FROM THE VANTAGE OF THE VICTORY
THE SANCTUARY OF THE GREAT GODS AND ISLAND OF SAMOTHRACE

APRIL 2 – 4, 2020
ACKERMAN HALL, MICHAEL C. CARLOS MUSEUM, EMORY UNIVERSITY

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES AND THE MICHAEL C. CARLOS MUSEUM

This symposium presents the results of the NEH-sponsored collaborative research project centered on the region in the ancient Greek Sanctuary of the Great Gods that coalesces around the famous Winged Victory (Nike) of Samothrace. While the statue in the Louvre has long captured the imagination of the world, it becomes all the more powerful when reunited with its ancient environment. From the Nike’s vantage over the performative heart of the Sanctuary — Theater, Stoa, and Altar Court — we reframe the archaeological investigation of this Hellenistic international religious center by grounding the rich material record in the dynamic environmental factors underlying it, and the human actions through which it was determined and experienced.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND
LASZLO EXCALIBUR LECTURE
7:30 LUDOVIC LAUGIER, MUSÉE DU LOUVRE
The Winged Victory: Learning from a Masterpiece of Hellenistic Sculpture

FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD
MORNING SESSION: ARCHITECTURAL INITIATIVES FROM THE VANTAGE OF THE VICTORY
9:00 COFFEE
9:30 BONNA D. WESCOAT, Introductory Remarks
9:40 SAMUEL HOLZMAN, AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES, ATHENS
When Local Crafts Meet International Ambitions: Reconstructing the Stoa
10:05 CLAIRE SEIDLER, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Building International Connections: Design and Decoration in the Roof of the Stoa
10:30 BONNA D. WESCOAT, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Recovering the Theater and Framing the Victory
10:50 DISCUSSION AND COFFEE BREAK

11:20 SUSAN BLEVINS, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Adorning the Stoa Terrace: Major Monuments in the Vicinity of the Nike
11:45 YANNIS MANIATIS, DEMOKRITOS LABORATORY OF ARCHAEOLOGY, ATHENS
Marble Provenance Analysis of the Monuments on the Stoa Terrace (via Zoom)

12:30 DISCUSSION AND LUNCH BREAK

AFTERNOON SESSION: ACCESS, MANAGEMENT AND MATERIALS
2:00 JESS PAGA, COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY
Unlocking the Fulcrum: The Altar Court and its Relation to the Theater
2:25 MAGGIE POPKIN, CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
Access and Movement in the Region of the Stoa Plateau (via Zoom)
2:50 ANDREW WARD, COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY
The Central Torrent: Iterative Water Management and Ritual Implications

SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH
MORNING SESSION I: THE IMPORTANCE OF OBJECTS
9:00 COFFEE
9:30 MADELEINE GLENNON, INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS, NYU
Bronze Sculpture and Terracotta Figurines from the Stoa
9:55 AMY SOWDER, TOWSON UNIVERSITY
Metal Objects in the Stoa Fill
10:20 ELLEN ARCHIE, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Reflecting the Banquet: Glass from the Stoa Fill
10:45 ALEXANDROS LAFTSIDIS, XAVIER UNIVERSITY
Nike Precinct: The Ceramic Evidence
11:05 DISCUSSION AND COFFEE BREAK

MORNING SESSION II: VISUALIZING SANCTUARY AND ISLAND
11:30 IAN BURR, EMORY UNIVERSITY
From the Eyes of Ancients: 3D Walkthroughs of the Reconstructed Sanctuary
11:55 ARYA BASU, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Studying crowd dynamics as a way of understanding Initiation in the Sanctuary of the Great Gods
12:20 MICHAEL PAGE, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Environmental Context(s): Imaging, Mapping, and Analysis in the Sanctuary of the Great Gods and Environs
12:45 DISCUSSION AND CLOSING COMMENTS

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