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# Studying Stone Extraction in Antiquity: Methods and Current Challenges

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*Cipollino marble quarries near Styra, Euboea (@ESAG)*

International Workshop, October 17, 2025,  
Athens

# Workshop Overview

The study of ancient quarries relies on the analysis of the traces left by their exploitation. Identifying extraction techniques, understanding their evolution and transmission, and precisely dating these processes represent significant challenges in the study of these sites. Addressing these issues requires a multidisciplinary approach combining archaeology and geology.

This workshop aims to bring together researchers to share recent advances and ongoing studies on these topics. The discussions will focus on two main aspects: first, the various methods used to examine ancient quarries (mapping, surveys, geological studies, technical analyses, experimental archaeology); and second, the methodological challenges and the interpretation of extraction marks. Beyond technical aspects, the workshop also seeks to refine our understanding of the organization and operation of quarries over time.

This event is intended as a platform for dialogue and the comparison of approaches, bringing together researchers working on quarries from across the Mediterranean basin. The goal is to present and discuss specific research challenges, illustrated by concrete case studies. Rather than simply showcasing finalized results, we encourage contributions that present ongoing analyses and reflections, openly addressing difficulties and uncertainties inherent to these studies. In this way, we hope to create a space for fruitful discussions and debates among research teams.



## Venue and online access — *Accès et retransmission en ligne*

Foyer Suisse, Odos Skaramanga 4b, GR-104 33 Athens

The workshop will be broadcast online; please contact the organizers to request the connection link:

[workshopquarry25@esag.swiss](mailto:workshopquarry25@esag.swiss)

# Programme de la journée — *Daily programm*

## Matinée — *Morning*

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| 08.40-09.00 | Accueil — <i>Welcome</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 09.00-09.10 | Introduction<br><i>Jérôme André</i> (Universités de Lausanne et Lyon II), <i>Chloé Chezeaux</i> (Université de Lausanne), <i>Chloé Damay</i> (UMR 6566 CReAAH), <i>Yvan Maligorne</i> (Centre de recherche bretonne et celtique, Université de Bretagne Occidentale) |
| 09.15-09.50 | Interpreting Context from the Written Evidence for Egyptian Quarry Development<br><i>Simon J. Barker</i> (University of Warsaw), <i>J. Clayton Fant</i> (University of Akron)                                                                                        |
| 09.55-10.30 | La carrière antique de calcaire de la Corderie à Marseille (France)<br><i>Philippe Mellinand</i> (Inrap, Aix Marseille Université, CNRS)                                                                                                                             |
| 10.30-10.45 | Pause café — <i>Coffee break</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 10.45-11.20 | Une enquête sur les carrières antiques de la périphérie de Dougga : les techniques d'extraction, leur datation et le problème de l'évacuation de la production<br><i>Yvan Maligorne</i> (CRBC, UBO) <i>Chloé Damay</i> (UMR 6566 CReAAH)                             |
| 11.25-12.00 | Les carrières antiques de calcaire en Grèce : état de l'art, problématiques et limites<br><i>Marilou De Vals</i> (Sorbonne Université)                                                                                                                               |
| 12.05-12.40 | The Great Unknown: The Asomata Quarries Case<br><i>Angeliki Koukouvou</i> (Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki)                                                                                                                                                    |
| 12.40-13.40 | Pause de midi — <i>Lunch break</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

## Après-midi — *Afternoon*

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| 13.40-14.15 | An overview of granite quarries in the Aegean world in a diachronic perspective. Available data and methodological questions<br><i>Athina Boleti</i> (CNRS, ArScAn UMR 7041, Equipe de Protohistoire Egéenne)                                                                                                                                                |
| 14.20-14.55 | Errances sur l'île errante. L'étude des carrières de Délos : un regard rétrospectif et critique<br><i>Jean-Charles Moretti</i> , <i>Stéphanie Zugmeyer</i> (Institut de recherche sur l'architecture antique)                                                                                                                                                |
| 15.00-15.35 | Methodological Approach to the Geological Study of a Stone Quarry: The Example of the Delian Marbles<br><i>Tommy Vettor</i> (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle)                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 15.35-15.55 | Pause café — <i>Coffee break</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 15.55-16.30 | The Fabric of the Island: Exploring the Diachronic History of Tinian Marble through Quarry Studies<br><i>Vassiliki Anevlavi</i> (Austrian Archaeological Institute), <i>Alkiviadis Sideridis</i> (University of Patras), <i>Anastasia Aggelopoulou</i> (Ephorate of Antiquities of Cyclades), <i>Thorsten Jakobitsch</i> (Austrian Archaeological Institute) |
| 16.35-17.10 | Millstone Extraction in Lemnos Island during Antiquity<br><i>Eirini Poupaki</i> (Hellenic Ministry of Culture)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 17.15-18.00 | Discussion générale — <i>General discussion</i><br><i>Georgia Kokkorou-Alevras</i> (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 20.30       | Souper pour les participant·e·s — <i>Conference dinner</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

Organisation du workshop : *Jérôme André* (Universités de Lausanne et Lyon II), *Chloé Chezeaux* (Université de Lausanne), *Chloé Damay* (UMR 6566 CReAAH), *Yvan Maligorne* (Centre de recherche bretonne et celtique, Université de Bretagne Occidentale)