

CRASIS

Culture, Religion And Society - Interdisciplinary Studies

in the Ancient World

CONFERENCE

Photo: Drents Museum



GRAVE GOODS
from Antiquity to
the Modern Era

22-23 October 2026

KEYNOTE
by Prof. Mike
Parker Pearson



university of
 groningen



PThU

ARCHON

research school
of archaeology



The CRASIS Mortuary Ritual Network is organizing a
conference on theoretical approaches to the mortuary
ritual of gift giving



Scan to go to the
registration form
directly, or go to

<https://forms.gle/VT8CufBf5SWxwELCA>

Scan to go to our
webpage for more
information, or go to
<https://tinyurl.com/MortuaryRitualNetwork>

Thursday 22 October

Location: Oude Boteringestraat 36, Groningen

Faculty of Religion, Culture and Society (University of Groningen) - Old Courtroom

09.30 - 10.00 Registration and coffee
10.00 - 10.15 Welcome and introduction

Session 1: Personhood and Identity

10.15 - 10.45 **Filippos Roussos**
Dying to be a Man: grave goods and masculine identities in early Iron Age Crete

10.45 - 11.15 **Nicholas Aherne**
Death, the transfigured body, and personhood at Roman Baalbek-Heliopolis: a shimmering spectacle in the City of the Sun

11.15 - 11.45 **Sam Cleymans**
Grave good assemblages as evidence for the relational and atomised self: a comparative study from Roman Imperial, late Roman and middle Byzantine Sagalassos

11.45 - 12.15 **Courtney A. Ward**
The little things she had loved in life: approaching the identity of Roman children through grave goods and gifts

12.15 - 13.30 **Lunch (organised for speakers)**

Session 2: Grave Goods and Society

13.30 - 14.00 **Banu Özdilek**
Death and society at Issos–Epiphaneia: sociological structure, beliefs, rituals, warfare, professions, and bioarchaeological insights from Crusader–Armenian burials

14.00 - 14.30 **Jennifer Riley**
It sounds silly, but...

14.30 - 15.00 **Christina Holdgaard Schultze**
Pots, people, and practice: a geochemical case study of the late Bronze Age - early Iron Age pottery from the urnfield of Wapse, Drenthe

Poster Lightning Sessions

15.00 - 15.45 Marlis Arnhold
Jonas Frick
Ilvy P. Paierl
Raffaele Rizzo
Paula Rothmund
Nina Schreuder
Kaja Stemberger-Flegar
Jack Tillman

15.45 - 16.15 **Coffee**

16.15 - 17.30 **KEYNOTE LECTURE: PROF. MIKE PARKER PEARSON**
Interactions with the afterlife: grave goods in perspective

17.30 - 18.30 **Drinks**
18.30 - 20.30 **Dinner (organised for speakers)**

Friday 23 October

Location: Oude Boteringestraat 36, Groningen

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09.30 – 09.45 Doors open and coffee

Session 3: Theory and Space

09.45 – 10.15 **Mariusz Gwiazda**

Ritual logic in the deposition of grave goods: evidence from the Blemmyan Cemeteries at Berenike

10.15 – 10.45 **John Turco**

Actions then identity: perspectives on grave goods in the reconstruction of funerary ritual in Roman Pisidia and the Kibyratis

10.45 – 11.15 **Femke Lippok**

A place for everything: spatial symbolism in early Medieval mortuary archaeology

11.15 – 11.45 **Coffee**

Session 4: Objects for the Dead

11.45 – 12.15 **Matthias Kalisch**

Safe travels? The use and function of coins in the funerary practices of a Roman city far from Rome

12.15 – 12.45 **Matthias Hoernes**

Funerary fake food: lead implements, terracotta food, and (im)permanence in Pre-Roman Southern Italy

12.45 – 14.00 **Lunch (organised for speakers)**

14.00 – 14.30 **Kallirroi Polymenidou**

Roses for the dead: a funeral rite performed by collegia in Roman Macedonia

14.30 – 15.00 **Min Lin**

The Ancestor with multiple identities in Eastern Zhou burials

15.00 – 15.30 General discussion and conclusion