
31st European Maya Conference
Agency in Mesoamerica
PARIS 2026
DECEMBER 7th - 11th

31st European Maya Conference
Agency in Mesoamerica
Paris 2026
Event Programme

WORKSHOPS
DECEMBER 7 – 9

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7:
10:00 – 12:00 / LUNCH BREAK, 12:00 – 14:00 / 14:00 – 17:30

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8:
9:00 – 12:00 / LUNCH BREAK, 12:00 – 14:00 / 14:00 – 17:30

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9:
9:00 – 12:00 / LUNCH BREAK, 12:00 – 14:00 / 14:00 – 18:00

REGISTRATION AT EACH WORKSHOP VENUE (DECEMBER 7, 9:30 – 10:00)

I. AN INTRODUCTION TO MAYA HIEROGLYPHS
Tutors: Marie Botzet (Bonn University), Felix Kupprat (UNAM) & Dimitrios Markianos-Daniolos (Bonn University)
Tuition: English
Venue: Centre Broca (room B202 and 103 on Tuesday), 21 rue Broca / Metro station: Censier-Daubenton, line 7.

II. EXPLORING AGENCY IN ANCIENT MAYA WRITING AND ART
Tutor: Marc Zender (Tulane University)
Tuition: English
Venue: Centre Broca (room B108), 21 rue Broca / Metro station: Censier-Daubenton, line 7.

III. MAYA IMAGERY: SUPPORT, MATERIALITY, AND SPATIALITY / IMÁGENES MAYAS: SOPORTE, MATERIALIDAD Y ESPACIALIDAD
Tutors: Daniel Salazar Lama (Archaïos) & Ana García Barrios (Universidad Rey Juan Carlos)
Tuition: English and Spanish
Venue: Archaïos (meeting room), 15 rue du temple / Metro station: Hôtel de ville, lines 1 & 11.

IV. MESOAMERICAN FOODWAYS / TRADICIONES CULINARIAS EN MESOAMÉRICA
Tutors: Dora Maritza García Patzán (Comenius University), Fátima Tec Pool (Comenius University), Verónica A. Vázquez López (UCL) & Harri Kettunen (University of Helsinki)
Tuition: English and Spanish
Venues: Mon & Tue: 15 rue de l'École de medicine (UNAM Francia); Wed: 7 Av. Niel / Metro stations: Mon & Tue: Odéon, lines 4 & 10; Wed: Charles de Gaulle-Étoile; lines 1, 2 & 6.

BRINDIS (LAST DAY OF WORKSHOPS): Wednesday 9, La Grande Crèmerie, 8 rue de Grégorie de Tours / Metro station: Odéon, lines 4 & 10.

18:30

WELCOME ADDRESS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7:

18:00 – 20:00

VENUE:

AMPHITHÉATRE MALHER, CENTRE MALHER, 9 RUE MALHER
Metro station: Saint Paul, Line 1

I. Harri Kettunen (Wayeb President)
II. Representatives of the local organising committee
III. Rodrigo Díaz Maldonado, Director of UNAM Francia (Center for Mexican Studies)
IV. Participation of representatives from participant institutions

18:00 – 19:00

OPENING TALK:

Erik Velásquez García (UNAM): Cuerpo, retrato y agencia en el arte maya

19:00 – 20:00

WELCOME BRINDIS

Bar Le Vanart, Marais: 11 rue des tournelles / Metro station: Saint Paul, Line 1

20:00

WAYEB GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8:

18:00 – 19:30

VENUE:

ARCHAÏOS MEETING ROOM, 15 RUE DU TEMPLE
Metro station: Hôtel de Ville, lines 1 & 11.

SYMPOSIUM

DECEMBER 10 & 11

VENUE:

AUDITORIUM OF INHA (INSTITUTE NATIONAL D'HISTOIRE DE L'ART),
2 RUE VIVIENNE
Metro stations: Bourse, Line 3 & Palais Royal-Musée du Louvre, lines 1 & 7

REGISTRATION AT THE VENUE (DECEMBER 10, 8:30 – 9:00)

SYMPOSIUM

THURSDAY 10

AUDITORIUM OF INHA

OPENING SESSION: 9:00 - 10:30

WELCOME ADDRESS
Harri Kettunen (Wayeb President)
9:00 – 9:30

INTRODUCTORY LECTURES
I. Harri Kettunen (University of Helsinki): On Agency
II. Marc Zender (Tulane University): Agency in Epigraphy
III. Marie Chosson (INALCO / SEDYL) & Valentina Vapnarsky (CNRS – LESC; EPHE): Agencia en la antropología y lingüística
IV. Caroline Cunil (EHESS): Agencia en la etnohistoria
V. Chloé Andrieu (CNRS-ArchAm) & Daniel Salazar Lama (Archaïos): Agencia en la arqueología, arquitectura y monumentos

9:30 – 10:30

COFFEE BREAK: 10:30 – 11:00

SESSION 1
AGENCY AND MATERIALITY: POWER AND RELATIONS OF OBJECTS, ART, AND MONUMENTS
11:00 – 12:00
Chair: Marie-Charlotte Arnauld

Jaime J. Awe (Northern Arizona University), Mark Campbell (BVAR Project), Britt Davis (University of Pittsburgh), Claire E. Ebert (University of Pittsburgh), Julie A. Hoggarth (Baylor University), Douglas Tilden (BVAR Project), Tia Watkins (University College London) & Scott Yost (Northern Arizona University): The Use of Spoliated Monuments as Agents of Power, Sacrality, and Memory in Western Belize
11:00 – 11:30

Caitlin Earley (Johns Hopkins University):
Bound, Beheaded, Buried: Captive Sculpture Persons in Late Classic Maya Art
11:30 – 12:00

LUNCH BREAK: 12:00 – 14:00

SESSION 1 (Cont.)
14:00 – 15:30
Chair: Caroline Cunill

Christophe Helmke (University of Copenhagen) & Gabriel Wrobel (Michigan State University): Making Ancestors? Agency and the Relationship between the Living and the Dead in a Classic Maya Household
14:00 – 14:30

Nancy Martínez (University of California, Los Angeles):
Gifts of Fur and Bark: Nonhuman Materiality as Authorship in Codices
14:30 – 15:00

Héctor Xol Chok (Independent Researcher, Ajtz'ib'ab' Mam):
Agentividad de las máscaras rituales en la cultura q'eqchi'
15:00 – 15:30

COFFEE BREAK: 15:30 – 16:00

POSTER SESSION

INHA MAIN BUILDING, SALLE WARBURG
16:00 – 18:00
Chair: Daniel Salazar Lama

Albert Davletshin (Universidad Veracruzana) & Nikita Beloborodov (University of Texas at Austin): Natural Supernatural Agents of Classic Maya Society

Kseniia Goriacheva (Sapienza University of Rome, Department of History, Anthropology and Religions): From Symbolic to Realist Imagery: Shifts in the Representation and Understanding of Sacrifice in Nahua Codices

Mary Kate Kelly (Mount Royal University):
Classic Maya Agency in Bearing Witness

Maxime Lamoureux-St-Hilaire (Mount Royal University) & Rubén Morales Forte (Tulane University): Homegrown Agency: Empowering Guatemalan Grassroots Archaeologists through Slow Archaeology

Coralie Morand (LESC, Université Paris Nanterre):
The Mechanism of Proof: Explorations in the Ixil Maya Territory of Guatemala

Catherine Nuckols (Brown University):
Supporting the Sky: Cosmography, Ancestry, and Agency in the Full-Figure

Zohar Porshyan (Oranim College, Haifa University):
Xicalango as a Nexus: Spatializing Indigenous Agency at the Aztec-Maya Cross-Cultural Interface

Ivan Savchenko (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México):
Ballgame Objects That Name Themselves: Self-Referentiality and Agency in Classic Maya Art

Tom Stäbler (Sorbonne Université):
Territorialismo simbólico en el arte indígena contemporáneo de México

Jan Szymański (University of Warsaw) & Julia Przedwojewska-Szymańska (Proyecto Arqueológico San Isidro): Chanting Clay: Preclassic Figurines from San Isidro, El Salvador, as Ritual Performers

WELCOME COCKTAIL:
INHA main building, salle Warburg
18:00 – 20:00

POST-WELCOME COCKTAIL:
Le Bistro du Croissant: 146 rue Montmartre / Metro station: Bourse, Line 3
20:00

SYMPOSIUM

FRIDAY 11

AUDITORIUM OF INHA

SESSION 2
AGENCY AND DYNAMICS: ACTIONS AND TRANSFORMATIONS
9:00 – 10:30
Chair: Marie Chosson

Kerry Hull (Brigham Young University):
When Birds Decide: Mechanisms of Non-Human Agency in Ancient and Contemporary Maya Prognostication
9:00 – 9:30

Romain Denimal Labeguerie (LESC-EREA, Université Paris Nanterre):
Transductions from "Tzuultaq'a" to "Madre Tierra" and "lugar sagrado" in Q'eqchi' Communities of Contemporary Petén
9:30 – 10:00

Alejandro Garay Herrera (University of Bonn):
A Ghost in the Forest: The Colonial Lacandones in the Memory of the Highland Maya Peoples of Guatemala
10:00 – 10:30

COFFEE BREAK: 10:30 – 11:00

Lisa Audureau (LESC-EREA):
Playing with Gender: How Yucatec Maya Children shape their Socialization
11:00 – 11:30

Honorine Guichard (Université Laval):
No debemos salvar la lengua, sino a los hablantes: El papel de la música en la preservación de la cultura maya en Yucatán y Quintana Roo
11:30 – 12:00

LUNCH BREAK: 12:00 – 14:00

SESSION 3
AGENCY AND CONTROL: FORMS, STRATEGIES, AND MODALITIES
14:00 – 17:00
Chair: Valentina Vapnarsky

Marc Zender (Tulane University):
Reconsidering Classic Maya Captivity
14:00 – 14:30

Oswaldo Chinchilla Mazariegos (Yale University):
Tonatiuh and the Tlaxcalteca: Indigenous Agency during the Spanish Invasion of Mexico
14:30 – 15:00

Giulia Cantisani (École pratique des hautes études):
Cuerpos vulnerables. Limitar la agentividad nociva de los espíritus entre los otomíes de la Sierra (México)
15:00 – 15:30

COFFEE BREAK: 15:30 – 16:00

Morgane Thro (Sorbonne Université, Centre André-Chastel):
Más allá de la imposición: recrear y transformar el mundo en la Nueva España
16:00 – 16:30

Iyaxel Cotjí Ren (University of Texas at Austin):
Gobernar juntos: La relación dinámica entre la agencia de los linajes gobernantes y el gobierno colectivo en Kajyub' y otros ejemplos del altiplano Maya
16:30 – 17:00

CONCLUDING DISCUSSION & GENERAL REMARKS
17:00 – 18:30

CLOSING & FLAG CEREMONY
18:30 – 19:30

LAST COCKTAIL
ONE MORE AND THEN WE'RE OFF
Le Bistro du Croissant: 146 rue Montmartre / Metro station: Bourse, Line 3
20:00

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Organized by

WAYEB

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Centro de Estudios Mexicanos

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Société des Américanistes

Institut national d'histoire de l'art

INHA

LESC • EREA
Enseignement et recherche en ethnologie amérindienne
UMR 7186 • Université Paris Nanterre • CNRS

ARCHAÏOS
Archeology, Culture & Heritage

Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale

Centre André-Chastel
Laboratoire de recherche en histoire de l'art

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