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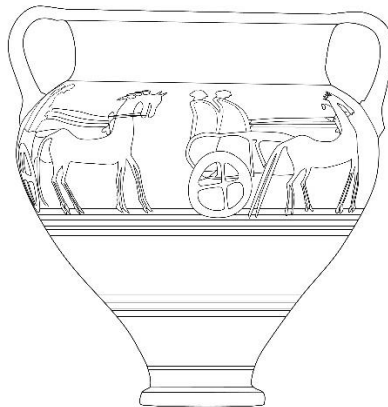
In the frame of the
TEXNH: Making, creating, and agency networks in the Ancient Mediterranean world
lecture series and discussion forum, we kindly invite you to the lecture

The economics of the Mycenaean pictorial krater

by

Dr. Angelos Papadopoulos

Academic Programme Director, CYA, Athens



30 October 2024, 18.00

at the Netherlands Institute at Athens

11, Makri str., 117 42 Athens

The event will also be streamed live. For registration please visit:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vf-ysqT4tGtbjMAsCofEvSile5HPIbXgt>



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University of Cyprus
Archaeological Research Unit

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ΓΑΛΛΙΚΗ ΣΧΟΛΗ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

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Abstract

Over the past decades a rather surprisingly large number of Mycenaean pictorial kraters has been found in several Late Bronze Age sites in Cyprus and the Levant. The krater, painted with a variety of scenes from chariots to perhaps even mythological narratives, has been a popular part of what may be called "dinner set", a very much Aegean product of the 14th and 13th c. BCE. What is surprising though is the amount of pictorial kraters found in Greece versus the numbers of those found beyond the Aegean. Equally, as it has been suggested before, the themes on their surfaces have been clearly made from a very specific clientele.

The aim of this discussion is to show how popular these clay vessels were for the non-Aegean societies and suggest a model of production, distribution and consumption based on the available evidence. Areas of production in the Aegean, like Berbati in the Argolid, distribution routes, for example from the harbour of Tiryns via Cyprus to Ugarit and finally aspects of consumption, with a focus on funerary and domestic contexts, will be explored. Although made of modest clay, and frequently of poor pictorial aesthetics, these kraters seem to have been a major Aegean export towards the East and a chaine opératoire can perhaps be identified.