



FIRST CONTACT: IMPACT OF PLEISTOCENE HOMININS ON ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS

PALAEONTOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE

Islands represent unique ecosystems which are highly vulnerable to environmental disturbances, invasions, and natural disasters. Evidence of Pleistocene hominins on islands, however, is rare and largely restricted to a few islands in East and Southeast Asia, California, and the Mediterranean. This conference day will bring together researchers from around the world, specialising on the archaeological and palaeontological records of islands, to compare chronologies of hominin arrival, available technologies, ecological and geological events, and the records of extinctions. It will address the fundamental question of whether island overkill is a phenomenon restricted to post-Neolithic populations, or has always been a characteristic impact of our species.

WHEN: 26th April 2017, 8:30am - 5.00pm

FREE ENTRY

WHERE: Australian National University,
ANU Commons Function Centre
Cnr of Barry Drive and Marcus Clark Street
Enter via 3 Rimmer Street

Tea and Coffee Available

For more information contact Juliet Meyer, juliet.meyer@anu.edu.au

The following world leaders in island prehistory and palaeobiology will present:

- Ai Kawamura, Osaka City University - *Late Pleistocene and Holocene mammal faunas of the Ryukyu Islands: A review of paleontological records*
- Alan H. Simmons, University of Nevada, Las Vegas - *Islands, early humans and late Pygmy hippos: Akrotiri Aetokremnos, Cyprus—a rare example of direct Pleistocene human and animal interactions*
- Alexandra van der Geer, Naturalis Biodiversity Center - *Extinction of the Late Pleistocene Mediterranean island fauna: Timing and causes*
- Chun-Hsiang Chang, National Museum of Natural Science, Taiwan - *From mainland to Taiwan: Paradise, refuge, or dead end?*
- Gerrit van den Bergh, University of Wollongong - *Fossil megafauna records from the Wallacean islands of Flores and Sulawesi*
- Hanneke J.M. Meijer, University of Bergen - *Avian Pleistocene extinctions in Insular Southeast Asia: The evidence from Liang Bua, Flores*
- Julien Louys, Australian National University - *Quaternary extinctions in the Nusa Tenggara Timur islands, eastern Indonesia*
- Masaki Fujita, National Museum of Nature and Science, Ibaraki, Japan - *Human impact on the Pleistocene endemic deer in Okinawa Island, Japan*
- Matthew McDowell, Flinders University - *Evidence of faunal change and early human settlement on Kangaroo Island, South Australia*
- Patrick Roberts, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History - *Monkey business on the “Resplendent Isle”: Sustainable tropical rainforest hunting in Sri Lanka*
- Philip Piper, Australian National University - *Introductions and Extinctions on Palawan Island, Philippines*
- Richard Cosgrove, La Trobe University - *Interactions between people and megafauna in Pleistocene Tasmania: The case against*
- Ross D.E. MacPhee, American Museum of Natural History - *The unfortunate islands: Holocene vertebrate extinctions in the West Indies*
- Scott M. Fitzpatrick, University of Oregon - *The Caribbean connection: Known and expected human impacts in the Antilles*
- Stuart Hawkins, Australian National University - *The Pleistocene zooarchaeological record of Timor-Leste shows broad spectrum foraging and no evidence for human induced faunal extinctions or extirpations*
- Sue O'Connor, Australian National University - *First Contact: Impact of Pleistocene Hominins on Island Ecosystems*
- Thomas Ingicco, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France - *Living and dying in a hostile environment: A first look at the prehistory, geology, palaeoenvironment and palaeoecology of the first colonizers of the Philippine Islands*
- Todd J. Braje, San Diego State University - *Pleistocene human colonization and animal extinctions on California's Channel Islands*

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