
THE OLD POTTER'S ALMANACK

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EDITORIAL

Michela Spataro

Dear Readers,

I am very pleased to introduce myself as the new editor of the OPA. Since 2007 I have been the scientist for ceramics and stone at the British Museum, but my background is in archaeology. I have a degree in Literature and Philosophy from Ca' Foscari, Venice University, where I enjoyed studying a wide range of subjects including archaeology and wrote my final dissertation on the petrography of prehistoric pottery from a multi-period cave site in north-east Italy. I then did a PhD at the UCL Institute of Archaeology in London on the provenance of early Neolithic pottery in the Adriatic region. This was followed by three-year post-doctoral research on the early Neolithic pottery production and cultural processes in the Balkans, also at UCL, supported by the Leverhulme Trust. In the meantime I have also worked on prehistoric, protohistoric and contemporary pottery production in the Sindh region, southern Pakistan. My current research includes pottery from the Halaf culture (Turkey, Syria and Iraq), the Vinča culture (Serbia), Archaic coarse ware from the Eastern Mediterranean, Neolithic pottery from Nubia and early English porcelain.

I am always looking out for contributions and/or shorter items for the "Notes and News" section for future issues of the OPA. Please send your article and images to:

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I am happy to present in this issue a methodological contribution by Rebecca Stacey who studies *food residues in pottery*. This is a complementary avenue of research, which should be implemented in most pottery studies, where possible, in order to be able to correlate function and fabric.

This paper is followed by interesting insights in the early Neolithic pottery manufacture along the Tyrrhenian coastline of Italy by Marzia Gabriele and Giovanni Boschian.

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