FESTIVAL NETWORKS
IN THE HELLENISTIC AND ROMAN WORLDS

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CRASIS Annual Meeting 2012
“Cultures of Networks in the Ancient Mediterranean – 9 & 10 February, 2012"
Agenda

1. Introduction
   – Greek cities in the Hellenistic world

2. Network models and festivals
   – the case of Stratonikeian network building through the festival of Hekate at Lagina

3. Network agents at festivals
   – the role of theoroi, athletes, and associations

4. Conclusion
   – building a ‘small world’ through festivals?
Festival Networks in the Hellenistic World

The Classical periods: Olympia, Delphi, Nemea, Isthmia
Stratonikeia and the sanctuary of Hekate at Lagina
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Some useful literature


The world seen from Magnesia on the Maeander
Stratonikeia in Karia
The five older communities known from demotics:
- Hiera Kome (ΙΕ)
- Koranza (ΚΖ)
- Koliorga (ΚΟ)
- Koraia (ΚΩ)
- Lobolda (ΛΩ) (Cousin and Diehl 1887; Şahin 1976, 1-15; Debord 1994)
Hekate and Lagina

Tridrachm, 160-130 BC – Zeus & Hekate
(Meadows 2002 Group 1, specimen 1a)

Sanctuary complex – late 2nd c. BC

Temple architrave frieze – Hekate in a gigantomachy
The five older communities become the demes of Stratonikeia with Lagina as common sanctuary and 'central' node of the polis.
Stratonikeia becomes one of the largest poleis in Karia after the territorial annex granted in the Senatus Consultum of 81 BC.
The world according to Stratonikeia

Map of the 57 cities that recognized the *asylia* (inviolability) of Lagina granted by Rome after the Mithridatic wars (80s BC), and participated in the Hekatesia-Romaia festivals (*l.Stratonikeia* 505-508)
The regional festival network of Stratonikeia

List of places in which an athlete from Kos was victorious, including the Hekatesia at Lagina (Iscrizioni di Cos EV 203)
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Network specialists at agonistic festivals

1. Theoroi & theorodokoi
2. Athletes
3. Associations of artists
Network agents #2 – Prize-winning Athletes
Aurelius Demostratos Damas of Sardis
documents from: Sardis, Ephesos, Delphi, Hermoupolis, Rome
Aurelius Demostratos Damas of Sardis – SUPERSTAR! – locations of victories

- 2x Olympia
- 2x Puteoli
- 3x Nemea
- 3x Argos Aspis
- 3x Rome
- 3x Nikopolis
- 3x Pergamon
- 3x Rhodes
- 4x Naples
- 4x Sardis
- 4x Alexandria
- 4x Pythia
- 5x Isthmia
- 6x Smyrna
- 9x Ephesos
- 10x Athens
Aurelius Demostratos Damas of Sardis - everyone loves him! – international citizenship
Network agents #3 – Associations of artists
Associations with HQ in the great Hellenistic centers
Network agents #3 – associations and their links

Festival Networks in the Hellenistic World

Ionia
- Hellespont
Teos

Kappadokia

Boeotia

Delphi

Lokris

Olympia

Argos

Chalkis

Delos

Chalkedon

Elaia

Kos

Pergamon

Samothrace

Antiochos III Seleukeia - Tigris

Magnesia on the Maeander

Aetolian League

Alexandria

Cyprus

Salamis

Paphos

Ptolemais

S. Italy - Sicily
The Roman periodos is a small world!
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Conclusions

**FESTIVAL NODES**

**NETWORK BUILDING SCALES**

**LOCAL**
*unification of the polis*

**GLOBAL**
*recognition from the Greek world*

**REGIONAL**
*engagement of peer network*

**STRATONIKEIA & LAGINA**
CASE STUDY

**FESTIVAL TIES**

**NETWORK BUILDING AGENTS**

**THEOROI**
*reciprocity through delegates*

**ATHLETES**
*political bonds transfer of knowledge*

**ASSOCIATIONS**
*facilitators in global traffic*

**THEMATIC DISCUSSION**
The ‘small world’ of festivals

**PAN-HELLENEIC FESTIVALS**
Thank you for your attention!