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La produzione della ceramica geometrica enotria nella Sibaritide durante l'età del Ferro

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Statements

1. The transition from hand-made to wheel-made pottery had a huge impact on the social and cultural organization of ancient cultures in the Sibaritide (South-Italy). At the sites of Francavilla Marittima, Torre Mordillo and Castrovillari, the evidence of the use of the potter's wheel was detected only at the end of the eighth and the beginning of the seventh centuries BC. The findings analysed indicate that at these sites the potter's wheel was used only for a small part of the production of Oenotrian matt-painted pottery, and later than previously thought.
2. So far, scholars examined the stylistic and typological aspects of the various categories of local (Oenotrian) pottery production, defining several different pottery styles. However, the question as to how this pottery was made and what the manufacturing techniques can tell us about the cultural encounter between the indigenous inhabitants of the Sibaritide and the Greek and Oriental newcomers during the eighth century BC is as yet little explored.
3. The cultural influence that newcomers from the Eastern Mediterranean had on local (Oenotrian) communities of Southern Italy in the Iron Age has been a subject of recent intense debate. Scholars have interpreted this relationship either as a clash between different civilizations, or as the result of more complex and dynamic interactions. More studies on the technological features of the material culture could surely provide new insight to understand the relationship between the civilizations.
4. A new network tool based on an interactive open-access website which will include all the data collected in the technological studies on Iron Age Southern Italy pottery production is necessary to allow other researchers to upload and compare their own data.
5. In the Sibaritide dominant archaeological research projects are focused on the Greek colony of Sybaris and less on the Oenotrian Italic population settled in the Sibaritide.
6. The restricted knowledge of Italic populations, whether Picenians, Daunians or in the case of the Sibaritide, Oenotrians, is reflected in the local Italian museums and consequently in the information offered to the local inhabitants about their past, which they therefore cannot appreciate unless Classical.
7. The reason why Greek wheel-made pottery production in the Sibaritide attracts more attention than the contemporary production of local matt-painted pottery is that matt-painted pottery (10th – 4th century BC) is hand-made. In a simplistic division the latter is labelled culturally primitive and the former culturally advanced.
8. The fact that the Oenotrians continued to produce their pottery by hand in a period that wheel-made production were known to them shows that their manufacturing procedures had a cultural specific meaning. Unless we understand, explain and seek to appreciate their viewpoints, we keep on operating along academically standards that are not representative.
9. “The entire world is a village” (Tutto il mondo è paese).
10. You can observe a lot just by watching (“Yogi” Berra).