



Gender, Methodology and the Ancient Near East (GeMANE) 6

📅 8–11 April 2024 📍 University of Malta, Valletta Campus, Triq San Pawl, Valletta

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE:

Ellie Bennett, Megan Cifarelli, Agnès Garcia-Ventura, Dennis Mizzi, Omar N'Shea, Saana Svärd

PROGRAMME

DAY 1 | Monday 8 April 2024

08:30–09:00

WELCOME ADDRESS

09:00–11:00

REFLECTIONS ON THE FIELD | **Chair: Agnès Garcia-Ventura**

Saana Svärd: Studying Gender and Elites from an Intersectional Perspective

Sophus Helle: The Great Gender Gap – Where Next?

Regine Pruzsinszky: Gender Naming – Naming Gender

Ann Guinan: Vicious Vacuousness: Jacqueline Rose and the Sex Omens of Šumma Alu

11:00–11:20

Coffee Break

11:20–13:20

VIOLENCE AND VULNERABILITY | **Chair: Gioele Zisa**

Erica Couto-Ferreira: Reproductive Technologies and Male Domination: Approaches on the Control of Women's Bodies in Ancient Mesopotamia

Uroš Matic: "Two Women Were Given to Me": Gender Patterns Behind Ancient Egyptian War-Plundering Practices

Ishbel Russell: Queering Our Approach to Sexual Transgression and Violence in Sumerian Texts: Agency, Vulnerability, and Harm in Enlil and Ninlil

Megan Cifarelli: Why Should We Talk About Impolite Things: Assyrian Art, Gender-Based Violence, and Pedagogy

13:20–14:20

Lunch

14:20–15:50

HISTORIOGRAPHY | **Chair: Luciana Urbano**

Kiersten Neumann: "Sexless" in the Middle East: The Reception and Legacy of Gertrude Bell

Octavio Torres Gomariz: Gender and Ancient Near East in Spanish High Schools: Biases and Potentials from the Didactics of Gender and Feminist Archaeology

Raphaëlle Rannou: The History of Women Archaeologists in the Ancient Near East: Methods and Perspectives

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15:50–16:50 **KEYNOTE**
Diane Bolger: Gender, Fragmentation and Social Transformation in Prehistoric Cyprus

Group Photo

18:00–20:30 *Business Dinner*

DAY 2 | **Tuesday 9 April 2024**

08:30–10:30 **EUNUCHS** | **Chair: Martti Nissinen**

Héctor González Palacios: Towards an Interpretation of Eunuchs as "Third Gender" in the Ancient Near Eastern Mediterranean

Valery J. Schlegel: Beards Maketh a Man, No Beards Maketh a Ša Reši? Depictions of the Beardless and the "Eunuch" in Neo-Assyria and Why Tomb 1 of Nimrud Has Nothing To Do With It

Omar N'Shea: Sealing the State Eunuch: The Presentation of Ša Reši Identities in Ancient Assyrian Administrative Seals

Matheus Treuk M. de Araujo: Achaemenid "Eunuchs" and Same-Sex Love: Some Methodological Considerations

10:30–11:00 *Coffee Break*

11:00–13:00 **NON-BINARY GENDER** | **Chair: Cheryl Morgan**

Athina Gerochristou: Gendered or Not? Seeking for Halaf Culture Males and Females

Lorenzo Verderame: Ur-Nanše, the "Sciانتosa" of Mari

Andrea Rebecca Marrocchi Savoi: Decoding ENigma: The EN Priest/ess and Gender Ambiguity in the Early Mesopotamian Period

Clémence Martinelli: A Reexamination of the gala/kalu Iconography: The Case of the Bowl Fragment from Nimrud

13:00–14:00 *Lunch*

14:00–17:00 **MASCULINITIES** | **Chair: Ellie Bennett**

Maya Rinderer and Gioele Zisa: Gendering Snakes: Masculinity in the Snake Omens of the Divinatory Series Šumma Alu

Patricia Bou Pérez: Royal Men, Royal Emotions: An Old Babylonian (ca. 2000–1600 BCE) Case Study

William Skelton: Crises, Masculinity and Crises of Masculinity in the Maqlû Ritual

15:30–16:00 *Poster Presentation & Coffee Break*

Neville McFerrin: Deconstructing Gender at Persepolis: Lions, Men, and the Problem of the King

Agnieszka Arcisz: "You Will Stay at a Place where you Are Currently Residing": Performance of Ashurbanipal's Royal Masculinity in a Military Context

End of Day 2 **TOUR AND DINNER**

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DAY 3 | Wednesday 10 April 2024

08:30–10:30

CULTIC PRACTICE AND PRACTITIONERS | Chair: Shawna Dolansky

Jennie Ebeling: Women and Cultic Food Preparation in the Late Bronze Age Southern Levant

Sonia Mzali: How to Determine the Gender of the en-Priesthood in Ancient Sumer and Why It Matters

David Hilder: Sexual Terminology in Iqiša's Uruk Astral Magic Tablets

Leslie Virlelson: Do Not Give Your Strength to Women! Portrayals of Women's Strategic Participation in Patriarchal Systems in the Hebrew Bible

10:30–11:00

Coffee Break

11:00–12:30

WOMEN AND THE LAW | Chair: Frances Pinnock

Anne Goddeeris: Life is not a Fairy Tale, Not Even in Babylonia: Blending Families in Old Babylonian Marriage and Adoption Contracts

Katrien De Graef: Weaving a Web of Trust: A Network Analysis of Female Witnesses in Legal Documents

Simonetta Ponchia: Women's Domain: What Could Women Possess in Neo-Assyrian Times and How Could They Manage It?

12:30–13:30

Lunch

13:30–15:00

TRANSGRESSING BOUNDARIES | Chair: Uroš Matić

Andrew Harvin: Style, Gender and Performance in the "Taureador Fresco" at Tell el-Dab'a

Noam Cohen and Samantha Rainford: Turning Men into Women: The Grammar of Gender and Violence in the Middle Assyrian Laws

Martti Nissinen: The Divine Body of Ištar in Neo-Assyrian Prophecy

DAY 4 | Thursday 11 April 2024

08:30–12:00

ROYAL WOMEN | Chair: Natalie Naomi May

Karina Atudosie: Gender and the Rhetoric of Queenship in the Hebrew Bible

Solange Ashby: Shepenwepet II Kushite God's Wife of Amun

Pavla Rosenstein: Tizpatum: Princess, Petitioner, Prisoner

10:00–10:30

Coffee Break

Luciana Urbano and Emanuel Pfoh: Hierarchy, Agency and Gender: Princesses in Mari and Hatti

Sylvia Hutter-Braunsar: The Role of Hittite Queens in Hittite History

Amy Gansell: Analyzing the Identities of Neo-Assyrian Queens Through Multi-Sectional and Intersectional Methodologies Applied Across Disciplines and Media

12:00–13:00

Lunch

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13:00–15:00

BODY AND BEAUTY | *Chair:* Allison Thomason

Anne Katrine de Hemmer Gudme: Beauty, Power and Gender in the Hebrew Bible

Renate Marian van Dijk-Coombes: Hairstyles as Markers of Gender and Status in the Akkadian Period

Ellie Bennett: Wombs, Penises, Testicles, Oh My! A Distant Reading Approach to Genitalia in a Neo-Assyrian Corpus

Stephanie M. Langin-Hooper: The Mobility of Women and the Female Body as Facilitator of Cross-Cultural Interaction in Hellenistic Babylonia

15:00–15:30

Coffee Break

15:30–17:00

MISSING VOICES | *Chair:* Omar N'Shea

Morgan E. Moroney: Where in the World? The Absence of Women in the Tomb of Akhethotep and Ptahhotep

Bruno Biermann: "And She Wrote"-Gender and Writing Beyond Elite Circles in the Iron Age Southern Levant. A Social-Material Approach

Meritxell Ferrer Martin and Mireia López-Bertran: Recovering the Steps of Motherhood in the Phoenician and Punic World

17:00

CLOSING REMARKS