

RHENISH STONEWARE

LOCAL PRODUCT -
GLOBAL PLAYER

International
Workshop
1st – 2nd
December
2022

at the
LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn

EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



LVR 
Qualität für Menschen

Rhenish stoneware was the first ceramic product to transcend the scope of European markets and spread across the globe. This is the basic concept that has given rise to the title of the workshop "RHENISH STONEWARE. Local product - global player". The workshop, organised by the LVR-Landes-Museum Bonn, the LVR-Amt für Bodendenkmalpflege im Rheinland and the Department of Medieval Archaeology, University of Tübingen, aims to investigate the worldwide distribution, use and significance of Rhenish stoneware. Our workshop, kindly funded by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, will allow us to bring together an international panel of experts from several continents and various scientific disciplines to discuss this category of objects in the context of various globalisation processes. This is particularly important if we are to overcome the inherent Eurocentric perspective that still dominates our field of research today.

Together, we will approach the topic from two sides: from the superordinate (cultural)-historical processes and phenomena (such as production processes, commodity flows and aspects of globalisation) on the one hand, and from the contextualised objects themselves, i.e. their material appearance, functions and archaeological contexts, on the other. Various tools will be considered: the entire spectrum of archaeological methodology including modern archaeometric analytical approaches and historical research using written sources, supplemented by theoretical concepts concerning the relationships between objects and humans (where objects are also viewed as actors). By doing so, the workshop aims to initiate a dialogue that connects the object layer with large-scale commodity flows and socio-economic processes, as there is often a gap between local/regional studies and global dissemination, but also between object-related analysis and the embeddedness in higher-level structures, mechanisms and concepts. In order to better understand this process and where the sources allow, special focus will be put on one characteristic vessel type within the stoneware spectrum: the highly iconic "Bartmann Jug".

In order to keep the workshop as open as possible, we intend to offer interested individuals the opportunity to follow the lecture sessions online and participate in the discussions. For this purpose, you can register your attendance by sending your name and e-mail address to Antje Schünemann (Antje.Schuenemann@lvr.de); you will receive a link to the video conference in due course.

Programme

Thursday, 2022-12-01

10:00 Arrival and registration

10:30 Guided tour of the LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn and the current special exhibition „Augenlust? Niederländische Stillleben im Detail“ (optional)

Welcome and Introduction

13:00 Prof. Dr. Thorsten Valk, Dr. Erich Classen, Prof. Dr. Michael Schmauder and Prof. Dr. Natascha Mehler

Session 1: Product – Place of production (session chair: Michael Schmauder)

13:30 Christoph Keller MA (LVR-Amt für Bodendenkmalpflege im Rheinland; Germany)

"Recent studies on the production of Rhenish stoneware"

14:00 Gen Mitsuishi BA (University of Bonn; Germany)

"First research on 16th century stoneware production in Bonn-Lengsdorf"

14:15 Dr. Sophie Challe (Agence wallonne du Patrimoine; Belgium)

"Bartmann jugs produced in Châtelet and Bouffoulx from the 15th to the 17th centuries"

14:35 Jacqui Pearce BA / Lyn Blackmore BA (MOLA Museum of London Archaeology; Great Britain)

"Rhenish influences on stoneware (and earthenware) production in England"

15:05 Ralph Mennicken (Töpfereimuseum Raeren; Belgium)

"From the face jug via the Bartmann to the Mascaron. Depictions of the human face on Raeren stoneware"

15:35 Dr. rer. nat. Torbjörn Brorsson (KKS- Kontoret för Keramiska Studier; Sweden)

"Tracing clay deposits and pottery workshops by using different archaeometrical methods – examples of material from North Rhine-Westphalia, Lower Saxony and Hesse"

16:00 Coffee / Tea break

Session 2: Objects as actors (session chair: Christian Röser)

16:40 Dr. Christian Röser (LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn; Germany)

"The perception-induced metamorphosis of objects between function and

symbolism – outlining theoretical approaches”

17:00 Sören Pfeiffer MA (LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn / University of Bonn; Germany)

“Function and performance of stoneware vessels at the table”

17:20 Dr. Marion Roehmer (University of Bonn; Germany)

“Painting stoneware - from tableware to symbol in the 16th and 17th centuries”

17:50 Dr. Sebastiaan Ostkamp (Specialistisch Archeologisch Onderzoek; Netherlands)

“The role and distribution of Bartmann jugs in the Netherlands”

18:20 Nigel Jeffries MA (MOLA Museum of London Archaeology; Great Britain)

“Frechen stoneware and its role in drinking spaces and drinking culture in England in the 17th century”

Keynote

18:55 Dr. David Gaimster (Auckland War Memorial Museum; New Zealand)

“Rhenish stoneware in a global perspective”

19:25 Day one closes

20:00 Dinner at the restaurant Tuscolo

Friday, 2022-12-02

Session 3: Commodity routes and shipping: from the Rhine into the oceans (session chair: Natascha Mehler)

09:00 Dr. Christian Hillen (Stiftung Rheinisch-Westfälisches Wirtschaftsarchiv zu Köln; Germany)

“Like a spider in the web - Cologne as an European trade hub”

09:30 Dr. Roos van Oosten (University of Leiden; Netherlands)

“The significance of stoneware in the Low Countries”

10:00 Dr. Erik Odegard (Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis; Netherlands)

“Bearded men abroad: Bartmann jugs in Dutch shipwrecks, 16th-18th centuries”

10:30 Coffee / Tea break

Session 4: Globalization and Colonization - Networks spreading around the world (session chair: Christoph Keller)

11:00 Lana Chologauri MA (Tbilisi State University; Georgia)

"Import and local imitations of Bartmann jugs and German stoneware in Georgia"

11:30 Dr. Antonia Malan (University of Cape Town; South Africa)

"Rhenish stonewares at the Cape of Good Hope: intercontinental trade in mundane but necessary objects"

12:00 Annette Zeischka-Kenzler MA (Keramikmuseum Westerwald; Germany)

"The cultural adaptation of Westerwald stoneware in West Africa"

12:30 Dr. Beverly Straube FSA (Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation; United States of America)

"Faces from the past: Rhenish stoneware in seventeenth-century Virginia"

13:00 Final Discussion

14:00 Lunch at the museum's restaurant DelikArt

15:30 Field trip to the museum store

Michael Schmauder / Christian Röser / Sören Pfeiffer

"A glimpse into the archive: the ceramics collection of the LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn and Rhenish archaeology"

Display of ceramic finds from stoneware potteries in the Rhineland

18:30 Conference closes

19:00 Departure / Unofficial get-together

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Photo: J. Vogel, LVR-LMB