

# Mistaken Identity

## Identities as resources in the central Mediterranean

International conference at the Institute of Classical Archaeology, Schloss Hohentübingen, organized by the subprojects B 04, B 05, C 03 of the CRC 1070 ResourceCultures, University of Tübingen, November 17th-19th 2016.

At least since the 1960s, research on Magna Graecia and Sicily during the Archaic and Classical period is understood as a science of cultural contact zones. The ethnic identities of the actors involved have long been considered to be crucial factors for the evaluation of processes of migration as well as acculturation; thus, they were often used to explain the appearances of foreign objects and customs. To a certain degree this is in line with the fact that encounters with the unfamiliar and new make identities become decisive factors, especially in zones of dense cultural contacts. When threatened to become lost, identities are often formulated concisely and negotiated more aggressively; hence, the sharpening of one's own identity can lead to social exclusion.

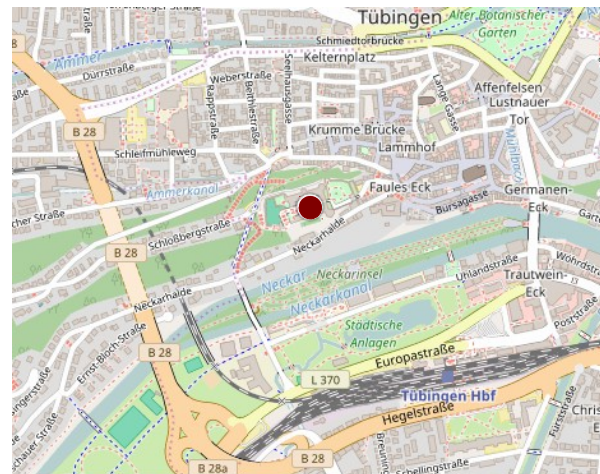
However, individuals and groups not only define themselves based on their ethnic identity, but also by their social, political, and religious affiliations. For the actors themselves, these analytically disparate categories often go together, but they can be emphasized and used to one's own advantage in specific social contexts in relation to other individuals, objects and actions. Identity is thus a resource that actors not only experience and form situationally, but also consciously negotiate and exhaust.

The complexity of these issues complicates, and in some cases prevents, a clearer differentiation of the ancient cultural actors' identities. Due to the fact that research has for a long time focused on ethnic identities, classifications were often hasty and in some cases even wrong. These *mistaken identities* had far-reaching consequences for the interpretation of the archaeological record.

The coexistence of people of different origins, as well as their contact with travelers and merchants, led to specific (re)formations of political, ethnic, social and religious identities that go far beyond the usual classification of *the Greeks, the Phoenicians, the Etruscans* and *the Indigenous*; they remain difficult to categorize even when more recent conceptual models of cultural studies are applied.

The aim of our conference is to take a closer look at the phenomenon itself, but also at methodological pitfalls and false attributions: In which cases can previous research be proved to be inaccurate? In what aspects have our views already changed and how far does the term "*identity*" in fact take us when we deal with the previously mentioned processes?

## Venue



University of Tübingen  
Institute for Classical Archaeology  
Burgsteige 11  
Schloss Hohentübingen  
72070 Tübingen

University of Tübingen  
CRC 1070 ResourceCultures  
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International conference

at the Institute for Classical Archaeology  
Schloss Hohentübingen

17.–19. November 2016

## Program

### Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>

17:30 Welcome and opening remarks

Prof. Dr. Martin Bartelheim (Tübingen)  
Grußwort

Prof. Dr. Thomas Schäfer (Tübingen)  
Grußwort

18:00 Keynote lecture

Prof. Dr. Hans-Joachim Gehrke (Freiburg)  
„Griechische Kolonisation“ zwischen  
Texten und Materialien: Diskurse –  
Forschungen – Perspektiven

Followed by an opening soirée at  
the plastercast-collection of the  
Museum Schloss Hohentübingen

### Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>

9:30 Session 1

Dr. Beat Schweizer (Tübingen)  
Einleitung: Kulturelle Ressourcen und  
Identitäten

Dr. Roland Prien (Heidelberg)  
Identitätsstörungen? Die Ethnosdebatte in  
der Frühgeschichtlichen Archäologie

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 Session 1 (cont.)

Dr. Martin Mauersberg (Innsbruck)  
Antike Identitätswahrnehmung im Kontext  
der „Griechischen Kolonisation“ – und ihr  
Nutzen für die moderne Forschung

## Program

Prof. Dr. Erich Kistler (Innsbruck)  
Das spätarchaische Haus auf dem Monte  
Iato (Sizilien) – Setzung einer neuen  
politischen Identität

12:30 Lunch break

14:00 Session 2

Dr. Veronika Sossau und Kai Riehle, M.A.  
(Tübingen)  
Genau das Gleiche, nur anders. Fragen  
zur Bedeutung der Herkunft von Dingen im  
Kontext der „Großen Kolonisation“

Prof. Dr. Martin Guggisberg (Basel)  
Fibeln, Anhänger und Ringe:  
Trachtschmuck und Identitätsbildung im  
eisenzeitlichen Kalabrien

Dr. Giulia Saltini Semerari und Hannes  
Rathmann, M.A. (Tübingen)  
Disentangling biological and constructed  
identities in the Gulf of Taranto

15:45 Coffee break

16:15 Session 2 (cont.)

Prof. Dr. Jan Paul Crielaard (Amsterdam)  
Hybrid go-betweens: the role of individuals  
with multiple identities in cross-cultural  
contacts in the eastern and central  
Mediterranean

Dr. Christiane Nowak (Berlin)  
Repräsentation von Identitäten auf  
rotfigurigen Vasen Kampaniens

18:00 Guided tour through the collection  
of antiquities of the Institute for  
Classical Archaeology

20:00 Dinner at the 'Tübinger  
Wurstküche'

## Program

### Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

9:30 Session 3

Dr. des. Frerich Schön und Hanni Töpfer,  
M.A. (Tübingen)  
Shaping opportunities – identity  
perceptions in a perspective from Punic  
Carthage

Dr. Lieve Donnellan (Göttingen)  
Migrants, colonists and natives:  
Disentangling the web of intercultural  
interaction, social transformation and  
identity formation in the Bay of Naples

Dr. Christian Heitz (Innsbruck)  
A matter of size and neighbourhood? Die  
Erforschung identitärer Gruppen im  
archaischen Binnenland Italiens

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 Session 3 (cont.)

Dr. Andrea Roppa (Leicester)  
Material crossovers and entangled  
identities in Iron Age Sardinia

11:45 Concluding remarks

Prof. Dr. Richard Posamentir (Tübingen)  
Zusammenfassung und Ausblick