

CURRICULUM VITAE

SERGIO GIUSEPPE RUSSO

[HE/HIM]

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CURRENT POSITION

Development and Communication Assistant, British Institute at Ankara, London Office.

EDUCATION

- Ongoing PhD candidate, Department of Archaeology, King's College, University of Cambridge (UK).
Dissertation title: The Northern Lands of Western Asia: Spatial Structure, Pottery Variation, and Transmission Processes during the Bronze Age (2350-1550 BCE).
Principal Supervisor: Prof Augusta McMahon; Cambridge Supervisor: Cameron Petrie; Advisor: Dr Enrico Crema.
- 11/7/2017 Department of Humanities, University of Catania (Italy). Department of Archaeology, Ege University in Izmir (Turkey). Double Degree MA Archaeology: **110/110 cum laude**.
Thesis title: *Typological and Distributional Analysis of Khabur Ware and Band Painted Wares in the Ancient Near East during the Middle Bronze Age: the Case of Girnavaz Höyük, Southeastern Turkey* (in English).
Supervisor: Dr Peter Tomkins; Advisor: Dr Haluk Sağlamtimur.
- 15/7/2015 Department of Humanities, University of Catania (Italy). BA Cultural Heritages: **110/110 cum laude**.
Thesis title: *The Band Painted Ware in the Upper Tigris River Valley during the Middle Bronze Age: The Case of Hirbemerdon Tepe* (in Italian).
Supervisor: Prof Nicola Laneri.
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TEACHING

- 3-6/2024 **Lecturer** for a seminar on *Ultrasociety vs The Dawn of Everything: Comparing Sociocultural Evolutionary Theories* (18 hours). Department of Humanities, University of Catania (Italy).
- 3-5/2024 **Adjunct Lecturer** for a series of lectures on *Mesopotamian Cities* (25 hours). Course in Archaeology and History of Art of the Ancient Near East. Specialisation School of Archaeological Heritage, University of Catania (Italy).
- 6/2/2024 **Invited Speaker** for a Lecture on *Urbanism and Social Complexity in Bronze Age Anatolia in Context* (Paper A1 – World Archaeology). Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge (UK).

10/2022-6/2023	Teaching Assistant for the paper A10 - Archaeological Theory and Practice I. University of Cambridge.
10/2021-6/2023	Graduate Supervisor of Part II students for the paper A10 - Archaeological Theory and Practice I. University of Cambridge.
10/2020-6/2022	Graduate Supervisor of Part I students for paper A3 - Introduction to the Cultures of Egypt and Mesopotamia. University of Cambridge.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

9/2025-ongoing	<p>“CAMNES Archaeological Project in Iraqi Kurdistan” (CAPIK): project of the ‘Centro di Studi sul Mediterraneo Antico e il Vicino Oriente’ (CAMNES, Florence) in the Erbil area. Survey and excavations at Gird-i Ali Mawlan and other sites (Iraqi Kurdistan).</p> <p>Role: Field director</p>
9/2023-11/2024	<p>“Baghdad Urban Archaeological Project” (BUAP): project of the University of Catania (Italy) with the collaboration of the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage. Excavation of the Bronze Age site of Tell Muhammad in Baghdad (Iraq).</p> <p>Role: Field supervisor.</p>
6/2024	<p>“Ganja Region Kurgan Archaeological Project (GaRKAP)”: a joint project of the ‘Centro di Studi sul Mediterraneo Antico e il Vicino Oriente’ (CAMNES, Florence) and the National Academy of Science of Azerbaijan. Excavation of the Bronze and Iron Age site of Tava Tepe.</p> <p>Role: Field supervisor.</p>
6/2018-6/2022	<p>“Ganja Region Kurgan Archaeological Project (GaRKAP)”: a joint project of the ‘Centro di Studi sul Mediterraneo Antico e il Vicino Oriente’ (CAMNES, Florence) and the National Academy of Science of Azerbaijan. Survey of the Ganja region (Azerbaijan) and excavation of Early Bronze Age funerary <i>tumuli</i> (kurgan).</p> <p>Role: Trench assistant, database coordinator and illustrator.</p>
31/2016-1/2017	<p>“Antico Khuzestan” Archaeological Project: a joint project of the University of Catania and the Iranian Center for Archaeological Research (ICAR). Survey of the valley of Tang-e Kafari and excavation of the early III millennium site of Cham-Popi II, in Ilam (southwestern Iran).</p> <p>Role: Trench supervisor, survey assistant, ceramic expert and illustrator.</p>
9/2015	<p>Başur Höyük Archaeological Project: Ege University. Stratigraphic excavation and documentation of the multi-period settlement (Neolithic-Middle Bronze Age) of Başur Höyük, southeastern Turkey.</p> <p>Role: Trench assistant and field excavator.</p>
6/2015	<p>‘Valcorrente-Belpasso’ Archaeological Project: University of Catania. Stratigraphic excavation and documentation of the multi-period settlement (Neolithic-Late Bronze Age) at Valcorrente, eastern Sicily.</p> <p>Role: Field excavator.</p>

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

2-12/2024	Postgraduate Research Associate in Archaeology and History of Art of the Ancient Near East. University of Catania (Italy).
3/2020-6/2023	Co-organiser of the Ancient Near East Seminar Series. Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge.
3/2020-1/2023	Research Assistant for the PLOMAT project, led by Dr C. Tsouparopoulou, McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge. GIS specialist.

6-12/2021	General Editor for the Archaeological Review from Cambridge (ARC). Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge.
6/2020-6/2021	Theme Editor for the Archaeological Review from Cambridge, volume 36.1, Resilience and Archaeology. Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge.
12/2019-6/2021	Open Access Officer of the Archaeological Review from Cambridge (ARC). Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge.
10/2018-6/2019	Digital Repository Assistant at the British Institute at Ankara (BIAA). Collaboration within the digitisation project of the BIAA collections.
3-9/2018	Research Scholar at the British Institute at Ankara (BIAA). Research on the Assyrian socio-political impact on the communities of southeastern Anatolia. <i>Other activities</i> : classification of books according to the LoC subject headings, re-shelving of the library collection, re-styling of library signage, and collaboration in the website management.
9/2016-2/2017	Exchange Student (Erasmus+ programme) at Ege University of Izmir, Turkey, for a total of 5 months.
11/2016	Visiting Student at Hacettepe University (Ankara, Turkey). Study and macroscopic analysis of the Khabur Ware assemblage from Girnavaz Höyük, southeastern Turkey.
6/2016	Third-party contractor with BraDypUS s.a.s. (Bologna, Italy). Collaboration for the editing of the volume <i>'Hirbemerdon Tepe Final Report 2006-2013'</i> edited by Nicola Laneri.
12/2014-4/2016	Registrar for the inventory database and illustrator for the pottery of the excavation of Hirbemerdon Tepe (Turkey).
10/2013	Illustrator for the pottery of the excavation of Hirbemerdon Tepe (Turkey).
9/2013-6/2014	Exchange Student (Erasmus+ programme) at Ege University of Izmir, Turkey, for 9 months.

TALKS, CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, AND POSTERS

7/11/2024	(Invited talk) Laneri, N. and Russo, S.G. “Riflessioni sulla cronologia Paleobabilonese: una prospettiva archeologica”, <i>PRIN22. Synchronised with Nature: Measuring time in Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia</i> , Rome, Italy (online).
28-31/8/2024	(Workshop paper) Russo, S.G. et al. “The Kispum in the House: Material Religion at Tell Muhammad, Baghdad, during the Old Babylonian period”, <i>Intra-Mural Burials and their Cultural Landscape in Europe and the Mediterranean from Prehistory to the Middle Ages</i> , 30th EAA Annual Meeting, Rome, Italy.
29-30/5/2024	(Conference paper) Laneri, N. et al. “Excavations at Tell Muhammad, 2022-24: Preliminary Results and Conservation Strategy for Mudbrick Architecture”, <i>The First Scientific Conference of the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage 2024</i> , Mosul, Iraq.
9-10/5/2024	(Conference paper) Laneri, N. et al. “In the Sight of Mesopotamian Gods”. <i>The Meeting Etiquette in the Middle East: Continuity and Change</i> , Messina, Italy.
13-14/11/2023	(Conference paper) Russo, S.G. “Legacy pottery data, GIS, and statistical computing: Revamping archaeological understanding through knowledge-sharing and digital technologies”. <i>Linking Pasts and Sharing Knowledge. Mapping Archaeological Heritage, Legacy Data Integration and Web Technologies for Modelling Historical Landscapes</i> , Naples, Italy.
17-20/7/2023	(Workshop paper) Russo, S.G. and Mendola, A., “Washed out, worn away: Natural and human threats at Tell Muhammad, Baghdad, during the 20th

- century”. *68th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, the annual conference of the International Association for Assyriology*, Leiden, The Netherlands.
- 22-26/5/2023 (Workshop) **Co-organiser** of the session ‘>PAST: computational approaches to cultural change’. *13th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East*, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 22/5/2023 (Workshop paper) **Russo, S.G.** and Bortolini, E., “Introduction to the >PAST workshop”. *13th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East*, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 7/4/2021 (Conference paper) **Russo, S.G.**, “For now, it’s just a matter of style: Testing ‘Isolation-by-Distance’ on an Ancient Near Eastern pottery case study”. *12th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East*, Bologna, Italy (online).
- 4/11/2020 (Invited talk) Laneri, N. **et al.**, “Reconstructing funerary sequences of kurgan in the southern Caucasus: the Azerbaijani-Italian Ganja Region Kurgan Archaeological Project (GaRKAP) in western Azerbaijan”. *BuNEER Seminar Series*. Florence, Italy, (online).
- 5/6/2019 (Invited talk) **Russo, S.G.**, “Materiality and Rituality in the Ancient Near East: the case of Hirbemerdon Tepe” (in Italian). Seminar *In viaggio tra oggetti, morte, e sacro*. Catania, Italy.
- 18-21/4/2019 (Poster) Delikan, B., Atalan Çayırezmez, N. and **Russo, S.G.**, “British Institute at Ankara: Herbaryum, Tohum ve Ağaç Referans Koleksiyonları”. *Ulusal Botanik Bahçeleri, Arboretumlar, Herbaryumlar ve Botanik Müzeleri Çalıştayı*. Düzce, Turkey.
- 5-8/6/2017 (Conference paper) Russo, S.G., “Connecting Cultures, Dividing Countries: A Preliminary Assessment on the Khabur Ware of Girnava Höyük (southeastern Turkey)”. *Broadening Horizons 5*. Udine, Italy.
- 2-5/11/2016 (Conference paper) **Russo, S.G.** and Laneri, N., “Hirbemerdon Tepe and the Upper Tigris region during the Middle Bronze Age”. *Uluslararası Diyarbakır Sempozyumu*. Diyarbakır, Turkey.

ASSOCIATION AND VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITIES

- 2022 **President** (elected) of King’s College Graduate Society (KCGS), the graduate community at King’s College, University of Cambridge.
- 2020-2021 **Social Secretary** (elected) of King’s College Graduate Society (KCGS). Organisation of social events for the graduate community at King’s College, University of Cambridge.
- 2012-2017 **Charter Member** of the student association “ArcheoUnict”. Organisation of cultural activities: lectures, seminars, archaeological trips, congresses, and voluntary work in the environment of the Archaeology Department at the University of Catania.
- 2012-2017 **Co-webmaster** and **News Editor** for *archo.unict.it*, the official website of the students of Archaeology at the University of Catania.
- 2005-2015 **Volunteer** and **junior staff coordinator** of the cultural association “Clan dei Ragazzi” (IT). Organisation and coordination of winter and summer camps for children and adolescents (5-13 years old). Organisation of events and activities for people with disabilities.
- 10/2013 **Translator** (Italian to English and English to Italian) for documentaries of the ‘24a Rassegna Internazionale del Cinema Archeologico di Rovereto’.
- 5/2013 **Member** of the organising committee of the ‘Fifth Italian Young Archaeologists National Congress’, held in Catania, 23-26 May.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2024	One-year Postgraduate Stipendiary Research Grant (funded by the European Union – NextGeneration EU). Stipend to support the project ‘Innovative Studies on the Architecture of Tell Muhammad in Iraq’ (€19,367).
2019-2024	Cambridge European & King’s College Scholarship (co-funded by the Cambridge Trust and King’s College). Fees and maintenance (£32,000 p.a.).
2023	The Gerald Averay Wainwright Fund Research Grant (funded by FAMES, University of Oxford). Research grant to support the project ‘Water Management at Tell Muhammad, Baghdad’ (£3800). Student Support Funding (University of Cambridge). Grant to cover expenses to participate in the 13th ICAANE, Copenhagen (£400).
2022	University Fieldwork Funding (University of Cambridge). Grant to cover expenses to carry out fieldwork (£1000).
2020	Provost’s Prize 2020 (King’s College, Cambridge) for significantly contributing to College life (£350).
2018-2019	Fellowship (funded by the British Institute at Ankara - BIAA) for a period of 9 months to be spent at the premises at Ankara (£7200).
2018	Research Scholarship (funded by the British Institute at Ankara - BIAA) for a period of 7 months to be spent at the premises at Ankara (£5600).
2016-2017	Exemption from tuition fees for merit (University of Catania, €400). Graduation Award (funded by ‘Ente Regionale Diritto allo Studio Universitario’ – E.R.S.U.). Award based on academic excellence (€965). Erasmus+ Studentship (co-funded by the European Commission and the University of Catania). Grant to cover expenses to participate in the Erasmus+ programme (€1672). International Mobility Grant (funded by ‘Ente Regionale Diritto allo Studio Universitario’ – E.R.S.U.). Supplementary grant to cover expenses to participate at the Erasmus+ programme (€1068). Annual Studentship (funded by ‘Ente Regionale Diritto allo Studio Universitario’ – E.R.S.U.). Student grant for merit (€1929).
2015-2016	Exemption from tuition fees for merit (University of Catania, €400).
2013-2014	Erasmus+ Studentship (co-funded by the European Commission and University of Catania). Grant to cover expenses to participate in the Erasmus+ programme (€2970). Study Trip Grant (funded by ‘Ente Regionale Diritto allo Studio Universitario’ – E.R.S.U.). Grant to cover expenses to participate in the Study Trip in Turkey.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Italian: native speaker

English: upper speaking and oral comprehension (C1) – IELTS Academic 7.5 (March, 2019)

Turkish: elementary speaking and oral comprehension (A2)

ANCIENT LANGUAGES

Latin: 5+ years

DIGITAL SKILLS

Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access): Excellent

Adobe (Acrobat, Illustrator, Photoshop): Excellent
ArcGIS (Pro, ArcMap, Online, Story Map): Excellent
QGIS: Excellent
R: intermediate

MEMBERSHIPS

King's College, Cambridge

Cambridge Trust

BIAA - British Institute at Ankara

PUBLICATIONS *peer-reviewed

Forthcoming:

- Edited Volume *Fulminante, F., **Russo, S.G.** and De Paolis, P. (eds). *Infant Intramural Burials in the Mediterranean from Prehistory to Modern Times* (SSCIP). Oxford: Archeopress.
- Chapter ***Russo, S.G.** and Zas-Rivas, S. "The Child Funerary Landscape of Old Babylonian Mesopotamia (1894-1595 BCE): Themes, Data, Issues and Potential". In: Fulminante, F., **Russo, S.G.** and De Paolis, P. (eds). *Infant Intramural Burials in the Mediterranean from Prehistory to Modern Times* (SSCIP). Oxford: Archeopress.
- Proceedings **Russo, S.G.** and Mendola, A. "What Happened to Tell Muhammad? Natural and Human Treats in the 20th Century". In N. Laneri and A. Rositani (eds). *Between Babylon and Eshnunna*, NISABA, University of Messina.
- 2026 - Journal Article ***Russo, S.G.** "Intramural Nonadult Burials at Tell Muhammad (in Baghdad) during the Old Babylonian Period (1894–1595 BCE) A Preliminary Assessment of Legacy Data". *Near Eastern Archaeology* 89(1): pp. 24-35.
- 2025 - Magazine Laneri, N., **et al.** "Tava Tepe. Convivialità e cerimonie nel Caucaso". *Archeologia Viva* 230: pp. 28-39.
- 2024 - Journal Article *Laneri, N., **et al.** "The Baghdad Urban Archaeological Project: A Preliminary Report on the First Two Seasons (2022-2023) of Archaeological Research at the Old Babylonian Site of Tell Muhammad (Baghdad)". *Egitto e Vicino Oriente* 47: 139-168. Doi: 10.12871/97912560815098.
- Journal Article ***Russo, S.G.** "Geostatistical Mapping of Pottery Variation: The Northern Lands of Western Asia during the Middle Bronze Age". *Archeologia e Calcolatori* 35.2: pp. 371-380. Doi: 10.19282/ac.35.2.2024.39.
- Journal Article *Tsouparopoulou, C., Maynard, G. and **Russo, S.G.** "PLOMAT: Plotting the material flows of 'commonplace' Late Bronze Age seals in western Eurasia". *Antiquity* 98(402): e33. Doi: 10.15184/aqy.2024.156.
- 2021 - Edited Volume **Russo, S.G.** and Brainerd, L.M. (eds). *Resilience & Archaeology. Archaeological Review from Cambridge* 36.1.
- Chapter ***Russo, S.G.** and Brainerd, L.M. "Introduction: Resilience and its dissociative disorder from an archaeological perspective". In: Russo, S.G. and Brainerd, L.M. (eds). *Resilience & Archaeology. Archaeological Review from Cambridge* 36.1, pp. 1-27.
- 2020 - Journal Article *Laneri, N. **et al.** "Reconstructing funerary sequences of kurgans in the southern Caucasus: the first two seasons of the Azerbaijan-Italian Ganja Kurgan Archaeological Region Project (GaRKAP) in western Azerbaijan". *Anatolica* 46, pp. 103-145.
- Proceedings ***Russo, S.G.**, "Connecting cultures, dividing countries: a preliminary assessment of the Khabur Ware from Girnavaç Höyük, southeastern Turkey".

In: Coppini, C. and Simi, F. (eds). *Interactions and New Directions in Near Eastern Archaeology* (West & East, Monografie 4, Proceedings of the 5th Broadening Horizons Conference, Udine 5-8 June 2017, Volume 3). Trieste: Edizioni Università di Trieste, pp. 241-263.

2017 - Journal Article

*Crescioli, L. and **Russo, S.G.**, "Interpreting a Probable Pottery Kiln of the Middle Bronze Age from Hirbemerdon Tepe, Southeast Turkey". *Anatolica* 43: pp. 83-101.

- Proceedings

Russo, S.G. and Laneri, N., "Hirbemerdon Tepe and the Upper Tigris Region during the Middle Bronze Age". In: Bircan, U., Coşkun, A., Temel, M. and Kılıç, P.G. (eds). *Uluslararası Diyarbakır Sempozyumu*, Cilt 1, ss. 135-153. Diyarbakır: Diyarbakır Valiliği.

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