



Mass grave of Greek war-dead from the Battle of Himera in 409 BCE (from Lyons et al eds. 2013. *Sicily: Art and Invention between Greece and Rome*. Los Angeles: Getty Publications)

THE FRIENDS OF THE ANU CLASSICS
MUSEUM INVITE YOU TO A LECTURE:

Sicily: The Levant's foothold in Italy

Presented by Dr Ted Robinson, Senior
Lecturer, Department of Archaeology,
University of Sydney

Thursday 27 October 2022, 5.30pm

The talk will be held in the **RSSS Auditorium**, followed by refreshments served in the **Classics Museum** in the AD Hope Building next door. The event will be in-person only, and not available online.

While the eastern part of Sicily was thickly settled by Greeks in the 8th century BCE, the west was in Phoenician hands, with cities at Mozia, Palermo and Solunto. People from the Levant had already been visiting the island in the Bronze Age, when their principal destination seems to have been the metal-rich parts of Sardinia, and these contacts may conceivably have survived the disruptions of the end of the Bronze Age.

The Phoenician cities were major players in the politics and warfare of the island from the 6th century BCE onwards, sometimes allied with Greek cities but more often opposed to them, with Carthage only 150 km to the south offering support. Punic armies devastated much of the island between 409 and 405 BCE, burning a number of Greek cities (Selinus, Agrigento, Himera) and establishing a dominance that lasted until the Romans began their conquest of Italy. The site of one of the major naval battles of Rome's wars against Carthage has recently been discovered off the coast of western Sicily, with a number of weapons and the rams of Roman and Phoenician ships brought to the surface.

Dr Ted Robinson has worked at Pella and Torone, and has directed survey and excavation projects at I Fani, Alezio and Chiaramonte (all in South Italy). His specialty is the archaeology of South Italy and especially the interplay between the indigenous populations and Greek settlers.



The Committee of the Friends of the ANU Classics Museum would like to thank all Friends for their continuing support of this splendid teaching and learning facility that is open to the entire community.