

CURRICULUM VITAE
ANNA PERDIBON
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Education

- Ph.D 2019 Ancient Near Eastern Studies
Institute of Archaeology
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Dissertation Title: *Mountains and Trees, Rivers and Springs. Animistic Beliefs and Practices in Ancient Mesopotamian Religion.*
- M.A. 2012 Ancient Civilisations: Literature, History and Archaeology
Ca' Foscari University, Venice, Italy.
Thesis title: *Witchcraft and Fertility. The Image of the Witch in Mesopotamia and its Connections with Fertility*
- B.A. 2009 Conservation of Cultural Heritage,
Course of Ancient Near Eastern Studies,
Ca' Foscari University, Venice, Italy.

Fellowships and Grants

- 2007-2008 ERASMUS scholarship at the Department of Ancient Near Eastern Studies,
Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
- 2011-2012 Visiting student fellowship at the Institute of Archaeology, The Hebrew
University of Jerusalem, Israel
- 2013 Visiting Research Fellow at the Rothberg International School, The Hebrew
University of Jerusalem, Israel
- 2014-2016 Research Assistant for the joint research project TEMEN (*Topography -
Mythology - Narration*), Georg-August Universität Göttingen, Germany / The
Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel
- 2017-2018 ERASMUS+ Research Scholarship at the Altorientalisches Institut of the
University of Leipzig

Teaching & Training

- Sep. 2009- Feb. 2010 Teaching assistant for the course of ancient Near Eastern Languages and
Literatures at Ca' Foscari University, Venice
- Sep. 2012-Feb. 2013 Tutor and teaching assistant for the course of ancient Near Eastern Languages
and Literatures at Ca' Foscari University, Venice
- Sep. 2012 Qualification for teaching Italian as Foreign Language (DITALS I level),
University of Siena, Italy.
- Jul.-Aug. 2012 Internship at the Department of Middle Eastern Studies, British Museum,

London, UK, under the direction of Dr. J. Taylor.

Work Experience

- Sep.-Nov. 2008 Responsible of the Israeli Pavilion (Israel) for the 11th International Architecture Biennale of Venice.
- Jun.-Sep. 2009 Exhibition keeper at the Israeli Pavilion for the 53rd International Art Biennale of Venice.
- Aug.-Nov. 2010 Exhibition keeper at the Cyprus Pavilion for the 12th International Architecture Biennale of Venice.
- Aug.-Sep. 2012 Exhibition keeper at the Cyprus Pavilion for the 13th International Architecture Biennale of Venice.

Publications

Books:

- 2019 *Mountains and Trees, Rivers and Springs. Animistic Beliefs and Practices in ancient Mesopotamian Religion*, PhD Jerusalem, Harrassowitz Verlag, Wiesbaden.

Articles in journals and edited volumes:

- 2020 “Nature as Conceived by the Mesopotamians and the Current Anthropological Debate over Animism and Personhood. The Case of Ebiḫ: Mountain, Person and God, in *Distant Worlds Journal* 4, 124–136 (peer-reviewed).
- forthcoming “Madri, guaritrici e giudici: i fiumi negli antichi politeismi mesopotamici alla luce del neo animismo”, G. Zisa and C. Ambos (eds.), *Antropologia religiosa dell’antica Mesopotamia*.
- under peer review “‘Between the Mouth of the Two Rivers’: Holy Water, Springs, Sacred Rivers and Trees in ancient Mesopotamian Cosmology and Material Religion”, in C. Ray (ed.), Special Issue of the *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*.
- under peer review “Alberi sacri e persone arboree nella religione mesopotamica: considerazioni antropologiche e storico religiose sulla natura animata e il cosmo relazionale degli antichi Sumeri e Babilonesi”, L. Zola, S. Beggiora and C. Agus (eds.), *Natura Animata*.

Book reviews:

- 2019 Review of the book by Francesca Ciancimino Howell, *Food, Festival and Religion. Materiality and Place in Italy*, London and New York, 2018, in *Culture and Religion* (online).
- forthcoming Review of the book edited by A. Koch and K. Wilkens, *The Bloomsbury Handbook of The Cultural and Cognitive Aesthetics of Religion*, London and New York, 2020, in *Material Religion* (online).

Non-academic Writing:

- 2020 “Reflections on ecology, spirituality and animism through the visionary art of Beric Henderson”, in The Earth Issue (<https://www.theearthissue.com/news/ecology-spirituality-and-animism-anna-perdibon>).
- 2020 “Seeds of Connection, Seeds of Change: Botanical Folktales for Ecological and Relational Storytelling”, in Counterpoint (<https://www.counterpointknowledge.org/seeds-of-connection-seeds-of-change-botanical-folktales-for-ecological-and-relational-storytelling/>)
- in preparation “Intrecci botanici e femminili tra tradizioni, spiritualità ed ecologia”, in E. Basile (ed.), Quaderni di Narni.
- in preparation *Da Siduri all'animismo: appunti di viaggio tra Gerusalemme e l'Europa* (currently under consideration of editor Daniela Rossi).

Invited Lectures and Talks

- 2018 Sep. 4 “From Custodian to Trickster: the Different Character of Anzû in the Sumerian and Akkadian Mythical Accounts”, as part of the workshop “Transmission of Knowledge between Sumerian and Akkadian literatures”, organized by Prof. Catherine Mittermayer, the University of Geneva, and Prof. Uri Gabbay, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- 2018 Dec. 12 “Mountains and Trees, Rivers and Springs. Animist Beliefs and Practices in the Mesopotamian Religion”, Altorientalisches Institut, University of Leipzig, Leipzig.
- 2019 Jan. 24 “Divine Rivers and Sacred Trees: Some Notes on Nature, Divinity and Personhood in ancient Mesopotamian Religion”, lecture given as part of the MA seminar *De la géographie au mythe. Apport des textes à l'étude de l'environnement mésopotamien*, prof. A.-C. Rendu-Loisel, University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg.
- 2019 Oct. 14 “Mountains, Deities and Sanctuaries: Some Notes on Nature, Animism and Pilgrimage from the Ancient Near East to the Alps”, workshop organized by prof. John Eade and prof. Nurit Stadler, *Agency of People, Nature and Artifacts: Religion, Animism and Pilgrimage*, Roehampton University, London.
- 2019 Oct. 16 “Sacred Trees and Tree Persons: Readdressing Nature, Divinity and Personhood in the ancient Mesopotamian Material Religion”, The Baron Thyssen Center for the Study of Ancient Material Religion, Open University, Milton Keynes.
- 2020 Nov. 2 “Nature, Religion and Mythology through the Lens of New Animism”, Center for Religious Studies (CERES), Bochum University (online).

Language Skills

Mother tongue: Italian.

Other languages: English (C2), German (B2), French (A2), Hebrew (A2).

Ancient languages: Greek (high), Latin (high), Akkadian (high), Sumerian (intermediate), Biblical Hebrew (basic).

Further Information

Driving license: B.

Good knowledge of Windows and Microsoft systems.

Great communication and teaching skills.

Good social skills for both team and independent work.

Years-long competence in academic and creative writing and editing.

Research Interests

Animism/s History and Anthropology of Religions Anthropology of Nature
Nature, Culture and Religion Mythology and Magic Material Religion
Ancient Near Eastern Studies Archaeology of Landscape
Mythology and anthropology of plants Archaeo- and Ethno-botany Plant Turn
Eco-spiritualities Eco-feminism Indigenous Studies
Folklore and marginalized worldviews Ontological Turn Anthropocene Studies
Environmental Humanities Environmental Arts

Teaching Courses

- Conceptions of Nature in the Ancient Near Eastern Mythology and Religion.
- The Rebirth of Animism in Anthropology and Religious Studies.
- Mythology and Anthropology of Plants.