

# **CEFREPA Newsletter November/December 2023**

# **WORKSHOP**



# Cities and circulations: Challenging theoretical frameworks in Gulf histories and geographies

# November 19, 2023 at Kuwait University

The CEFREPA in collaboration with Kuwait University, Inalco, NCCL & Sciences Po organized a workshop entitled "Cities and circulations: Challenging theoretical frameworks in Gulf histories and geographies". A working meeting followed by scientific sessions took place in Kuwait on 19 November 2023. This workshop will be followed by three-day conference on 29-31 May 2024 in Paris.

#### **READ MORE**

The closed working meeting was followed by a public scientific session with relevant stakeholders to describe the themes and goals of the workshop and the broader mission of building an interdisciplinary network of Gulf scholars that breaks academic, institutional, and research silos. The outcomes of the working meeting and scientific sessions in Kuwait will inform the three-

day event in Paris that brings together dedicated Gulf scholars around the six broad themes.

### WORKSHOP



# Monument Exchanges / Kuwait City November 21, 2023 at CEFREPA

The French Research Center of the Arabian Peninsula (CEFREPA) organized a workshop entitled "Monument Exchanges / Kuwait City" with Dr. Anahi Alviso-Marino on November 21, 2023.

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This workshop was dedicated to generating collective knowledge about the city and public art through retracing stories about monuments and sculptural artworks in Kuwait City's parks, roads, and roundabouts.

The participants worked with both maps and monuments—the latter understood as sculptural and architectural works created to commemorate events, generate landmarks, celebrate individual and collective figures, and/or embellish the city.

# **LECTURE**



# From Dilmun temple to Hellenistic Fortress and al-Qusur monastery: 40 years of French-Kuwaiti excavations in Failaka Island

# November 26, 2023 at the French Institute

The French Research Center of the Arabian Peninsula (CEFREPA) organized a lecture entitled "From Dilmun temple to Hellenistic Fortress and al-Qusur monastery: 40 years of French-Kuwaiti excavations in Failaka Island" with Julie BONNERIC, Hasan ASHKANANI and Mathilde GELIN at the French Institute on November 26, 2023.

### **READ MORE**

This conference was part of the cultural mediation activities linked to the Franco-Kuwaiti mission in Failaka. It gave the audience the opportunity to listen to three specialists on the island of Failaka, whose expertise covers a very broad chronology: prehistory (Hasan ASHKANANI), the ancient period (Mathilde GELIN) and the Islamic era (Julie BONNERIC). The conference also retraced the various stages of collaboration within the mission created in 2011 by Mathilde GELIN.

# **EXHIBITION**



# "October 1973-2023. 50 years after the oil crisis"

# December 7, 2023 at CAP Gallery

On 7 December 2023, in the presence of Her Excellency the French Ambassador to Kuwait, Claire Le Flécher, CEFREPA inaugurated an exhibition entitled "October 1973-2023. 50 years after the oil crisis".

#### **READ MORE**

The exhibition was opened at the CAP Gallery in the presence of a number of leading figures from the worlds of politics, academia and the arts. It was a great opportunity to showcase the French archives on the subject, and the work of the CEFREPA team on an event with multiple issues and dimensions, which helps to understand the evolution of Arab societies and those of the world over half a century.

## **CONFERENCE**



# "Music and songs in Kuwait: Journey into the heart of Arab cultural heritage"

# December 15, 2023 - Paris

The CEFREPA in collaboration with INALCO & Kuwait University organized a conference entitled "Music and songs in Kuwait: Journey into the heart of Arab cultural heritage". This conference took place at INALCO – Auditorium Georges Dumézil 2 rue de Lille on 15 December 2023.

#### **READ MORE**

The symposium presented the main axes of research on Kuwaiti music. It studied Kuwaiti music from an anthropologic, musicological, and ethnolinguistic point of view. It especially focused on the relationships between Kuwaiti music and the main social evolutions that occurred in Kuwait during the 20th century. How Kuwaiti songs reflected the development of the Kuwaiti society? How can we study sung poetry in Kuwait, the text of the songs, from a linguistic point of view? How the tension between "ancient" and "modern" formed at linguistic and musical levels? What are the main contact phenomena between Kuwaiti music and the others Arabic countries, especially those of the Arabian Peninsula? How this precious immaterial heritage can contribute to a better knowledge of the Arabic language and culture?

# « LES MARDI DU CEFREPA » SEMINAR



# Ending season 1 of "Les Mardi du CEFREPA" seminars

The French Research Center of the Arabian Peninsula (CEFREPA) organized a series of seminars that occurred every Tuesday by the beginning of October till the end of December 2023 at the CEFREPA.

#### **READ MORE**

Alessandra Peruzzetto, Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa, World Monuments Fund, giving a

lecture on the cultural heritage of Ta'izz, once cultural capital and industrial center of Yemen. The inclusion of the Old City of Ta'izz on the World Monuments Watch 2018 is an expression of concern for the protection of its historic built fabric and for the welfare of its citizens. Since 2018, the World Monuments Fund has worked with the General Organization of Antiquities and Museums and other partners to preserve symbolic sites and to protect the urban fabric of Ta'izz.

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL MISSION IN FAILAKA



# previous years.

# A visit to the archaeological sites of the Failaka Island on December 3, 2023

For the 2023 season, the Franco-Kuwaiti archaeological mission of Failaka was held from October 22, 2023 to December 14, and it involved excavation work on the site of Qusûr where a Christian monastery was discovered few years ago, as well as a verification work on the site of the fortress with a view to publishing the work carried out during

#### **READ MORE**

CEFREPA organized in collaboration with the NCCL and the Cooperation & Cultural Services Department of the French Embassy in Kuwait a visit to the archaeological sites of the island for the network of European Embassies in Kuwait (EUNIC) on December 3, 2023. This visit was an opportunity for several Embassies to come and see and listen to french specialists talk about the history of Failaka and their archaeological work. The mission also made it possible to relaunch a project to publish a catalog of figurines from the Kuwaiti national museum, which is expected in 2024 and which will be carried out by CEFREPA.

and NCCAL.

Furthermore, a contract relative to the conservation of the fortress was signed between the NCCAL and Mathilde GELIN (CNRS/Arscan Laboratory), thus doubling the number of French archaeological missions in Kuwait.

## CALL FOR PAPERS



# **International Symposium - Call for Papers**

« On the Roads of Arabia: Itineraries by Land and Sea»

From the Bronze Age to the Islamic Period December 12-13-14, 2024 - Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris

#### **Conditions for submissions:**

Deadline: Friday 17th May 2024

Contributions will take the form of a 20-minute lecture followed by 10 minutes of questions. An abstract of no more than 300 words should be sent as an attached file (.docx) to surlesroutesdarabie@gmail.com by Friday 17th May 2024.

#### **READ MORE**

The inter-university association Routes de l'Orient, in partnership with the CEFREPA, the Institut du Monde Arabe and Archaïos, is organizing an international symposium entitled "On the Roads of Arabia: Itineraries by Land and Sea", to be held at the Institut du Monde Arabe (Paris) on the 12th, 13th and 14th December.

The aim of the symposium is to study the overland and maritime routes of the Arabian Peninsula and the exchanges they made possible, through archaeology, history, philology, religion and life sciences. This topic will be addressed in the longue durée, from the Bronze Age to the Islamic period. The symposium will also examine the networks of exchanges with border regions such as the Indian subcontinent, the Horn of Africa and Egypt, as well as the empires of the Ancient Near East, and the Greek and Roman empires.

This wide-ranging, interdisciplinary and diachronic theme, will be of interest to researchers, lecturers and doctoral students from various international institutions. This symposium is also intended as a meeting place for senior scholars, young researchers and students. It will encourage exchanges between disciplines, in line with current scientific methodologies.

# **ANOUNCEMENT**



SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ

ÉCOLE DOCTORALE 020 CIVILISATIONS, CULTURES, LITTÉRATURES ET SOCIÉTÉS Laboratoires de recherche CERMOM ; CEFREPA/Almas ; OCS/SQU

THÈSE

pour obtenir le grade de DOCTEUR DE L'UNIVERSITÉ SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ

Discipline : études arabes

Ali MANOUBI

Le hobyot : description grammaticale d'une langue sudarabique moderne

M. Frédéric LAGRANGE, Professeur, Sorbonne Université

M. Julien DUFOUR, Maître de conférences, École Normale Supérieure, Paris

Membres du jury : Vime Sabrina BENDJABALLAH, Directrice de resherche, CNRS, Rapporteur et Présidente du

Jary
M. Aaron RUBIN, Professeur, University of Georgia, Rapporteur
M. Cornid KOGAN, Professour, Moscow High School of Economies
M. Antoine LONNET, Charge de recherche, CNRS
Mine Catherine MILLER, Directrice de recherche, CNRS

Ali Manoubi, doctoral student from CEFREPA/ANR Almas, defended his thesis entitled "Hobyot: grammatical description of a modern South Arabian language" on December 18 at Sorbonne University.

Thesis to obtain the degree of DOCTOR OF SORBONNE UNIVERSITY.

Discipline: Arabic studies presented and supported by Ali MANOUBI on December 18, 2023 under the direction of Mr. Frédéric LAGRANGE, Professor, Sorbonne University, Mr. Julien DUFOUR, Associate Professor, École Normale Supérieure d'Ulm



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