Research Workshop of the Israel Science Foundation

Ancestral Stones:
Reimagining the significance of stone from the Paleolithic to the Present

September 12–15, 2022
Room 496, Gilman Building, TAU

September 12, Monday
9:00 Short opening remarks
9:10 Joshua (Shuky) Borkovsky
Dream stones, landscape stones
9:30 Stone stories: Personal insights round table (part one)
11:30 Break
12:00 First session | Moderator: Leore Grosman
Kathryn Weedman Arthur | University of South Florida
Ontologies and assemblages: Knappable bodies and their offspring
Meir Finkel and Ran Barkai | Tel Aviv University
Interpreting Paleolithic flint extraction and reduction sites in the Upper Galilee, Israel: Human-stone interactions in light of relevant insights from indigenous groups
13:30 Lunch break
15:00 Second session | Moderator: Ella Assaf Shpayer
Lambros Malafouris | University of Oxford
The unspeakable becomes spoken: On the dialogue between maker and material
Bar Efrati | Tel Aviv University
Standing on the shoulders of giants: Understanding Paleolithic human-tool encounters and interactions using Readymade concepts and techniques
16:30 Break
17:00 Third session | Moderator: Steve Brown
Miguel Astor-Aguilera | Arizona State University
Maya lithic ontologies: Cosmological embodiment and materiality
Marlize Lombard | University of Johannesburg
Bored stones, lithic rings and the concept of holes in hunter-gatherer shamanism
18:30 Clive Freeman and Peter Markovic
Assistant Director National Heritage
Department of Environment Commonwealth Government Australia
Stories of Yuni stones; a southeast coastal Aboriginal Australian story collection part I

September 13, Tuesday
9:00 First session | Moderator: Marlize Lombard
Stone stories: Personal insights round table (part two)
Catherine Allen | George Washington University
Don’t fall asleep by a boulder: Time, communication, and consciousness in relation to Andean stone
10:30 Break
11:00 Second session | Moderator: Rachel Horowitz
Erica Hill | University of Alaska Southeast
Stone acting like people in the North American Arctic: Inuksuit as polysemic features
Ella Assaf Shpayer | Tel Aviv University
When human-animal relations are set in stone: the case of stone balls and horses
12:30 Lunch break
14:00 Third session | Moderator: Bar Efrati
François B. Lanoë and Maria Nieves Zedeno | University of Arizona
The petroformed landscape of the Blackfoot
Steve Brown | University of Canberra
Talking with stones: Indigenous stone artefacts, material memory, and rights-based futures
15:30 Break
16:00 Forth session | Moderator: Ed Swenson
Dov Ganchrow | Bezael Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem
To computational archaeology and back: The round-trip journey of stone artifacts between a physical and a digital existence, is leveraged for the creation of new design works
Leore Grosman and Keren Nebenhaus | Tel Aviv University
Curiosities from a 12,000-year-old ritual context
17:30 Break
18:00 Clive Freeman and Peter Markovic
Stories of Yuni stones; a southeast coastal Aboriginal Australian story collection part II

September 14, Wednesday.
Excursion

September 15, Thursday
09:00 Stones and the Ontological turn: personal insights round table
10:30 First session | Moderator: Miguel Astor-Aguilera
Paul Sillitoe | Durham University
Known & unknown stone: A Papuan petrological heritage
Lia Genovese | Thammasat and Silpakorn Universities Bangkok
The rock-solid powers of ancestral stone
12:00 Lunch break
13:30 Second session | Moderator: Erica Hill
Rachel Horowitz | Washington State University
Symbolic trash: Lithic debitage, ritual, and political power among the Preclassic and Classic period Maya
Ed Swenson | University of Toronto
 Fluid rocks: The (de)territorializing power of sacred stones
15:00 Clive Freeman and Peter Markovic
Stories of Yuni stones; a southeast coastal Aboriginal Australian story collection part III
15:30 Break
16:00-17:30 Get together and a discussion
19:00 Finger food party under the sky

Free attendance everyone is welcomed!

Organizers: Ran Barkai & Kathryn Weedman Arthur