

**Graduate Symposium  
in Ancient Near Eastern Studies (GSANES)**

**Program of the Second Meeting**

# **Engaging with Empires**

**Cambridge, Massachusetts  
March 6th – 7th 2020**

**Hosting Institution  
Harvard University**

**Residing Coordinators:  
Andrew Deloucas (Harvard University),  
Evelyne Koubková (Yale University), Zach Rubin (Brown University)**

Friday, March 6th

Harvard Semitic Museum, Third Floor Atrium Gallery

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| <b>5:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.</b> | <b>Keynote Address<br/>Seth Richardson (University of Chicago)</b> |
| <b>7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</b> | <b>Dinner<br/>Location TBD</b>                                     |

Saturday, March 7th  
Tozzer Anthropology Building, Room 203

- 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Catered Breakfast and Registration  
Tozzer Anthropology Building, Third Floor Atrium Lounge
- 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Shane Thompson (Brown University)**  
*The Subjects of Empire: Models of Imperialism in the Late Bronze and Iron Age Levant*
- 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Jaime Myers (New York University)**  
*Godnapping Under Empire: An Examination of Imperial and Subversive Scribal Strategies*
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Tea and Coffee Break
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Emily Mitchell (Harvard University)**  
*Inscribing Empire: The Behistun Inscription of Darius I and the Res Gestae Divi Augusti*
- 12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Tirza Visser (Ghent University)**  
*The Sukkalmahs of Elam: emperors or vassal kings?*
- 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Lunch Break  
Tozzer Anthropology Building, Third Floor Atrium Lounge
- 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Eli Tadmor (Yale University)**  
*Intertextuality in Ashurbanipal's Description of the Sack of Babylon*
- 2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Li Yuan (École pratique des hautes études)**  
*Divine Anger and the Fall of an Empire*
- 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Tea and Coffee Break
- 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Andrew Pottorf (Harvard University)**  
*What has Moscow to do with Ur? The Impact of Soviet Scholarship on the Study of the Ur III Period*
- 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Plenary Discussion**
- 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Reception and Group Photo
- 5:30 p.m. Informal Dinner and Socializing  
Location TBD

MARCH 6 - 7, 2020

# — ENGAGING WITH — EMPIRES

*Hosted by Department of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations at Harvard University*

*Organized by Andrew Deloucas with the support of Harvard University's Provostial Fund for the Arts and Humanities*

The topic of this symposium seeks to engage with contemporary study of empire in the ancient Near East. Demarcation and terminology at current remains fuzzy in the study of Empire in the ancient Near East, wherein topics of power, space, body, and economy, which lay the forefront of majority historiography, analysis, and model, often fail to be recognized within larger socio-political frameworks and systems. How we should understand the concept of empire, how may empire have understood itself, and how we can wrestle with our material outside, and within, its grasp through primary and secondary material is the goal of this year's assembly.



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