

MICHELE MINARDI
MA (Rome), PhD (Sydney)

ARCHAEOLOGIST

📍 Piazza San Domenico Maggiore n. 12, 80134, Napoli
☎ +39
✉ mminardi@unior.it
🌐 <https://unior.academia.edu/MicheleMinardi>
💬 Skype
Sex Male | Date of birth 19/05/1980 | Nationality Italian

Assistant Professor (R.t.d. "B")

Iranian Archaeology and Art History
"L'Orientale" University of Naples, Italy
Department of Asian, African and Mediterranean Studies

LAST UPDATED ON SEPT. 23

EDUCATION & TRAINING

- **03/2018 Italian National Scientific Habilitation (ASN)** for Associate Professor roles in the research area "Cultures of Central and Eastern Asia" (10/N3), "Archaeology and History of Art of India and Central Asia" (L-OR/16).
- **07/2009 – 06/2013 University of Sydney, PhD in Archaeology of pre-Islamic Central Asia**
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Department of Archaeology
Dissertation: "Ancient Chorasmia: a polity between the semi-nomadic and sedentary cultural areas of Central Asia. Cultural interactions and local developments from the VI century BC to the I century AD". Supervisor: Alison V.G. Betts.
- **2007 University of Rome "La Sapienza", MA in Greek and Roman History of Art and Archaeology**
Faculty of Humanities (*Scienze Umanistiche*), Department of Archaeology
Thesis: "Archaeological analysis and topographical reconstruction of the urban landscapes of the third Augustan *regio* of Rome *Isis et Serapis*". Supervisor: Andrea Carandini.
 - Grade average: 30 out of 30 (all exams passed with full marks according to the Italian Grading System)
 - Degree score: 110 out of 110 cum laude
- **2001 – 2005 Formative archaeological fieldwork**
Field archaeologist in +12 excavation campaigns at the sites of: Rome, Palatine Hill & Roman Forum; Pompeii, "Triangular Forum" & Temple of Venus; Anzio, *villa Neronis*, Veii, *Campetti*, Cencelle (VT); Zeytinli Bahçe (Urfa, Turkey) and others.

POSITIONS

Current

- **02/2022 – present (R.t.d. "B") Assistant Professor**, Archaeology and History of Art of pre-Islamic Iran. Department of Asian, African and Mediterranean Studies, "L'Orientale" University of Naples, Italy.
- **02/2022 – present Adjunct Professor**, Iranian Archaeology. *Dipartimento di Scienze del Patrimonio Culturale*, University of Salerno, Italy.
- **06/2023 – present Director**, ISMEO/UNIOR *Missione archeologica italo-karakalpaka in Antica Corasmia* (Italian-Karakalpak Archaeological Mission in Ancient Chorasmia)
- **2020 – present Field Director**, ISMEO/Ca' Foscari Italian Archaeological Mission in Pakistan.
- **2010 – present Member** of the Karakalpak-Australian Expedition to Ancient Chorasmia.

Completed

- **2010 – 2023 Field Director and Survey Manager**, Karakalpak-Australian Expedition to Ancient Chorasmia
KAE - University of Sydney & Uzbek Academy of Sciences, Karakalpak branch, Nukus.
- **2019 – 2021 Research Fellow/Associate Researcher** Centre for Classical and Oriental Archaeology, Institute for Oriental and Classical Studies, Faculty of Humanities, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia.
- **2017 – 2019 Director** of the excavations and surveys on the Sultan-uz-dag range of Karakalpakstan (Australian Research Council Discovery Project grant 170101770).
- **2017 – 2018 Research Associate**, Ausonius UMR 5607 CNRS University of Bordeaux Montaigne, France.
- **2016 Director**, Uzbek-French Archaeological Expedition to Karakalpakstan
Excavations at Angka-kala, Uzbek Academy of Sciences, Karakalpak branch, Nukus & University of Bordeaux.
- **11/2014 – 11/2016 Excellence Initiative Bordeaux Postdoctoral Fellow**
(ANR-10-IDEX-03-02), University of Bordeaux/Bordeaux Montaigne, Ausonius Institute UMR 5607 CNRS.
- **08/2013 – 10/2014 Research Associate**, University of Sydney
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Department of Archaeology.
- **03/2008 – 01/2009 Survey Engineer (onshore/offshore) & Archaeology Advisor**
Geomarine S.r.l. (via della Darsena 9, 60019 Senigallia, Italy).

- **08/2008 – 05/2009 University spin-off member**, University of Rome "La Sapienza" Department of Archaeology. Member of the university spin-off "Archi Web". Archi Web was created to develop a database related to information systems (GIS) capable of collecting documentation linked to archaeological finds in urban and rural areas for commercial purposes.
- **03/2005 – 02/2008 Research Project Manager**, University of Rome "La Sapienza" Department of Archaeology. Stipendiary position in the "Imago Urbis" research team led by A. Carandini focusing on the study of the development of the ancient urban landscapes of Rome from the 8th century BC to the 6th century AD. In charge of the third Augustan district of Rome (*Isis et Serapis*), and cataloguer of the unpublished material held in the Italian state archives of *EUR, S. Maria Nova, Palazzo Attempo*, and *Museo della Calcografia Nazionale*.

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

Current

- **12/2021 – present Co-Investigator**, ALIPH project proposal 2021-2173: "Bazira/Barikot: Safeguard and Study Project of the Acropolis" (with Luca M. Olivieri and Elisa Iori).
- **05/2019 – present Grantee/Principal Investigator**, "Old Kandahar: an archaeological reappraisal". Shelby White and Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications at the Harvard Museum of the Ancient Near East.

Completed

- **07/2017 – 07/2010 Co-Principal Investigator**, "Shifting the foundation of Zoroastrian History: a fresh focus on Chorasmia" Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Project Grant DP170101770 (with A. Betts F. Grenet & M. Karlybaev).
- **2016 Funds raised for the organization of the conference "Ancient Chorasmia"**
Founding bodies: French Republic Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche, Grantee of the Programme ACCES; Ausonius Institute UMR 5607 CNRS; LabEx of Archaeological Sciences of Bordeaux (LaScArBx, ANR-10-LABX-52); University of Bordeaux Montaigne (Direction de la Recherche); Regional Council of Aquitaine (Direction de la Recherche, de l'Enseignement supérieur et du Transfer de technologie); Bordeaux Excellence Initiative Programme (IdEx, ANR-10-IDEX-03-02).
- **11/2014 & 11/2015 IdEx Bordeaux Postdoctoral Fellowship Grants**
(employed for: 05/2015, research survey in Iran; 2016, Uzbek-French archaeological mission to Karakalpakstan).
- **07/2009 – 12/2012 PhD scholarship**. Tuition fees and stipend (100%).
University of Sydney International Scholarship (USydlS).
- **2011 University of Sydney Postgraduate Research Support Scheme (PRSS)**, travel grant 2012.
- **07/2008 – 08/2008 Junior Research Fellow, University of Rome "La Sapienza"**
Department of Archaeology. Fellowship No. 34/2008: analysis and digitalization of the data held in the historical and archaeological Italian state archive of EUR Rome "*Archivio Gatti*".
- **2006 Merit Scholarship** for outstanding MA dissertation awarded by *Banca di Credito Cooperativo del Metauro* (Orciano, PU, Italy).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- **2022 – present** Member of *Centro Studi su Asia Centrale, Caucaso, Turchia, Tibet e Iran (CSACTI)*, Centre of Excellence, Department of Asian, African and Mediterranean Studies, University "L'Orientale", Naples.
- **2016 – present** Member of **EASAA** (European Association of South Asian Archaeology and Art).
- **2015 – present** Member of the **Silk Road Studies Group**, Department of Archaeology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Sydney, Australia.
- **2013 – present** Member of **ISMEO** (*Associazione Internazionale di Studi sul Mediterraneo e l'Oriente*), Rome, Italy.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **02/2022 – present Chair of Iranian Archaeology and Art History**. "L'Orientale" University of Naples, Department of Asian, African and Mediterranean Studies. Graduate (72 hrs per semester) and postgraduate (48 hrs) courses.
- **02/2022 – present Chair of Iranian Archaeology and Art History**. "L'Orientale" University of Naples & the University of Salerno (*Scuola Interateneo di Specializzazione in beni archeologici Or.Sa*), PhD-level course (30 hrs).
- **2019 – 2021 Lecturer. Archaeology of pre-Islamic Iran and Central Asia**. Master's Programme: Classical and Oriental Archaeology. Centre for Classical and Oriental Archaeology, Institute for Oriental and Classical Studies, Faculty of Humanities, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia. Postgraduate course (30 hrs).

SERVICE

- **Since 2023 Thesis supervisor & co-supervisor** for several graduate and post-graduate students, "L'Orientale" University of Naples.
- **Since 2022 Member** of PhD review panels, "L'Orientale" University of Naples.
- **04/2023 – present Collaborator**, *Scuola Interateneo di Specializzazione in beni archeologici Or.Sa.*: Erasmus+ agreement between the Departments of Civil Engineering (DICIV) and of Cultural Heritage Sciences (DiSPaC) at the University of Salerno (Italy), and the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Transportation (CET) and Foreign Languages (FGN) at the University of Isfahan (Iran).
- **23/03/2023 Convenor** (with G.P. Basello), lecture by Kiumars Alizadeh (Berlin-Paris): "From Hanni to Kidin-Hutran the son of Kurluš: a new look into the Arjān bronze bowl", "L'Orientale" University of Naples.
- **02/2022 – present Member** of the Antiquity Area Educational Board Commission (*Collegio area didattica di Antichistica*), "L'Orientale" University of Naples, Department of Asian, African and Mediterranean Studies.
- **02/2022 – present Member** of the Ancient Civilizations and Archaeology Degree Programme board (*Corso di laurea Civiltà Antiche e Archeologia*), "L'Orientale" University of Naples, Department of Asian, African and Mediterranean Studies.
- **02/2022 – present Member** of the board of the Postgraduate School of Archaeology "Or.Sa." ("L'Orientale" University of Naples & University of Salerno).
- **2023 – present Editorial Board Member**. *Journal of Asian Civilizations*. Taxila Institute of Ancient Civilizations (Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad).
- **2022 – present Scientific Board Member**. *Journal of Asian Civilizations*. Taxila Institute of Ancient Civilizations (Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad).
- **2020 – present Editorial Board Member**. *Persica Antiqua. The International Journal of Iranian Studies*.
- **2017 – 2022 Expert peer reviewer** of grant applications for the **National Centre of Science and Technology Evaluation**, Ministry of Education and Science, Republic of Kazakhstan.
- **2019 – 2021 Contributor** to the bibliographical journal **Abstracta Iranica** (Institut Français de Recherche en Iran (Téhéran)/UMR 7528 CNRS, Mondes iranien et indien, Paris).
- **2016 International Conference organizer and convenor**, "Ancient Chorasmia, Central Asia and the Steppes. Cultural relations and exchanges from the Achaemenids to the Arabs", 17-18 October 2016, Ausonius Institute UMR 5607 CNRS, University of Bordeaux Montaigne, France.

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs (including peer-reviewed)

1. **Minardi, M.** (forthcoming). *Old Kandahar: An Archaeological Reappraisal on account of the British Excavations 1976-1978 directed by S.W. Helms. With contributions of A.V.G. Betts, L.M. Olivieri, E. Iori, R. Salomon, S. Baums and J. Cribb*, ISMEO: Rome.
2. **Minardi, M.** 2015. *Ancient Chorasmia. A polity between the semi-nomadic and sedentary cultural areas of Central Asia. Cultural interactions and local developments from the sixth century BC to the first century AD*, (Acta Iranica 56) Peeters: Leuven [peer-reviewed].
3. Bilyalova, G., Yarygin, S., **Minardi, M.** & Bonora G.L. (in collaboration with Khabdulina, K., Sviridov, A. and Tleugabulov, D.) 2014. *Multilingual dictionary of archaeological terms (Kazakh-Russian-English-Italian)*, "L.N. Gumilev" Eurasian National University Press: Astana.

Edited volumes & chapters in edited books

1. **Minardi, M.** 2023. "The northeastern regions of the Persian Empire: Bactria, Sogdiana, Margiana, Chorasmia, Aria, Parthia, the Sakas and the Dahae", in K. Radner, N. Moeller & D. T. Potts (eds.), *The Oxford History of the Ancient Near East Volume 5: The Age of Persia*, Oxford University Press, 784-836.
2. **Minardi, M.** 2021. Entry in exhibition catalogue: "Silver plate with depiction of the goddess Hariti on a lion-throne and other celestial beings", in U. Franke, I. Sarikhani and S. Weber (eds.), *Iran - Kunst und Kultur aus Fünf Jahrtausenden, James Simon Gallerie, Berlin December 4th 2021 to March 20th 2022*, Hirmer Verlag, 132-133.
3. **Minardi, M.** & Ivantchik, A. (eds.) 2018. *Ancient Chorasmia, Central Asia and the Steppes. Cultural relations and exchanges from the Achaemenids to the Arabs. Proceedings of the international conference held in Bordeaux, France, 17-18 October 2016*, (Ancient Civilizations from Scythia to Siberia 24/1-2, special issue), Brill: Leiden [peer-reviewed journal].
4. **Minardi, M.** & Ivantchik, A. 2018. "Preface", in M. Minardi & A. Ivantchik (eds.) 2018, *Ancient Chorasmia, Central Asia and the Steppes..* (Ancient Civilizations from Scythia to Siberia 24/1-2, special issue), Brill: Leiden, V-VIII.

1. **Minardi, M.** 2023. "Ossuary burials of the Sultan-Uiz-Dag. Some considerations on the relation between archaeology and *Vendīdād*", *Ancient Civilizations from Scythia to Siberia* 29/1: 86-132. ●
2. **Minardi, M.**, Betts, A.V.G. and Iskanderova, A. 2023. "Of crowns and diadems: new pictorial evidence from Akchakhan-kala", *East and West* 63/1: 119-152. ●
3. Olivieri, L.M., Iori, E., **Minardi, M.**, Lant, E. & Vidale, M. 2022. "Barikot, Swat: excavation campaign 2021-2022, preliminary Report. Trenches BKG 16, BKG 17, and BKG 18", *East and West* 62/2: 67-194. ●
4. Olivieri, L.M., **Minardi, M.** & Vidale, M. 2022. "A Note on the Discovery of a Prehistoric Maskoid on the "Barikot Top-hill" (Bir-kot-ghwandai, Swat, KP)", *Ancient Pakistan* 33: 65-75.
5. **Minardi, M.** 2022. "'Persian riders' on a post-Achaemenid terracotta mould from the Bhir Mound, Taxila", *Mesopotamia* 52: 123-136. ●
6. **Minardi, M.** 2021. "Notes on the elaboration and transmission of iconographic elements in Central Asia and India before the Kushans: the Zoroastrian 'bird-priests', *kinnaras* and sirens". *East and West* 61/1: 81-113. ●
7. **Minardi, M.** 2021. "The north-eastern border of the Achaemenid Empire: introducing the Chorasmian Late Iron Age", in J. Lhuillier (ed.), *Archaeology of Central Asia during the 1st millennium BC, from the beginning of the Iron age to the Hellenistic period. Proceedings from the workshop held at 10th ICAANE 2016* (Oriental and European Archaeology 18), Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften: 71-88.
8. Grenet, F. & **Minardi, M.** 2021. "The image of the Zoroastrian god Srōsh: new elements", *Ancient Civilizations from Scythia to Siberia* 27/1: 154-173. ●
9. **Minardi, M.**, Betts, A.V.G. & Khozhanizayov, G. 2020. "Recently discovered painted imagery of horses with 'grooms' at Akchakhan-kala: observations on their art, symbolic meaning and context", *Topoi. Orient-Occident* 23: 61-101. ●
10. **Minardi, M.** 2020. "Achaemenid 'echoes' at Akchakhan-kala, Chorasmia, and their broader significance for Central Asia". *Journal of Asian Civilizations* 43/2: 1-41. ●
11. **Minardi, M.** 2020. "The Ancient Chorasmian unbaked-clay modelled sculptures: Hellenistic cultural 'impacts' on an Eastern Iranian polity", in L. Greaves & A. Hardy (eds.), *Religion, Society, Trade and Kingship. Art and Archaeology in South Asia along the Silk Road 5500 BCE-5th Century CE* (South Asian Archaeology and Art 2016, Volume 1), Dev Publishers, New Delhi: 195-208.
12. **Minardi, M.** 2018. "The Oxus route toward the south: Persian legacy and Hellenistic innovations in Central Asia", in M. Minardi & A. Ivantchik (eds.) 2018, *Ancient Civilizations from Scythia to Siberia* 24/1-2, 87-154. ●
13. **Minardi, M.** & Amirov, S. 2017. "The Zoroastrian funerary building of Angka Malaya", *Topoi. Orient-Occident* 21/1: 11-49. ●
14. **Minardi, M.**, Betts, A.V.G. & Khozhanizayov, G. 2017. "Columned halls in Ancient Chorasmia", *Iran. Journal of the British Institute of Persian Studies* 55/2: 208-226.
15. Betts, A.V.G., Grenet, F., Yagodin, V.N., Kidd, F., **Minardi, M.**, Bonnat, M. & Khashimov, S. 2016. "The Akchakhan-kala wall paintings: new perspectives on kingship and religion in Ancient Chorasmia", *Journal of Inner Asia Art and Archaeology* 7: 125-165. ●
16. **Minardi, M.** 2016. "New data on the Central Monument of Akchakhan-kala", *Bulletin of the Asia Institute* 26: 133-158. ●
17. **Minardi, M.** 2016. "Elite, wine consumption and status symbols in Ancient Chorasmia", *Ancient Civilizations from Scythia to Siberia* 22/2: 262-294. ●
18. **Minardi, M.** 2016. "The Hellenistic Chorasmian *ketos* of Akchakhan-kala", *Iranica Antiqua* 51: 165-200. ●
19. **Minardi, M.** & Khozhanizayov, G. 2015. "The Central Monument of Akchakhan-kala: fire temple, image shrine, or neither?", *Bulletin of the Asia Institute* 25: 121-146. ●
20. Betts, A.V.G., Bonnat, M., Kidd, F., Grenet, F., Khashimov, S., Khozhanizayov, G. & **Minardi, M.** 2015 [in gender & alphabetic order]. "Des divinités avestiques sur les peintures murales d' Akchakhan-kala, Ouzbékistan", *Comptes rendus des séances de l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres* III: 1369-1396. ●
21. **Minardi, M.** 2015. "A silver rhyton from Afghanistan held in the Cleveland Museum of Art and its historical context", *Journal Asiatique* 303: 59-86.
22. **Minardi, M.** 2013. "A four-armed goddess from Ancient Chorasmia. History, iconography and style of an Ancient Chorasmian icon", *Iran. Journal of the British Institute of Persian Studies* 51: 111-143.
23. **Minardi, M.** & Carandini, A. 2007. "La casa privata di Servio Tullio e la sua Fortuna", *Workshop di Archeologia Classica* 4: 17-52.

Festschriften (including peer-reviewed series)

1. Grenet, F. & **Minardi, M.** 2022. "An illustration of the *āb-zōhr* and of some Avestan formulas on a wall painting at Akchakhan-kala (Chorasmia, early 1st century AD)", in A. Cantera, M. Macuch and N. Sims-Williams (eds.), *The Reward of the Righteous. Festschrift in Honour of Almut Hintze* (Iranica 30), Harassowitz, Wiesbaden: 195-212.
2. Olivieri, L.M. & **Minardi, M.** 2022. "Scavare a Bir-koṭ-ghwandai. Le fasi tardo-antiche", in Colliva, L., Filigenzi, A. and Olivieri L.M. (eds.) *Le forme della città: Iran, Asia centrale e Gandhara* (Nuova Serie Orientale Roma), ISMEO, Roma – in press.
3. **Minardi, M.**, Betts, A.V.G., Grenet, F. & Khashimov, S. 2018. "A new Chorasmian wall painting from Akchakhan-kala", in S. Gondet & E. Haerinck (eds.), *L'Orient est son jardin. Hommage à Rémy Bouchardat* (Acta Iranica 58), Peeters, Leuven: 305-324.

Non-peer-reviewed conference proceedings and contributions

1. Filigenzi, A., Sernicola, L., Beldados, A., Loreto, R., **Minardi, M.** & Castelluccia, M. (forthcoming). "Archaeology and sustainable development: a covenant for the future / Asia and its ancient landscapes: archaeological research from the deserts of Ancient Chorasmia to the valley of Uddiyana", *Journal of Universities and International Cooperation* – accepted for publication.
2. **Minardi, M.** 2019. "The Karakalpak-Australian Expedition Archaeological Survey on the Sultan-uiz-dag/Sultan-uvais range: a brief overview", in A. Iskanderova (ed.) 2019, *Istorija i arkeologija Priaralja*, Nukus: 152-158.
3. Amirov, Sh., Betts, A.V.G., Khozhaniyazov, G. and **Minardi, M.** 2019. "Arkeologicheskoe obledovanie gor Sultanuizdaga", in A. Iskanderova (ed.) 2019, *Istorija i arkeologija Priaralja*, Nukus: 47-55.
4. **Minardi, M.** 2016. "The recent contributions of archaeology to the study of Zoroastrianism in Uzbekistan/Karakalpakstan", *Актуальные вопросы археологии, этнографии, истории и историографии южного Приаралья [Current issues of Archaeology, Ethnography, History and Historiography of the Southern Pre-Aral Area]*, Ajiniyaz State Pedagogical Institute, Nukus, 22-23 November 2016, Nukus: 10-14.
5. **Minardi, M.** 2009. "L'Ipogeo di Piagge. Uno studio preliminare", in Volpe, G. & Polverari, G. (eds.) 2009, *Piagge*, Fano: 92-109.

Book reviews (invited)

1. For the *Bulletin of the International Institute for Central Asian Studies* (IICAS, UNESCO), 29, 2020: "Masters" and "Natives": *Digging the Others' Past*, edited by Svetlana Gorshenina, Philippe Bornet, Michel E. Fuchs, and Claude Rapin, De Gruyter, Berlin 2019.
2. For the *American Journal of Archaeology* 121.1, 2017: *The Greeks in Asia*, by John Boardman, Thames & Hudson, London 2015.
3. For *The Classical Review* 2015: *Greco-Scythian Art and the Birth of Eurasia. From Classical Antiquity to Russian Modernity*, by Caspar Meyer, Oxford Studies in Ancient Culture & Representation, Oxford.

Non-academic articles (in specialized magazines)

1. (With L.M. Olivieri and E. Iori) "Passaggio in Swat. Antichità buddhista. Archeologia in Oriente". *Archeologia Viva* 213 (maggio/giugno 2022 – Anno XL).
2. "Antica Corasmia", *Archeologia Viva* 207 (maggio/aprile 2021 – Anno XL).
3. (With L.M. Olivieri) "Acropoli di Barikot. Un microcosmo di riflessi asiatici", *Archeologia Viva* 206 (marzo/aprile 2021 - Anno XL).

CONFERENCES & TALKS

As invited speaker/lecturer

1. [Almaty, Kazakhstan, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University](#)
Round table, 8 October 2023.
"Archaeological Fieldwork activities in Asia, Michele Minardi, chair of Iranian Archaeology at 'L'Orientale'".
2. [Uzbekistan, Tashkent, Italian Embassy in Uzbekistan & World Diplomacy University](#)
Round table, 10 October 2023.
"Archaeological activities of the newly founded ISMEO Italian-Karakalpak Archaeological Mission in Ancient Chorasmia".
3. [Naples, Italy, "L'Orientale" University](#)
Nowruz 1402. L'Iran tra storia, cultura e società, 20-21 March 2023.
"Note sulla possibile celebrazione di un Nowruz corasmio nel I secolo d.C."
4. [Fisciano, Italy, University of Salerno](#)
Talk/presentation to the students of the post-graduate school of archaeology ("*Scuola di Specializzazione interateneo Orientale-Salerno*"), 3 March 2023. "*Attività di scavo e ricerca della cattedra di Archeologia iranica*".
5. [Naples, Italy, "L'Orientale" University & ISMEO](#)
Round table: Imperi vs. confederazioni: realtà o mito?, 21 December 2022. Convener: G.P. Basello; moderator: A. Rossi.
6. [Naples, Italy, "L'Orientale" University & the Oriental Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences](#)
CSACTI (Centro Studi su Asia Centrale, Caucaso, Turchia, Tibet e Iran) Lectures, 1 December 2022.
"Archaeological fieldwork in Karakalpakstan: a contribution to the reconstruction of the religious history of Pre-Islamic Central Asia".
7. [Naples, Italy, Szeged University, "L'Orientale" University & ISMEO](#)
European Workshop on Mediaeval Nomadism, 23-25 November 2022.
"The East Huns in Uddiyana: builders and patrons of Buddhism. A case study from the urban context of ancient Bazira".
8. [Venice, Italy, University "Ca' Foscari"](#)
Lecture for Master's students, 17 May 2022, chair of Archaeology of India and Central Asia, professor Luca M. Olivieri.
"The 'Painted House' of Old Kandahar in context".

9. [Naples, Italy, University of Naples Federico II & University of Naples "L'Orientale"](#)
7th CUCS (Italian University Network for Development Cooperation) Conference, 21-23 April 2022.
Round table: "Archaeology and sustainable development: a covenant for the future".
10. [Naples, Italy, "L'Orientale" University](#)
Talk/presentation to the students of the post-graduate school of archaeology (*Scuola di Specializzazione interateneo Orientale – Salerno*), 24 January 2022. "Zoroastrianism and Archaeology".
11. [Zahedan, Iran, University of Sistan and Baluchestan](#)
Archaeology of Iran and of the adjacent regions, 20-21 July 2020.
"Chorasmia and the *Vendīdād* Funerary archaeology and Avestan prescriptions".
12. [Venice, Italy, University "Ca' Foscari"](#)
Lecture for Master's students, 29 April 2020, chair of Archaeology of India and Central Asia, professor Luca M. Olivieri.
"Eastern Hellenism in Central Asia: the case of Chorasmia".
13. [Biruni, Uzbekistan](#)
The Pre-Aral Area, crossroads of civilization/Приаралье на перекрестке цивилизации,
20 September 2019. "The image of the Zoroastrian god Srōsh: some new elements" (with Frantz Grenet).
14. [Berlin, Germany, Museum für Vor- und Frühgeschichte, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin](#)
Re-Search. Archäologie in Zentralasien und im Südkaukasus, 4-5 June 2019.
"Architecture and imagery at Akchakhan-kala".
15. [Nukus, Uzbekistan, Academy of Sciences](#)
Talk in honour of G. Khozhaniyazov's 70th jubilee, 7 September 2018. "Professor Khozhaniyazov's contribution to the scientific achievements of the Karakalpak-Australian Expedition to Ancient Chorasmia".
16. [Naples, Italy, "L'Orientale" University](#)
Lecture for PhD students, 27 June 2018. *Nomadi-Sedentari (un dualismo che caratterizza le società antiche. Come le diverse discipline studiano queste componenti attraverso lo studio di casi specifici?)*. "Il nomadismo dei corasm".
17. [Mumbai \(Bombay\), India, K. R. Cama Oriental Institute](#)
From Nisa to Niya: reappraising cultural conduits and commercial centres along the Silk Road, 6-7 January 2018. "Wall paintings and modelled sculptures from Central Asia: on the origin of their iconography and on its transmission".
18. [Oxford, UK, Corpus Christi College](#)
Seminar for the **Empires of Faith Project** (British Museum & Oxford University), 15 November 2017.
"Chorasmian gods. Images of Zoroastrian deities throughout antiquity".
19. [Berlin, Germany, German Archaeological Institute](#)
Ritual matters: archaeology and religion in Hellenistic Central Asia, 2-4 November 2017.
"Chorasmian ritual and funerary spaces: recent discoveries and new lines of research".
20. [Ellikala, Uzbekistan, town hall](#)
Culture and tourism day, 8 September 2017.
"Sultain-uiz-dag 2017: current archaeological activities on the 'Black Mountains' of Karakalpakstan".
21. [Bordeaux, France, Ausonius Institute UMR 5607](#)
Journée des idées, 5 September 2017.
"*Interactions culturelles complexes en Asie centrale. Le paradigme chorasmien*".
22. [Nukus, Uzbekistan, Ajiniyaz State Pedagogical Institute](#)
Current issues of Archaeology, ethnography, history and historiography of the Southern Pre-Aral Area, 22-23 November 2016. "The recent contributions of archaeology to the study of Zoroastrianism in Uzbekistan/Karakalpakstan".
23. [Bordeaux, France, Ausonius Institute UMR 5607](#)
Ancient Chorasmia, Central Asia and the steppes, 17-18 October 2016 (organizer, member of the scientific committee).
"Ancient Chorasmia and the Oxus route toward the south".
24. [Vienna, Austria, Austrian Academy of Sciences](#)
10th ICAANE (International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East), 25-29 April 2016.
"The north-eastern border of the Achaemenid empire: introducing the Chorasmian Late Iron Age".
25. [Oxford, UK, Wolfson College](#)
A Central Asian trade hub: Khwarazm in the Late Antique and Early Islamic period, 29 November 2014.
"The Chorasmian Era and the end of Zoroastrianism in Ancient Chorasmia: a re-examination of the available evidence".

Other peer-reviewed presentations and talks

26. [Naples, Italy, Università "L'Orientale"](#)
EASAA (European Association of South Asian Archaeology) Conference 2018, 2-6 July. Peer-reviewed presentation,
"Notes on the formation of Zoroastrian imagery at Akchakhan-kala".
27. [Cardiff, UK, Cardiff University](#)
EASAA (European Association of South Asian Archaeology) Conference, 4-8 July 2016.
Peer-reviewed presentation, "The Ancient Chorasmian unbaked-clay modelled sculptures: Hellenistic cultural impacts on an Iranian polity".
28. [Vienna, Austria, Austrian Academy of Sciences](#)

10th ICAANE (International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East), 25-29 April 2016.
Peer-reviewed presentation, "New data on the Central Monument of Akchakhan-kala in Ancient Chorasmia".

29. [Atlanta, USA](#)

ASOR (American Schools of Oriental Research) Annual Meeting, 18-21 November 2015.

Peer-reviewed presentation, "Excavations in Ancient Chorasmia: the Central Monument of Akchakhan-kala in the light of the 2014 and 2015 excavation seasons".

30. [Genève & Bern, Swiss, University of Genève & University of Bern](#)

61th RAI (Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale) 22-26 June 2015.

Peer-reviewed presentation, "Excavations in Ancient Chorasmia: the Central Monument of Akchakhan-kala".

31. [Sydney, Australia, University of Sydney](#)

Near Eastern Seminar Series (NESS), 24 November 2011. Title of paper: "A four-armed goddess from Chorasmia: Ancient Chorasmia in Late Antiquity in the light of the Siberian finds".

32. [Sydney, Australia, University of Sydney](#)

Ancient History Study Day, 1 June 2011. Talk to the Lucas Height Community School students: "Archaeology of Central Asia".

+ [Nukus/Tashkent/Biruni, Uzbekistan & Barikot/Saidu Sharif, Pakistan](#): **several press** and **TV interviews** aired on Uzbek and Pakistani national television channels.

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue: **Italian**

Other languages:

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening - Reading		Spoken interaction - Spoken production		
English	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
French	C2	C2	C2	C2	C1
Russian	B1	B1	B1	B1	B1

Levels: A1/2: Basic user - B1/2: Independent user - C1/2 Proficient user. Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Job-related skills and software proficiency

- **Field archaeologist**. Trained and experienced archaeological **surveyor/topographer**. Professional experience with a wide range of survey equipment (e.g., Total Station, GPS devices; drone; laser scanner), tools and dedicated software.
- Experienced **photographer**, photo editor & graphic designer with good knowledge of dedicated professional software: Adobe Illustrator; CorelDraw; Adobe Photoshop; Agisoft Photoscan/Metashape; Autodesk AutoCAD (2D & 3D – with professional experience as technician); File Maker Pro Advanced; Golden Software Surfer; QGIS; Leica Infinity Survey; MS Office; WordPress editor.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [Driving licence](#) categories A and B.