



XXIX Valcamonica Symposium 2026

ANIMALS IN ROCK ART

22-23-24 October 2026 - CAPO DI PONTE BS (ITALY)
CENTRO CAMUNO DI STUDI PREISTORICI

GENERAL PROGRAM

(the program may be subject to some slight changes)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026

9:00 Opening of the Secretariat and registration of participants

9:30 Welcome, institutional greetings and start of the conference proceedings

Session 1: Animals in narrative or functional scenes (hunting, sexual scenes, ploughing, hauling, and related activities)

10:00 Hardtke Fritz (University of Macquarie, Sydney, Australia)

Animals, abstraction, and ambiguity: reconsidering Upper Palaeolithic and Epipalaeolithic faunal representation at el-Hosh, Upper Egypt (online)

10:20 Crezzini Jacopo (Department of Physical Sciences, Earth and Environment, University of Siena, Italy)

Poison weapon in the European Upper Palaeolithic: indirect evidence inferred by the rock art (online)

10:40 Boulaghraief Kamel (CNRPAH, Algeria)

Scavenging process as a symbol of life and death, the case of Boukhiran rock art station in AlgeriaC

11:00 Bravin Alessandra (Centre National Du Patrimoine Rupestre, Agadir, Morocco)

La lunga durata della fase dei cavalieri del Marocco: elementi per una datazione (precence)

11:20 Coffee break

11:40 Zampetti Daniela (Fondazione Sapienza, University of Rome, Italy), Marco Masseti (IUCN SSC - International Union for the Conservation of Nature, Species Survival Commission)

The canids and the dogs in the prehistoric rock art of Northern Africa: the central Sahara (precence)

12:00 Moretti Conti Anna (Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan)

Horse imagery on Gogdara I rock art (Pakistan): new perspectives on iconography and cultural identity (online)

12:20 Merlini Marco (University of Sibiu - IPCTE, Romania)

Beyond the hunt. Rethinking red deer capture scenes in post-Paleolithic imagery (online)

12:40 Debate

13:00 Lunch

14:20 Hideharu Yamada (Independent Researcher)

- Depictions of armadillos and human figures found at Serra da Capivara, Brazil (online)
- 14:40 Etchevarne Carlos (Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brasil), Amancio Martinelli Suely (Universidade Federal de Sergipe, Brasil)
Representations of animals as identifiers as pictorial traditions (presence)
- 15:00 Skjærum Yrja (University of Oslo, Norway)
Patterns of Presence: Animal Behaviour in Norwegian Bronze Age Rock Art (online)
- 15:20 Filippi Antonino (Regione Siciliana - Parco Archeologico di Segesta, Italy)
Scene con raffigurazioni zoomorfe nell'arte rupestre postpaleolitica della Sicilia (Italia) (presence)
- 15:40 Grifoni Cremonesi Renata (formerly University of Pisa, Italy), Anna Maria Tosatti (Soprintendenza Archeologia Toscana, Italy)
Gli animali nell'arte rupestre e mobiliare tra Neolitico e età del Ferro nella dorsale appenninica e nelle isole (presence)
- 16:00 Coffee break
- 16:20 Sani Giancarlo (Terre Alte-Comitato Scientifico CAI, Italy)
Figurazioni rupestri e mito nel contesto protostorico e storico toscano (presence)
- 16:40 Erdoğan Hüseyin (Department of History, Culture and Civilisation - Alma Mater Studiorum, University of Bologna, Italy)
Beyond the Tracing: Digital Documentation and Interactive Analysis of Zoomorphic Figures at Rupe Magna, Valtellina (presence)
- 17:00 Priuli Ausilio (Museo d'Arte e Vita Preistorica, Capo di Ponte, Italy)
Animali, tecniche venatorie e armi nelle scene di caccia incise sulle rocce della Valle Camonica (presence)
- 17:20 Kezich Giovanni (Carnival King of Europe)
Orsi-non-orsi e lupi-capri: dal paleolitico alla mascherata protocarnevalesca (presence)
- 17:40 Santos-Estévez Manuel (INCIPIT-CSIC, Institute of Heritage Sciences - Spanish National Research Council, Spain)
A long journey to the Alps. The zoomorphic figures as evidence of contacts between Galicia and Valcamonica in the Iron Age (presence)
- 18:00 Debate
- 18:30 Welcome aperitif open to speakers and participants, inauguration of the exhibitions and poster session

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026

9:30 Visit to Naquane Rock Art National Park

13:00 Lunch

Session 2: Animals and paleoenvironment

- 14:20 Bazzanella Marta (METS- Museo Etnografico Trentino San Michele, Italy), Andrea Tavella (Museo etnografico trentino San Michele), Marika Ciela (Museo etnografico trentino San Michele)
Livestock counts as indicators of pastoral land use: a georeferenced study of rock inscriptions from Mount Cornón (Trentino, 15th-20th century) (presence)
- 14:40 Casado Lopez María Pilar (Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Ciudad de México, Mexico)
Fauna as an identity element in the rock art of northeastern Mexico (online)
- 15:00 Castillo Benitez Daniel Seuart (Independent research), Barrau Maria Susana
Representaciones de cérvidos y auquénidos en el arte rupestre del dpto. Amazonas, Perú (presence)
- 15:20 Giorgi D. Marisa (Queensland University, Australia)
Avifaunal Narratives and Symbolism: Unravelling the Role of Birds in the Rock Art of the Arabian Peninsula (online)
- 15:40 Aït-Ali Yahya Samia (Université Mouloud Mammeri Tizi Ouzou, Algeria)
L'étude de l'iconographie animale dans l'art rupestre en Kabylie (Algerie)
- 16:00 Debate
- 16:20 Coffee break

Session 3: Aquatic fauna

- 16:40 Di Fraia Tomaso (Former Professor, University of Pisa, Italy)
I pesci nell'arte rupestre in Val di Sangro: semplice evocazione o intenzionalità forte? (online)
- 17:00 Mantere Ville (University of Turku, Finland)
Scandinavian hunter-fisher-gatherer rock art (presence)
- 17:20 Fossati Angelo E. (Department of History, Archaeology, History of Art Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Milan, Italy)
Tracing the Sea in Stone: Marine Turtles in the Rock Art of Oman (presence)
- 17:40 Machado Soares Leonardo (Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Goiás, Brazil)
Animal-themed rock art in the Brazilian Cerrado: contributions to the regional contextualization of Central Brazil (online)
- 18:00 Debate

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026

Session 4: Animals in myth and cosmology

- 9:30 Bachechi Luca (Department of Biology - Anthropology Laboratories, University of Florence, Italy)
Il fantomatico rinoceronte dell'acrocoro etiopico (presence)
- 9:50 Lahelma Antti (University of Helsinki, Finland), Eckelmann Rebekka (University of Cologne, Germany) and Mannermaa Kristiina (University of Helsinki, Finland)
Selective visibility of animals in the Stone Age rock art and burials at Lake Onega, north-western Russia (presence)
- 10:10 Casini Stefania (Centro Camuno di Studi Preistorici, Italy)
Animals on engraved monoliths of the 3rd millennium BC in Valcamonica and Valtellina (presence)
- 10:30 Arcà Andrea (Centro Camuno di Studi Preistorici, Italy)
The Great Rock of Naquane: unusual animals, symbolic animals? (presence)
- 10:50 Coffee break
- 11:10 Radoslaw Palonka (Department of American Archaeology, Institute of Archaeology, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland), Polly Schaafsma (Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe, Mexico)
Bear, bison, and deer – historic Ute rock art from the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, southwestern Colorado, USA (presence)
- 11:30 Barrau María Susana (Independent research), Daniel Castillo Benítez (Independent research)
Chamanismo, poder y mitología de origen. Ofidios y amarus rupestres de Santana, region Cajamarca y Amazonas, Perú (presence)
- 11:50 May K. Sally (Adelaide University, Australia), Goldhahn Joakim, Taçon Paul S.C., Domingo Sanz Ines, Mangiru Kenneth
Painting Nganaparru into western Arnhem Land rock art
- 12:10 Rozwadowski Andrzej (Faculty of Archaeology, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland)
Animals on Rocks and Canvases: Contemporary Indigenous Art (by Norval Morrisseau) as a Framework for Interpreting Rock Art (presence)
- 12:30 Santos Júnior Valdeci (State University of Rio Grande do Norte - UERN – Brazil), Lima De Oliveira Daline (Universidade Federal Do Ceará - UFC – Brasil)
Representations of past fauna in Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil.
- 12:50 Debate
- 13:10 Lunch

Session 5: Hybrid or anthropo-zoomorphic beings

- 14:30 Shakhmuradyan Mariam (Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of Armenia)
Animals as Structural Nodes in the Itsagir Petroglyph System (Armenia) (presence)
- 14:50 Mailland Federico (Co-Director, Italian expedition at Har Karkom, Israel)
The image of the ibex in Near Eastern myths (presence)

- 15:10 Grzelczyk Maciej (Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland)
Between Humans and Animals: Zoomorphes and Therianthropes in Usandawe Rock Art, Tanzania (presence)
- 15:30 Coffee break
- 15:50 Stebergløkken Heidrun (NTNU Department of Historical Sciences, Norway)
Hybrid cervids - transforming narratives? (online)
- 16:10 Sansoni Umberto (Centro Camuno di Studi Preistorici, Italy)
Antropozoomorfi e mascherati animali nell' arte rupestre preistorica. Le basi animistiche e le possibili relazioni sciamaniche (presence)
- 16:30 Troiano Leonardo (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece)
Animal Representation in Brazilian Rock Art: Contributions from a Continental Record (presence)
- 16:50 Debate
- 17:10 Closing of the conference proceedings

Event organized by



**CENTRO CAMUNO
DI STUDI
PREISTORICI**

Institute recognized of Regional relevance
With the contribution of



**Regione
Lombardia**

Under the auspices and the participation of



**MINISTERO
DELLA
CULTURA**



Consorzio Montano
di Valle Camonica



Consorzio dei Comuni B.I.M.
di Valle Camonica



Alta Val Camonica
Bislinza, BS

info: **www.ccsp.it**

email: valcamonica.symposium@ccsp.it