

WHERE THE STONES LIE: BETWEEN HISTORICAL PRACTICES AND SPATIALITIES

Date/Place: 16 - 17 June 2025
Sala del Torrino (Villa Salviati), Hybrid Mode

Scientific Organisers: Alexandre Claude (EUI, Material and Visual History Working Group) & Leonardo Ariel Carrió Cataldi (CNRS researcher and permanent member of the LARHRA research lab)

Abstract: History tends to be increasingly nourished by material, anthropological, and ecological approaches to the past. From this perspective, the Visual and Material History Working Group, in collaboration with the LARHRA-CNRS (Lyon, France), brings together a great variety of historians and scholars, from different backgrounds (history of knowledge, literary studies, social history, anthropology) to rework the comprehension of earth materials and their underground environment by early modern and modern actors.

'Where the stones lie' is a one-and-a-half-day workshop that seeks to situate the understanding of lithic entities through their natural history, socio-technical, and confessional frameworks. The speakers and discussants will address how these main frameworks, among others, were challenged, across Europe and beyond, by the significant enlargement of the diversity of lithic entities since the early modern period. In particular, they will discuss how Earth's materials rooted the "local" and challenged other socio-spatial configurations under historical construction (regional hinterlands, long-distance or global geographies). In other words, by studying practices of extraction, crafting, and classification of stones, we seek to understand how different forms of spatiality were territorialised. Analyzing these processes of appropriations and experiences with lithic materials will open the perspective over how these operations give depth, relief, and, in some cases, life, to ideas about the (under)ground, the land, and the Earth itself.

The workshop will be mainly, but not exclusively, conducted in English. Other languages (French and Italian) are allowed and welcomed, especially during the Q&A.

Speakers: **Miruna Achim**, Associate professor, Metropolitan Autonomous University, Mexico City; **Elisa Andretta**, CNRS researcher, LARHRA, Lyon; **Dominique Brancher**, Henri M Peyre Professor of French, Yale University, New Haven; **Caroline Callard**, Professor, EHESS, Paris; **Leonardo Ariel Carrió Cataldi**, CNRS researcher, LARHRA, Lyon; **Lola Cindric**, PhD researcher in anthropology, EHESS-CESAH, Paris; **Alexandre Claude**, PhD researcher, EUI, Florence; **Kyria Grieco**, Post-doc researcher, EHESS, Paris; **Adam Mezes**, Max-Weber Fellow, EUI, Florence; **Claire Sabel**, Post-doc researcher, SCARCE-Project, Vienna; **Margherita Trento**, Head of the Indology department, French Institute, Pondicherry



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