

Roman Pottery and Glass Manufactures

Production and trade in the
Adriatic region and beyond

Proceedings of the 4th International
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edited by

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Preface

Since 2004, when the first campaign of systematic excavations at the Roman pottery workshop located in modern-day Crikvenica (NE Adriatic, Croatia) took place, and after the recognition of almost 100 types of commonwares, several shapes of ceramic building materials, but especially the 12 types of specific amphorae produced within it, the search for analogies and *comparanda* sprung a fertile dialogue with colleagues and pottery experts, in particular those working on the Western Adriatic and in Istria. That is how the idea to establish a regular series of colloquia to be held at Crikvenica to discuss issues of pottery workshops and production, kilns, amphorae, glass and the many related issues within an Adriatic context was born. These were, also, accompanied by the relative Proceedings, allowing a more lasting impact of the topics and issues discussed.¹

The last of these colloquia, held in 2017 and organised by the Institute of Archaeology in Zagreb and the Crikvenica Town Museum, was dedicated to the usual topics, but with an aim to span a larger area, hence the “and beyond” in the title. This was aided by the joining of Gent University, the Museum of Ancient Glass in Zadar and the University of Zadar as co-organisers. In this Proceedings volume, talks and posters presented on the occasion have been collected, spanning diverse topics related to the production and commercialisation of Roman pottery and ceramics, and glass vessels. The contributions have been arranged in three sections dealing respectively with landscape and communication features related to production and distribution of pottery and ceramics, the specificities of production and distribution of ceramic building materials and, lastly, a section dedicated to various issues of Roman pottery, amphorae and glass. We are pleased that several papers deal with the immediate environs of Crikvenica, providing us, among others, with new data on its products’ distribution and a regional framework, but especially that several continental sites and more distant provinces are represented in the volume as well. Similarly, a fair amount of papers is dedicated to site assemblages and regional overviews of glass finds, and to aspects of its conservation and experimental approaches. As with the 2017 colloquium the series of scientific gatherings at Crikvenica was brought to an end, and therefore this being the last of the Proceedings, we have invited Martina Blečić Kavur to present a contribution which approaches the fibulae finds from the workshop in Crikvenica (originally presented at the 2nd colloquy at Crikvenica in 2011, and

here updated), so to enriching and round up contextual and chronological data about the site.

In the slightly more than a decade marked by the excavations at Crikvenica and the accompanying colloquia, knowledge on pottery and ceramics production in late Hellenistic and Roman Dalmatia made a huge leap forward thanks to the discovery of several kiln sites, workshops and a more widespread application of archaeometry, while scholarly interest not only in production, but also in the study of pottery, ceramic and glass finds has increased to until recently unimaginable levels. Several recent conferences dealt with different aspects of pottery studies, journal articles devoted to related topics are regularly published, just as are MA and PhD theses. Hopefully, regional research on these fundamental materials which, apart from providing basic chronological information can be interpreted within traditional or novel theoretical frameworks, allowing us to bring to life the everyday and mundane of the past, will continue with the same rhythm. Our own work on workshops, pottery and glass was aided by numerous colleagues, and without them the colloquia of Crikvenica would have certainly been less successful, thus on this occasion we would like to thank them all, especially Eleni Schindler Kaudelka, Susanne Zabehlicky-Scheffenecker, Stefania Pesavento Mattioli, Tamás Bezczy (†) and Boško Lugović (†), along with a large group of colleagues working in Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Emilia Romagna, both at Universities, Museum and as independent researchers. Without the aid of Crikvenica Town Museum and Crikvenica Municipality, our work there, just as these colloquia, would probably be impossible, thus we thank them for their constant support. Organization of the IV Colloquium in Crikvenica and editing of these Proceedings were carried out within the framework of project RED - *Roman Economy in Dalmatia: production, distribution and demand in the light of pottery workshops* (IP -11-2013- 3973) of the Croatian Science Foundation, which was implemented at the Institute of Archeology from 2013 to 2018.

Finally, we would like to thank the authors of the here collected contributions for bearing with us to see their work published, unfortunately this time occurring a little later than the usual three years time-frame established for the previous volumes.

The Editors

¹ Proceedings of the previous colloquia were published by the Institute of archaeology and the Crikvenica Town museum in 2011, 2014 and 2017.