSANTS:**

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JOHN BAINES, University of Oxford	(Egyptology)
JENNIFER BAIRD, Birkbeck College	(Roman Archaeology)
FREDRIK HAGEN, University of Copenhagen	(Egyptology)
CHRISTIAN JACOB, EHESS, Paris	(Anthropology)
BRYAN WARD-PERKINS, University of Oxford	(Late Roman History)