Archaeology and the Environment of the "Islands of History" in the Tyrrhenian Sea: the Case of Ischia

Multidisciplinary Research for the Reconstruction of Mediterranean Resources and Networks over the Centuries

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This project’s goal is the reconstruction of the historical, environmental and economic role of the islands of the Gulf of Naples over the centuries, taking into consideration the case of Ischia in particular. The project combines Archaeology, History, Environmental Sciences and Marine Sciences also to define the ways in which anthropization occurred in the coastal and island areas.

The topics of the research are the geo-archaeological aspects, the paleography of the coastal marine areas, the agrarian countryside (viticulture and wine), the environmental and volcanic aspects (water, metals, clays and alum), and production and trade dynamics (thanks to archaeological study of ceramics and the cargoes of shipwrecks).

For the first time the project intends to carry out a multidisciplinary survey that fully can utilize the potential wealth of information that the island and its many resources have held over the centuries. This project also intends to study the island in relation to the environment (including the marine environment) and the modes of occupation and exploitation of certain areas.

A further goal is to investigate the relationship between Ischia and the sea, including the ancient trade networks that involved the island. This goal will be accomplished using evidence from the principal shipwrecks of the Gulf of Naples and the Aeolian Islands.

This research is made possible by specialists of different backgrounds and the experience gained as part of the Immensa Aequora project, which was connected to the theme of the sea and ancient trade.

Institutional Collaborations
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· Museo Archeologico L. Bernabò Brea di Lipari (R. Vilardo, M. C. Martinelli),
· Centre Camille Jullian (E. Botte),
· DEGUWA (H. G. Martin).

Sponsor and Participation
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