

Maria G. Spathi

EDUCATION

- JUN 2005 Ph.D. in Classical Archaeology, Bayerische Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg
Dissertation: *Studien zur Koroplastik Äginas* (awarded 2006, grade: magna cum laude)
- MAY 2001 Diploma in Archaeology and History of Art (four-year B.A.),
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (grade: very good)

FELLOWSHIPS/GRANTS

- 2023 *Barbro Osher Jubilee Scholarship*, The Royal Swedish of Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities
- 2023/24 *Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies Visiting Fellowship*, Princeton University
- 2023/24 *Margo Tytus Visiting Fellowship*, Department of Classics, University of Cincinnati
- 2022 *Åke Wiberg Foundation*, Grant for the publication of the Proceedings of the Conference "Apotropaia and Phylakteria. Confronting Evil in Ancient Greece"
- 2022 *Magnus Bergvall Foundation*, Grant for the publication of the Proceedings of the Conference "Apotropaia and Phylakteria. Confronting Evil in Ancient Greece"
- 2022/23 *Harvard University's Center for Hellenic Studies*, Material Culture Fellowship
- 2020 *Enboms Donation*, Royal Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities Project Grant for the Conference "Apotropaia and Phylakteria. Confronting Evil in Ancient Greece"
- 2018 Project Grant for the excavation of the sanctuary of Artemis Limnatis at Messene, *CRC1266 Scales of Transformation, sub-project E3 "The Hellenistic sanctuary as a perception and action context"* (in collaboration with Prof. Stefan Feuser)
- 2018 Research Grant *Professorinnenprogramm II des Bundes und der Länder Universität Rostock*
- 2004/5 Dissertation Fellowship, *HWP-Programm „Chancengleichheit für Frauen in Forschung und Lehre“*

2001/2 Dissertation Fellowship, *Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Unterricht, Kultus, Wissenschaft und Kunst*

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- ***The terracotta figurines from the House of Hermes***, The Molyvoti, Thrace, Archaeological Project, Princeton University, 2024-
- ***The masks from the Samian Heraion*** (Barbro Osher Jubilee Scholarship)
- ***The Sanctuary of Artemis Limnatis in ancient Messene, Peloponnese*** (Material Culture Fellowship, Harvard University's Center for Hellenic Studies, Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies, Princeton University, Margo Tytus Visiting Fellowship, Cincinnati), ongoing
- ***Excavation at the Sanctuary of Artemis Limnatis at Messene***, Ancient Messene Excavation and Restoration Project, side-project, Archaeological Society of Athens, 2016 – 2022
- ***Excavation in the sanctuary of Demeter at Messene***, Ancient Messene Excavation and Restoration Project, side-project, Archaeological Society of Athens, 2012-2016, completed
- ***Field-survey in upper (north) Messenia***, University of Peloponnese, Department of History, Archaeology and Cultural Resources Management, since 2020, team member, ongoing
- ***Dress ID. Clothing and Identities. New Perspectives on textiles in the Roman Empire***, with a side-project entitled: "Dress in Roman Grave Stelai from Greece and Asia Minor", completed

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

From July 2025- 2024-25	Assistant Professor, University of Crete, Department of History and Archaeology Scientific Associate, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Abteilung Athen
Jan – Aug 2023	Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Ephorate of Antiquities, East Attica
Sep 2019-Sep 2020	Post Doc Researcher, Society of Messenian Archaeological Studies
April-Aug 2020	Scientific Associate, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Abteilung Athen
Oct 2018-Sep 2019	Assistant Professor, Heinrich-Schliemann-Institut der Universität Rostock
2016-2017	Archaeology Office Manager, Wardell – Armstrong Archaeology, UK
Feb - Dec 2015	Archaeologist, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Ephorate of Antiquities, Athens, "Excavation and Enhancement of a late Roman Bath in Phyli", East Attica
Jan - Jul 2014	Scientific Associate, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Abteilung Berlin (Departments in Amman and Jerusalem)
May 2011-Oct 2013	Archaeologist, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Ephorate of Antiquities, "Excavation and restoration work in the fortress of Aigosthena in Megaris" Athens
Nov - May 2011	University of Crete, Scientific Associate in the European Project: <i>Dress ID. Clothing and Identities. New Perspectives on textiles in the Roman Empire</i> , with a side-project entitled: "Dress in Roman Grave Stelai from Greece and Asia Minor"

Sep - Dec 2010	Archaeologist, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Ephorate of Antiquities, Institute for Peloponnesian Studies
Jul-Dec 2009	Curator, New Museum of Acropolis, Athens
Sep 2009-Feb 2010	Lecturer at the University of Crete, Faculty of Archaeology
Aug – Dec 2008	Archaeologist, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Ephorate of Antiquities, West Attica
Mar 2006-Jul 2009	Archaeologist, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Ephorate of Speleology and Paleoanthropology (temp. contracts)
Sep - Dec 2005	Field Archaeologist, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Ephorate of Antiquities, Boeotia
Oct - Dec 2003	Scientific Assistant, Bayerische Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, Institute of Classical Archaeology
Dec-Jul 2000	Field Archaeologist, Excavation at the port of Piraeus, Ephorate of Antiquities, Piraeus

FIELDWORK (selection)

GREECE, PELOPONNES

- **Ancient Messene Excavation and Restoration Project**, member of the excavation team since 1998, directing, between 2006-2013, the excavation of the sanctuary of Demeter on the Mount of Ithome, currently directing the side-project at the sanctuary of Artemis Limnatis
- **Ancient Sikyon project**, member of the excavation team, 2016
- **Cave of Andritsaina** in Argolis, member of the excavation team, Ephorate of Antiquities, 2008
- **Cave of the Nymphs in Lechova**, Corinth, member of the excavation team, Ephorate of Antiquities, 2006
- **Field - Survey in Corinthia**, Seminar for Historical Topography, with Prof. G. Pikoulas, Greek Epigraphic Society, 1998-2000

MAINLAND

- **Kalapodi** in (ancient) Phokis, German Archaeological Institute, 2020
- **Boeotia**, Pyrgi, Ephorate of Antiquities, 2005

AEGEAN

- **Cave on the island of Antiparos**, member of the excavation team, Ephorate of Antiquities

ATTICA

- **Athens**, Hadrian's adequate
- **Phyli**, East Attica, Late Roman Bath, 2015
- **Fortress of Aigosthena in Megaris**, Excavation and restoration project, 2011-2013,
- **Schisto, Piraeus, Attica**, Cave of the Nymphs, Ephorate of Antiquities, 2008
- **Piraeus**, excavation of a shipshed at the harbor of Zea, Ephorate of Antiquities, 2000

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Classical and Hellenistic Archaeology
 Sanctuaries and Cults in the Peloponnese
 Sanctuaries and Natural Landscape
 Apotropaia and Phylakteria in Ancient Greece
 Material Culture
 Iconography
 Cult practices and Ritual in Greek sanctuaries
 Cult in Caves
 Masked figures in Cult and Ritual
 Terracotta figurines
 Pottery
 Miniature Pottery
 Metal Votive Objects
 Roman Grave Reliefs

CONFERENCE AND LECTURE ORGANISATION

- *Terracotta Figurines in Sacral Contexts. Random or deliberate Offerings?*, Session in EAA 2023, *Weaving Narratives*, Belfast 30th Aug.-2nd Sept., **2023**. Co-organised with J. Wallensten (Swedish Institute in Athens) and M. Chidiroglou (National Archaeological Museum, Athens)
- *Apotropaia and Phylakteria. Confronting Evil in Ancient Greece*, International Conference, Athens, June 23-25, **2021**. Co-organised with J. Wallensten (Swedish Institute in Athens) and M. Chidiroglou (National Archaeological Museum, Athens)
- *Sanctuaries and Cults of Messene. From pre-classical to the byzantine period*, International Archaeological Congress, Athens, 25 Oct **2014**. Co-organised with K. Psaroudakis.
- Series of Lectures in Amman under the title: *Archaeology of the Greater Petra and Beyond*, The German Protestant Institute of Archaeology in Jerusalem and the German Archaeological Institute in Amman. Co-organised with F. Kenkel, K. Bartl, **2014**
- Poster exhibition, *With trowel and high-tech - German archaeological projects in Jordan*, Amman, The German Protestant Institute of Archaeology in Jerusalem and the German Archaeological Institute in Amman, **2014**

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

1. *The sanctuary of Demeter on Mount Ithome in ancient Messene. Votive assemblages and ritual practices in the city during the Hellenistic and Roman periods* (forthcoming).
2. *Studien zur Koroplastik Aeginas*, Hamburg (2007)

Edited volumes

3. M. Spathi, M. Chidirolou, J. Wallensten (eds), *Apotropaia and Phylakteria. Confronting Evil in Ancient Greece*, Oxford 2024.
4. P. Themelis, K. Psaroudakis, M. Spathi (eds), *Sanctuaries and Cults of Messene. From pre-classical to the byzantine period*, Athens 2017.

Papers

5. *The miniature vessels from ancient Messene and their function as votives in the sanctuaries of the city* (in Greek), *Third International Scientific Meeting of the "Archaeological Work in the Peloponnese"*, Kalamata 2-5 June 2021, Kalamata 2024, 457-471.
6. *The interpretation of clay gorgoneion-roundels in sacred contexts. Evidence from the sanctuary of Artemis Limnatis in ancient Messene* in, M. Spathi, M. Chidirolou, J. Wallensten (eds), *Apotropaia and Phylakteria. Confronting Evil in Ancient Greece*, Oxford 2024.
7. The Sanctuary of Artemis Limnatis in ancient Messene: An overview of the finds assemblage, *CHS Research Bulletin* 11, 2023.
8. What do terracotta figurines in a sacral context reveal? The case of the Aphaia sanctuary on the island of Aegina, *Journal of Greek Archaeology* 7, 2022, 213-232.
9. Ειδώλια με προσωπεία από σπήλαιο με λατρεία Νυμφών στη Κορινθία, *ADelt* 71-72, Meletes, 2020, 289-306.
10. Sanctuaries and Cults in the Peloponnese: New evidence for sanctuaries and sacral contexts in the last decade (2010-2020), *Archaeological Reports*, 2020, 145-159.
11. The Sanctuary of Artemis Limnatis in Messene: Natural Setting and Human Action, in A. Haug-A. Muller (eds), *Hellenistic Architecture and Human Action: A case of reciprocal influence*, 2020, 25-39 (in collaboration with S. Feuser).
12. The terracottas from the sanctuary of Artemis Limnatis at Messene, *Les Carnets de l'ACoSt* 20, 2020.
13. Representations of masked figures: a comparative study and an interpretative approach to their cult-use and meaning, in G. Vavouranakis, K. Kopanias, Chr. Kanellopoulos (eds), *Popular religion and ritual in the east Mediterranean from the 3rd millennium BC to the 5th century AD*, Oxford, 2018, 143-155.

14. The votive offerings from the sanctuaries of ancient Messene as an indication of the cultic identity: the example of the sanctuary of Eileithyia and the Kouretes on Mount Ithome, in P. Themelis, M. Spathi, K. Psaroudakis *Sanctuaries and Cults of Messene. From pre-classical to the byzantine period*, Athens, 2017, 55-92.
15. Representation of masked figures: a comparative study and an interpretative approach to their cult-use and meaning, *Les Carnets de l'ACoSt* 16, 2017.
16. The small finds from the archaeological excavation in 2010 underneath the church of the Redeemer in the old city of Jerusalem, *Zeitschrift des Deutschen Palästina-Vereins*, 2016, 26-62.
17. Votive terracottas in sanctuaries of ancient Messene. Recent finds and cult practices, in A. Muller-E. Lafli (eds), *Figurines de terre cuite en Méditerranée grecque et romaine, Vol. 2, Iconographie et contexts*, Lille, 2015, 437-448.
18. Die Ausgrabung unter der Erlöserkirche, 2010. Eine Zusammenfassung der Funde und Ergebnisse, *Gemeinde-Stiftungsjournal DEI* 2014, 36-39.
19. Die Kleidung der Figuren auf Grabstelen der römischen Zeit in Griechenland und Kleinasien, in M. Tellenbach et al. (eds), *Die Macht der Toga. DressCode im Römischen Weltreich*, Sonderausstellung im Roemer-und Pelizaeus-Museum Hildesheim in Kooperation mit den Reiss-Engelhorn-Museen Mannheim, Regensburg, 2013, 110-114.
20. The cave of the Nymphs at Keratsini, Attica: A new location for the popular female cult of the classical period and some intriguing finds, in E. Sioumpara, K. Psaroudakis (eds), *Themelion. Festschrift for Prof. P. Themelis*, Athens, 2013, 395-415.
21. Dress in Roman Grave Stelai from Greece and Asia Minor and Aspects of its social interpretation, in I. Tzachilli, E. Zimi (eds), *Textile and Dress in Greece and the Roman East: A technological and social approach*, Athens, 2012, 89-106.
22. Χειροποίητα ανθρωπόμορφα ειδώλια της αρχαϊκής περιόδου από την Αίγινα, *AAA* 40-41, 2009, 155-168.