

## Forthcoming Issues

### Volume 37.2

*Aesthetics, Sensory Skills, and Archaeology*

Edited by POLINA KAPSALI AND RACHEL PHILLIPS

In the last two decades, growing interest in studying human-object interaction has rekindled attempts to consider the usefulness of the concept of aesthetics in archaeology. Traditionally framed within art-historical and philosophical discourse, the concept has also been used in archaeology as a means to explore past experiences, by shedding light on the capacity of the material world to train the senses and shape human perception. Following on from earlier ARC volumes, such as ‘Aesthetics and Style’ (1985) and ‘The Archaeology of Perception and the Senses’ (1998), this volume aims to explore the relationship between aesthetics, sensory skills, and social praxis in past societies and to investigate how social norms are shaped through engagement with the material world.

We consider ‘aesthetics’ as a concept capturing the socially informed processes of perceiving and evaluating the properties of the physical world (including the natural environment, the human body, and artefacts). We view these processes as dependent on the ways sensory skills are trained in societies through people’s interaction with the physical world: as part of their socialisation, people learn to establish associations, knitting together objects, their properties, other people, and values. These associations facilitate social categorisations, routines, and relations. But how can we detect these processes archaeologically?

## **Volume 38.1**

### *Archaeology and Colonialism*

Edited by JULIA GUSTAFSON, GIAN BATTISTA MARRAS, MARIANNA NEGRO

Colonialism has had a far-reaching impact in academia, extending to every field of research. In recent decades there has been growing awareness of this looming Colonialist shadow remaining in academic discourse and in the broader public sphere. The relationship between archaeology and colonialism is in itself complicated as the origins of archaeology are founded in colonial ideology. While there has been research within archaeology around colonialism, this field of study is still relatively underrepresented given its relevance in present-day issues. Unpacking this complex relationship is essential to the role of the archaeologist due to the field's controversial past as well as its broader implications for the present and the future.

This volume seeks to highlight the intersection of colonialism and archaeology through multiple perspectives that include geographical, chronological, and/or environmental factors. For example, a recent study by Koch et al. (2019) highlights how the European colonisation of the Americas led to a direct increase in carbon being released into the Earth system atmosphere. Revolutionary research like this study exemplify the role that colonization plays within multidisciplinary fields. Importantly, to achieve this we look to examine colonialism throughout the ancient, historic, and contemporary periods. It is worth noting that contemporary archaeology is often viewed as a fringe subfield. Contrary to this view, we feel that it is highly relevant and must be included in any discourse between archaeology and colonialism as it relates most directly to the present day.