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Preface

This volume contains papers presented at the international conference ‘Networks in the Hellenistic world – according to the pottery in the Eastern Mediterranean and beyond’ which took place at the universities of Cologne and Bonn 23rd–26th February 2011. The organizers Nina Fenn (Cologne), Christiane Römer-Strehl (Bonn) and Patricia Kögler (Frankfurt), all specialists in Hellenistic pottery of different regions in the Eastern Mediterranean, invited participants working from the Adriatic Sea to Asia Minor and up to Central Asia to consider their material according to the common platform of networks and exchange systems.

The participants came from the following nations: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Poland, Switzerland and the USA. The overwhelming response to our first call for papers reflected the huge interest in such a conference. We thank the audience for lively and inspiring discussions. We are indebted to those who chaired sessions (Andrea Berlin, Pia Guldager Bilde, Stella Drougou, Zoi Kotitsa, Elizabeth Langridge-Noti, John Lund, Bertille Lyonnet, Annette Peignard-Giros, Jeroen Poblome and Susan I. Rotroff) for helping us through the programme and keeping an eye on the time-table. We want to thank the departments of classical archaeology of the Universities of Cologne (Michael Heinzlmann) and Bonn (Martin Bentz) as well as the Akademisches Kunstmuseum Bonn (Wilfried Geominy) for their hospitality and support. We owe a great deal to our student assistants at Köln - Lisa Berger and Katharina Jungnickel - and at Bonn - Hannah Godeke, Robinson Peter Krämer, Stefanie Ostendorf, Ruth Schnittker, Klaus Maximilian Jo Schuster, Anne Segbers, Birte Semke and Natalie Wagner. We give sincere thanks to them all.

The concept found favour with the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and we wish to thank them for their invaluable assistance in funding the conference. For the organization of the project our thanks goes to Liselotte Theil (Cologne). The rector’s offices of both universities generously backed the catering.

The layout of the conference material as well as the formatting of the papers is thanks to Markus Brückle. We are grateful to Archaeopress for agreeing to publish the proceedings within their British Archaeological Reports, International Series, and we must personally thank Gerry Brisch and David Davison.

Cologne and Bonn, May 2013
Nina Fenn & Christiane Römer-Strehl

Aims of the Conference

The main goal of our meeting was the examination of networks in the Hellenistic East. We believe that economic and cultural networks are reflected in material culture, and we regard Hellenistic pottery as the most widespread and sensitive category of material evidence. The period extends from the time of Alexander the Great until the incorporation of Egypt as a Roman colony. The geographical frame ranges from the Aegean to the Indian Ocean, and from the Black Sea to the Nile River.

Each region certainly contained its own network and until now the evidence of pottery has been investigated primarily from a regional perspective. In this context we want to mention the initiatives of the Greek meetings on Hellenistic pottery, the Centre for Black Sea Studies, and the workshop at Izmir in October 2010 on Hellenistic ceramics in Anatolia. Supra-regional approaches have been few, though here we can mention the Frankfurter Kolloquium and the ‘Trade relations’.¹ In no case, however, has the Near East been taken into consideration, which means that our knowledge of Hellenistic pottery in the East is quite fragmented. It is time to open a wider perspective.

In this context the following questions are of interest: What is the character of the trade relations between political centres? What is the nature of economic development in minor cities and rural areas? Are some regions cut off from trade routes and thus characterized by a more restricted spectrum of local pottery? Which places traded their pottery globally? Whose pottery was copied, and by whom? Can the repertoire of forms reflect the adoption of specific customs?

Our first step towards the investigation of ‘The networks in the Hellenistic world - according to the pottery in the Eastern Mediterranean and beyond’ was to bring the speakers together. The second step is now to connect our knowledge of the material from the various find spots and regions where we work. The third step will be to detect and define economic and social networks in the Hellenistic world by means of ongoing discussions, and so to achieve a trans-regional perspective.

A conference with this range and number of contributions had never been held. Its international character is reflected in the participation of scientists from thirteen nations. Each one represented a specific place or region, which was necessary for the overall picture. Unfortunately, it was beyond our abilities to also include the Hellenistic pottery of the western Mediterranean.²

The geographical sectors of the Hellenistic networks along with their research focus and regional peculiarities were represented in the conference according to the following divisions:

- Greece, including the important cities of Athens and Eretria as well as the cultural landscapes of Western Greece, Laconia and Macedonia.
- Albania, the most western region taken into consideration. The southern part, represented by the historic landscape of Epirus, and the northern region both received influences from mainland Greece and areas to the east.
- The Aegean island of Delos, which is of special importance as a trading port

¹ Herfort-Koch, M., Mandel, U. and Schädler, U. (eds.). 1996. *Hellenistische und kaiserzeitliche Keramik des östlichen Mittelmeergebietes*. Kolloquium Frankfurt 24.–25. April 1995. Frankfurt, University press; Berg Briese, M. and Vaag, L. E. 2005. *Trade relations in the eastern Mediterranean from the late Hellenistic period to late Antiquity: the ceramic evidence*. Acts from a Ph.-D.-seminar for young scholars, Sandbjerg Manorhouse, 12–15 February 1998. Odense, University Press of Southern Denmark.

² It has been the topic of the conference ‘Immensa aequora’ organized by Gloria Olcese in January 2011.

not only for ordinary freight but also for fine pottery.

- Asia Minor, including supra-regional production centres such as Pergamon and Ephesos, but also beyond these centres to central Anatolia.
- Cyprus, whose strategic position between the Aegean and Egypt acts as the bridge to the Levant.
- Egypt, including Upper Egypt, the Fayoum and Marmarica. Mediterranean contacts are indicated throughout by the export of transport amphorae and their contents as well as the polychrome painting technique.
- The Seleucid kingdom, including the Levant, Mesopotamia and the Persian Gulf. Included here are contributions from specialists working in Israel, Jordan, Syria, Turkmenistan and Central Asia.
- The Black Sea region, which was a recipient of pottery in this period and so was a direct partner in its networks.
- Finally, there were general presentations on sigillata, scientific analyses, shipwrecks and coin circulation.

At the conference Pia Guldager Bilde represented the Black Sea region with two brilliant papers:

Pia Guldager Bilde, Networking élites and the emulation of precious metal vessels in clay

Pia Guldager Bilde, Innovation, networks, and the success of the mouldmade bowl³

Her premature death in January 2013 left a tragic gap among her family, friends and colleagues. It also left a gap in the research of this region and in this volume.

The following participants delivered oral presentations at the conference but for various reasons their papers are not included in this volume:

Barbara Böhm, The oasis of Siwa;

Krzysztof Domzalski, Late Hellenistic fine pottery imports and local products from a deposit on the slopes of Mithridates Hill in Pantikapaion;

Patricia Kögler, Beyond the centres – between the centers: the imported and not imported fine ware from Lissos⁴;

Sabine Ladstätter, Ptolemaic pottery from Upper Egypt. A contribution to the Hellenistic periphery;

Elizabeth Langridge-Noti, Looking outside: Recognizing material relationships between Hellenistic Laconia and the world outside;

Bernd Liesen, Malgorzata Daszkiewicz and Gerwulf Schneider, Typology and provenance studies of Hellenistic and roman pottery from Gadara/UmmQais⁵;

Edyta Marzec, Hellenistic Unguentaria from Cyprus. The issue of trade and local imitations;

Hans-Christoph Noeske, Städteprägungen als Indikatoren für alltägliche Kommunikationsräume? Aktuelle Evidenz und Perspektiven;

Matthias Recke, Ein Bothros von der Akropolis in Perge. Zusammensetzung, Datierung und Funktion;

Gerwulf Schneider and Malgorzata Daszkiewicz, Production and distribution of Hellenistic and roman fine ware in the Eastern Aegean – Chemical data of pottery between Pergamon and Knidos⁶.

³ The two papers were to form part of her monograph: Guldager Bilde, P. *Mouldmade bowls of the Black Sea region and beyond: from prestige object to an article of mass consumption*, Black Sea Studies 17. Odense, University Press of Southern Denmark. The volume was in preparation in 2012 and we hope it will be published in due course.

⁴ Kögler, P. 2011. Abseits der Zentren - zwischen den Zentren : die importierte und nicht importierte Feinkeramik aus Lissos. Eine Studie zu den ökonomischen und kulturellen Beziehungen der Stadt im späten Hellenismus. *Iliria* 34, 2009.2010, 77–89.

⁵ Daszkiewicz, M., Liesen, B. and Schneider, G. in press. Provenance study of Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine kitchen wares from the Theatre-Temple Area of Umm Qes/Gadara, Jordan. In: *Roman pottery in the Levant: local production and regional trade*, RLAMP volume 3. Oxford, Archaeopress.

⁶ Schneider, G. and Daszkiewicz, M. in press. Current state of the WD-XRF database of Hellenistic and Roman Fine Wares in the Levant. In: *Roman pottery in the Levant: local production and regional trade*, RLAMP volume 3. Oxford, Archaeopress.