



THE BEAD FORUM

Newsletter of the Society of Bead Researchers

Issue 64

Spring 2014

Mightier than the Sword: The Allure, Beauty, and Enduring Power of Beads

Barbara Cade Pringle

The panels of the Bead Timeline of History, created by the Bead Society of Greater Washington, are on exhibit and open to viewing by the public once again. The former Bead Museum in Washington, D.C., donated the 33-foot-long timeline, arrayed with real beads, to the Peabody Museum of Natural History at Yale University in 2010. Until now, the Timeline had been kept in the museum's storage facility and only accessible for study by scholars or for visits by members of bead societies by prior arrangement.

On December 10, 2013, an enthusiastic group of scholars and bead enthusiasts attended the formal opening of *Mightier than the Sword: The Allure, Beauty and Enduring Power of Beads* (Figure 1). The exhibit features the two Timeline cases displaying beads from 3,000 to 800 BCE (Figures 2 and 3), along with displays showing recent related anthropological and archaeological research by Yale graduate students and faculty.



Figure 1. The Exhibits Introductory panel.



Figure 2. Barbara and Robert Pringle of the BSGB with Dr. Roderick McIntosh, Professor of Anthropology.

Graduate student interest in beads is exemplified by archaeologist Kristina Guild Douglass, the recipient of a Bead Society of Greater Washington research grant for 2011-2012. Just returned from Madagascar where she investigated human interaction with the now extinct “elephant bird” on that island (Figure 4), she reported finding various shell beads which must now be analyzed to determine the types of shells they came from. Maria Gatto, who found ostrich-eggshell beads as funerary offerings in Nubian Bronze Age sites in Egypt, and Gabriel Prieto, who is studying the cultural signifi-

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Figure 3. Professor Anne Underhill in front of the Bead Museum Timeline panels. Photograph by Robert Pringle.

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cance of the applied designs that decorate so many beads, are other featured student researchers.

Of particular interest to bead historians is the recent collaboration of archaeology professor Dr. William Honeychurch with former BSGW member Dr. James Lankton. Dr. Honeychurch had noticed that some of the beads he found in a 2,000-year-old tomb at Baga Gazaryn Chuluu in the Gobi Desert resembled certain beads from ancient Greece and Rome in the Timeline. Dr. Lankton, author of *A Bead Timeline, Vol I: Prehistory to 1200 CE* and currently a researcher at UCL Qatar, arranged to perform chemical analyses of some of the beads, proving that they did have a Mediterranean origin. Surprisingly, very similar-looking beads in the same burials were not Mediterranean. Instead, according to Dr. Lankton, they were probably produced in contemporaneous workshops in Iran or

Central Asia, providing one of the best indications for sophisticated glass beadmaking in the broader Hellenistic world. These findings strongly support the earlier importance of the northern branches of the Silk Routes than previously suspected, and may help explain how goods from the Mediterranean area reached such far eastern countries as Korea.

Another faculty member, Dr. Anne Underhill, has studied jade beads in burial sites of high-ranking people of the Liangzhou culture of ancient China. Her research is also included in the exhibit, as is the work of Professor Oswaldo Chinchilla, who is examining the role of jade beads in early Mesoamerican trade. Just returned from fieldwork among Hadza hunter-gatherers in Tanzania, Dr. Brian Wood attended the evening with his wife and baby girl. At the opening his daughter showed off the beads made of natural materials which had been given to her by the Hadza at her birth (Figure 5).



Figure 5. Dr. Brian Wood's daughter wearing beads made by the Hadza of Tanzania and given to her at birth. Photograph by Robert Pringle.



Figure 4. Graduate student Kristina Guild Douglass with the display explaining her research in Madagascar. Photograph by Robert Pringle.

This unusual exhibit, in Hillhouse, home of the Anthropology Department offices across the street from the main museum building, was planned and executed by the Peabody Museum's Exhibits Design staff, under the guidance of Laura Friedman and Dr. Richard Kissel, with the able assistance of numerous administrative and security personnel.

The exhibit will be up indefinitely. It is hoped that, in future, additional Timeline panels can be added, with relevant archaeological or anthropological research featured to enhance them. Potential visitors and researchers should contact the Education Office of the Peabody Museum at 203-432-3775 or Peabody.education@yale.edu.

Society News

SBR 2014 Business Meeting Minutes

The SBR's annual business meeting was called to order at 8:10 AM PST on March 28, 2014, by President Stefany Tomalin in a Skype conference call. Attending the meeting were Tomalin, Karlis Karklins and Alice Scherer. This was the first Skyped board meeting and quite useful when board members are on different continents.

OLD BUSINESS

President's Report (Tomalin)

Tomalin noted that at this early stage in her term, she has little to report, but did note that she was able to arrange with the Society of Jewellery Historians, who publish *Jewellery History Today*, to include an insert, composed by Scherer, into *JHT* in January 2014. Tomalin arranged for the gracious assistance of the Heatherwick Studio for the donated color printing of said inserts. Tomalin will also endeavor to increase membership on her side of the ocean.

Editor's Report (Karklins)

Beads 25 was distributed in early December and the fall *Bead Forum* followed a few weeks later, with the printed issues of the latter going out in early January 2014. We welcome Dr. Christopher DeCorse who is our new Newsletter Editor (see the item elsewhere in this newsletter) and bid a fond farewell to Laurie Burgess who so ably performed this job for the past five years. *Beads 26* is slowly taking shape and should be printed this fall. If anyone has thoughts about publishing an article in the journal, please contact the editor (karlis4444@gmail.com). Short articles and other material for the newsletter are always sought.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report (Scherer)

In 2013, the SBR had 138 paid members; in 2012 we had 126, for a gain of 12 members. They are mostly from the U.S. (98) and Canada (10), but in Europe reside 18, Africa and the Middle East 5, Asia 3, Australia 2, and Argentina and the Caribbean 1 each. Institutions make up 17 of our members and Bead Societies 3. There are 9 gratis memberships to individuals and organizations, mostly in developing countries.

Total revenues for 2013 were \$10,857.03 and total expenditures were \$12,105.87.

As of December 31, 2013, the balance in US\$ in the various SBR accounts was:

U.S. Bank Checking Account	\$ 1,460.71
PayPal Account	\$ 382.30
Vanguard Account*	\$18,175.98
TD-CT Account (CD\$389.72)	<u>\$ 378.04</u>
Sub-Total	\$20,397.03
Minus uncashed 2013 check	<u>\$ 219.60</u>
Total monies available	\$20,177.43

*This figure does not include \$535.31 in unrealized loss in the SBR's Vanguard account as of 12/31/13.

Summary Report

Balance End of 2012	\$21,426.99
2013 Income	<u>\$10,857.03</u>
Subtotal	\$32,284.02
2013 Expenses	<u>\$ 12,105.87</u>
Subtotal	\$20,178.15
Adjustments category	<u>-\$.72</u>
Total Balance End of 2013	\$20,177.43

Scherer will create a Dropbox account for a more protective stance toward SBR digital records. Flip-page software will be acquired for the electronic version of the journal. This may also be applied to the electronic copy of *The Bead Forum*.

Journal Website (Scherer)

A web site specifically offering PDFs of out-of-print or free issues of *Beads* to the internet at large has been built by Scherer and uploaded to www.beadresearchjournal.org. The first issue posted online is Volume 3, now officially out of print. As the other early issues become available in PDF form from Syracuse University (SURFACE), they will be added to our website. For issues 1, 2, 4, and 5, we still have hard copies available for purchase. See the order forms on our website for more information.

Society News, continued on page 6

SBR Treasurer's Summary Report for 2013

OPENING BALANCE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2013	\$21,426.99
INCOME	\$10,857.03
Annual dues	
Individual-North America.....	1,991.20
Individual-Overseas.....	795.80
Sustaining (\$270), Patron (\$375), Benefactor (\$150)	795.00.....3,582.00
Publication Sales	
Journal	5,937.71
Newsletter	275.00.....6,212.71
Investment Income.....	723.77
Donations and Grants	8.50
Miscellaneous	
Pre-paid postage, Pay Pal fees	330.05
 EXPENSES	 \$12,105.87
Journal Production (1 issue #24)	
Translation, source material.....	875.97
Layout.....	780.00
Printing.....	6,975.77.....8,631.74
Newsletter Production (1 issue #62, plus backfill earlier issues)	
Printing.....	187.90
Postage/Shipping	
Journal	1,001.68
Newsletter	51.26
General	1,251.77.....2,304.71
Web site (domain name, web hosting, analytics) (paid in previous year)	0
Office Expenses (stationery, supplies)	
Secretary/Treasurer	300.93
Editor.....	16.94.....317.87
Miscellaneous	
SHA 2014 Conference Book Room Table	300.00
Oregon Business filing fees	60.00
Bank and PayPal charges, Cost of Selling, Thank-you gift.....	303.65.....663.65
Preliminary closing balance as of December 31, 2012	\$20,178.15
After Credits, Refunds, & Reimbursements, some from previous years of [+\$394.38 then - \$395.12]	- \$.74
Subtotal.....	\$20,177.41
Foreign currency translation gain.....	+ \$.02
FINAL CLOSING BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2013	\$20,177.43

Proposed Budget 2014

OPENING BALANCE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2014	\$20,177.43
INCOME.....	\$11,850.00
Annual Dues	
Individual-North America	2,300
Individual-Overseas.....	900
Sustaining	250
Patron	350
Benefactor	200
	4,000
Publication Sales	
Journal	6,900
Newsletter	100
	7,000
Investment Income (Interest, Capital Gains Vanguard Acct).	800
Donations and Grants	0
Miscellaneous	
PrePaid Postage and PayPal fees	50
EXPENSES	\$11,870.00
Journal Production (1 Issue #25)	
Layout.....	700
Printing.....	5,600
Preparing Volume 3 for Online Distribution	160
Flip page software for online distribution of Journal.....	500
	6,960
Newsletter Production (# 63, 64 and 65) (Printing)	150
Postage/Shipping	
Journal	1,000
Newsletter	125
General	1,250
	2,375
Website, Data backup	225
Office Expenses (stationery, supplies)	
Secretary/Treasurer	300
Editor.....	100
	400
Miscellaneous	
SHA 2015 Conference Book Room Table	300
Advertising.....	1,000
Bank and PayPal charges, cost of selling	400
Oregon Business filing fees	60
	1,760
ANTICIPATED CLOSING BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2014	\$20,157.43

— Respectfully submitted, Alice Scherer, Secretary/Treasurer (March 17, 2014)

Society News, continued from page 3

Researching the World's Beads Bibliography (Karklins)

The initial bibliography was completed by Karklins and uploaded last summer to the main SBR website at http://www.beadresearch.org/Pages/World_Bead_Bibliography.html. The PDF files were recently updated and uploaded. The editor continues to seek new references, so please contact him should you find unlisted material.

NEW BUSINESS

Questionnaire (Karklins)

Earlier this year we sent out a questionnaire to our 2013 membership to determine the membership's views regarding our publications and websites. The results (see the item elsewhere in this newsletter) were discussed and will definitely guide us in future planning. As appropriate tasks arise, we will contact those many individuals who offered to help.

Sample Card Web Page (Scherer)

Scherer indicated it would be useful to create a section on the SBR website devoted to bead sample cards. Karklins pointed out there are already a number of sites that do this and we shouldn't replicate these, though we may provide links to them. One group of cards he believes should be made available digitally is the W.G.N. van der Sleen bead collection in the Allard Pierson Museum, Amsterdam. These are not commercial sample cards but exhibit his extensive study collection acquired from sites around the world. While not attributed to specific sites in most cases, they are attributed to specific countries and areas. Karklins has slides of many of them but they are research photos taken under rather poor lighting conditions. An SBR member in Germany has expressed an interest in obtaining good digital images of the collection and is going to follow up on this. If all goes well, we may have the van der Sleen study collection online by year's end. It is possible the museum may want to host the images on their own website which would be even better. In any case, a section of our website devoted to providing links to the online collections of other institutions and lists of available collections not online is in the works. If you know of collections of bead sample cards, please contact Scherer at alice@europa.com so she may add them to her list.

Beads-L Database (Tomalin)

Tomalin updated the board on the current status of the database of Beads-L, a web-based wiki-style database into which people could upload information about beads. That database is currently in limbo and much of the material may now be outdated. The board discussed ways the SBR could assume the role of bead database coordinator and what form such a database might assume and what service it might provide. More discussion will take place regarding this over the course of 2014.

There being no additional new business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 AM PST.

— Respectfully submitted, Alice Scherer,
Secretary/Treasurer

Editor up for Re-election

Karlis Karklin's term as SBR Editor ends on December 31, 2014. He has agreed to run for an additional three-year term. If you are interested in running or would like to submit a nomination, please contact Stefany Tomalin (srt@beadata.com). The nominee must be a member of the Society in good standing. Ballots for the Editor election will be mailed with the Autumn issue of *The Bead Forum*.

From the New President

Members of the Society of Bead Researchers have elected me as their president for the next term of three years.

The SBR, founded in 1981, marks the fluctuating popularity of a passionate addiction to beads that may have germinated in the late 1960s as a celebration of decoration, of artistic handcrafts, and a recognition of the finest folk traditions everywhere, as in the western world we live further away than ever from our own childhoods and countryside roots. The SBR brings various aspects of this interest together with the professional work of academic-scientific and archaeological research that is equipped today to discover facts and information about beads more accurately than ever before.

Meanwhile our modes of sharing our discoveries with others have likewise become more sophisticated in the span of one generation. The papers and photographs that appear in our publications have enduring value above much that's on the internet and provide a necessary foundation for the knowledge that backs up a spontaneous enthusiasm.

So my hope is that the SBR will continue to get our excellent journals into the hands of students, curators, collectors, teachers, archaeologists, archivists, and dealers, too, and encourage creative artisans and designers of new work to find out more accurate information about the beads in their hands and around their necks. We may all have started our interest in beads by believing what people told us but then we begin to understand how to look for evidence, be less greedy, and show a more responsible attitude as collectors, we can pass on what we have learned without judgment towards anyone who doesn't yet have all the information and ensure that everyone who is curious about any aspect of beads gets the opportunity to discover them.

I think the SBR journal should continue to publish high-standard articles of a scholarly nature. Ours is the only scholarly journal that devotes its pages exclusively to publishing serious research on beads and beadwork, and benefits from the support of an expanding and more discerning bead community.

My background was growing up in a creative home. After an arts degree in London in the 1960s, having children (one of whom has become a designer himself), and being interested in beads, I started and successfully ran a shop selling antique and handmade beads in Portobello Road, London, for just short of 20 years. I started the Bead Society of Great Britain together with Carole Morris and some others, and found ways to network. During that time I also built up my own extensive collection which I still hope to catalog properly, and wrote three popular books about beads before the great number of rapidly written and lavishly illustrated let's-have-fun books that are on shop shelves today.

Beads can tell us about the developing values and tastes of human communities throughout time and, as there's always more to learn, I hope that we will be able to expand our audience and increase the submission of well-researched articles to our publications.

— Stefany Tomalin

Introducing our New Newsletter Editor

Christopher DeCorse, our new newsletter editor, is not new to the job, having served as interim newsletter editor in 2008. We welcome him back and know he will do an excellent job.

For those who do not know him, Chris is Professor of Anthropology in the Maxwell School of Citizen-



Christopher DeCorse returns as newsletter editor.

ship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. He is an anthropologically trained archaeologist whose research interests include African archaeology and history, culture contact, general anthropology, and popular culture in archaeology. He is currently involved in ongoing research projects in West Africa, specifically coastal Ghana and Sierra Leone. This work focuses on the Atlantic period, particularly the impacts of the slave trade, and the understanding of these transformations in terms of Africa's pre-Atlantic past. Beads are among his specific interests.

SBR Publications Questionnaire

The recent SBR publications questionnaire was sent to approximately 300 individuals, SBR members as well as others who had expressed an interest in our publications in the past. Forty-three individuals responded, mostly SBR members.

The demographics are interesting. The bulk of respondents are over 50 years of age and none under 25. Males and females are represented just about equally (19 M / 22 F). Almost all responses came from the United States with 3 from Canada and 4 from Europe.

The bulk of respondents fall into three non-exclusive categories: archaeologists (18), collectors (20), and those with a general interest in beads (24).

Regarding the format of the journal, 16 opted for the traditional paper version, 2 wanted an electronic format, and the majority (24) desired to receive both a paper and an electronic copy. The vast majority of respondents (32) also agreed to support the Society with membership

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dues if the journal were to become open access. Respondents also provided us with a wide range of topics they would like to see covered in the journal and we will make every attempt to solicit relevant articles.

As for the newsletter, the majority of respondents (33) found it of use and interest. A majority also stated it would be of use and interest even if much of the information was on the revised SBR web site. Regarding content, most respondents found that everything we publish in the newsletter is of interest with emphasis on the articles, recent publications, and announcements of various bead-related events and people's current research projects.

It was also heartening to see that many individuals were willing to help with the publications however they could. We are working on a group of tasks that would be of aid to our efforts and will be contacting interested individuals over the next few months.

We thank all those who responded as we now have an excellent idea of the route we need to take with our publications.

— Karlis Karklins

The New SBR Journal Web Site

When volume 3 of *Beads* went out of print last year, rather than let its contents slip into obscurity, it was decided to scan the issue and upload it to the SBR web site. After some deliberation, it was decided that volumes 1-2 and 4-5 would be scanned and uploaded as well. This was done with the desire to make the contents of these issues (two of which are approaching out-of-print status) available to researchers around the world and to increase the visibility of the Society and its publications. As scanning the issues to a high and searchable resolution would be a costly project if undertaken solely by the SBR, Dr. Christopher DeCorse

of Syracuse University, our new newsletter editor, arranged for the scanning of all the issues up to volume 20 by SURFACE (Syracuse University Research Facility And Collaborative Environment), a multi-media online database. Having all the issues scanned will allow other volumes to be made available in an open access format as deemed appropriate.

To give the journals a high profile, a new web site — Society of Bead Researchers: Beads — was brought to fruition by Alice Scherer: <http://beadresearchjournal.org/>

Beads 3 has already been uploaded and will be followed by the other four issues when received from SURFACE. Other issues will be added when deemed feasible. The major drawback to adding other issues is that we currently have many copies of subsequent volumes in stock and need to sell these to recoup printing costs.



Find free PDFs for the following articles from Volume 3 of *Beads* on our new Journal website:

- The Mohawk Glass Trade Bead Chronology: ca. 1560-1785, by Donald A. Rumrill
- French Beadmaking: An Historic Perspective Emphasizing the 19th and 20th Centuries, by Marie-José Oppé and Howard Oppé
- The Beads from Oudespost I, A Dutch East India Company Outpost, Cape, South Africa, by Karlis Karklins and Carmel Schrire
- L'Impiraressa: The Venetian Bead Stringer, by Irene Ninni, translated by Lucy Segatti

<http://www.beadresearchjournal.org/>

Among Our Colleagues

The Society of Jewellery Historians

The Society of Jewellery Historians was formed in 1977 with the aim of stimulating the growing international interest in jewellery of all ages and cultures by publishing new research and by bringing together those seriously interested in the subject, whether in a professional or private capacity. The membership includes archaeologists, museum specialists, collectors, art historians, dealers, gemmologists, practicing jewellers and designers, scientists and restorers, all united by their enthusiasm for the subject.

Members currently receive the bulletin *Jewellery History Today* three times a year, which provides information on the Society's activities together with forthcoming exhibition and other jewellery news, short articles, reviews, and a correspondence column. In addition, members are sent the Society's illustrated journal, *Jewellery Studies*, on an occasional basis. It contains full-length articles, book reviews, and other information.

For more information about The Society of Jewellery Historians and how to join or obtain back issues of its publications, visit: <http://www.societyofjewellery-historians.ac.uk/about>



Canadian Conservation Institute Publications Online

The Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI) has announced that their back catalog of technical publications has been released online for free. Included is a title that may be of interest to readers of this newsletter:

CCI Notes N6/4. *Care of Objects Decorated with Glass Beads* (1994) (PDF Version, 934 KB).

Go to <<http://www.cci-icc.gc.ca/publications/notes/index-eng.aspx>> and click on the title.

Several other titles in the same series that may interest those who collect or deal with other aboriginal materials include:

N6/1. *Care of Ivory, Bone, Horn and Antler* (1988) (PDF Version, 934 KB).

N6/2. *Care of Basketry* (1988) (PDF Version, 476 KB).

N6/3. *Care of Canoes, Kayaks and Umiaks* (1989) (PDF Version, 368 KB).

N6/5. *Care of Quillwork* (1991) (PDF Version, 544 KB).

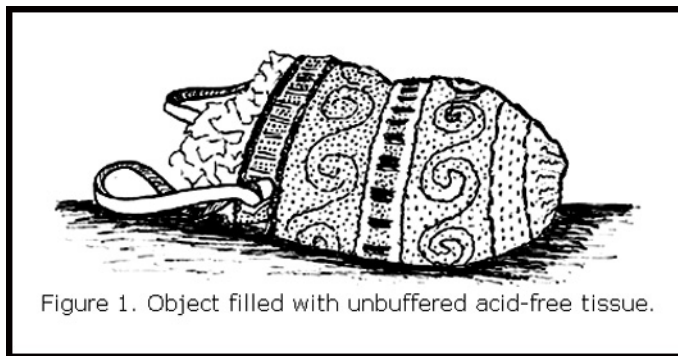


Figure 1. Object filled with unbuffered acid-free tissue.

From *Care of Objects Decorated with Glass Beads*, published by The Canadian Conservation Institute in 1994.

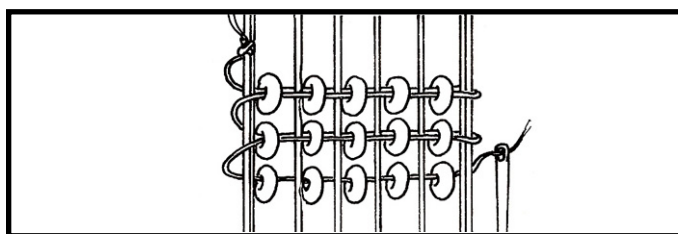


Survey on Approaches to Treating Beaded Native American Objects

Colleen O'Shea is a second year student in the Buffalo State College graduate program in Art Conservation. As part of her course work, she is working on a project that will assess approaches and methods when treating Native American beaded objects which includes a survey: <http://kwiksurveys.com/s.asp?sid=0hdrqqpspwbyg65297502>

If you have treated such an object, she would appreciate your input. The survey has eight questions and will take 5-10 minutes. The results will be included in her specialization project and available to future conservators working with beaded Native American objects.

Colleen O'Shea, Art Conservation Department, Buffalo State College, SUNY, 1300 Rockwell Hall, Buffalo, NY 14222; 360-349-6830. Item submitted: 12 February 2014.



Pilgrimage Pins of Brittany

Marie-José Opper

The pilgrimage pin (*Ar Spilen Pardon* in Breton or *Epingle de Pardon* in French) is a traditional 19th-century ornament that played an important part in the folk life of Brittany, France. The pin was popular in the area around the town of Quimper.

Around 10-12 cm long, the pin consists of a big, round, blown glass bead from which dangle chains composed of smaller beads with metal pendants at the ends (Figure 1). It is interesting to note that some of the pendants are in the shape of a crescent moon, a star, or a little imitation coin reminiscent of the designs found on beads comprising Breton talismanic necklaces known as Gougad-Pateraenneu, the Man-in-the-Moon bead being the best known.



Figure 1. An example of a pilgrimage pin (*Ar Spilen Pardon*) with details of its components.

The pins, which could be purchased from vendors during local pilgrimages as well as at non-religious events, were important in Breton courtship as they served to declare a young man's ardor for the girl he wanted to marry. The man would buy a pin and give it to the girl. If she wore it, they became engaged. A second pin was apparently offered on the day of the wedding. If she accepted, the wedding took place. Women wore the pins at the front of their traditional costume, just above the belt (Figure 2).

The pins were used into the early 20th century and were sold in souvenir shops as late as the 1950s. Because of their fragility, many pins broke and the old ones are now quite valuable and much sought after by Bretons.



Figure 2. A young woman of Pont-l'Abbé, Brittany, wearing pilgrimage pins, ca. 1910.

Additional information on the pins, in French with illustrations of various examples, appears in:

Epingle de pardon. Objets d'hier: Site dédié aux arts populaires et objets de curiosité, http://objetsdhier.com/fr/Aff.php?select_nom=47.

Epingle de pardon - (Spilhenn Pardon). Karten Bost Coz Giz Bigoudenn, <http://kbcgizbigoudenn.franceserv.com/epingledepardon/index.html>.

Tajan auction catalog, 13 June 2003. Bijoux des régions de France, bijoux romantiques, bijoux populaires: Provenant de la collection de madame M. [nos. 182-184]. L'ensemble de cette collection couvre le XIXe siècle et le début du XXe siècle, <http://www.tajan.com/pdf/2003/bijoux20030613.pdf>.

Lectures/Screenings/Exhibitions

Learning, Refining and Redefining: Blackfeet Beadwork

C.M. Russell Museum

400 13th St N

Great Falls, Montana

Thursday, April 10, 2014, at 7 p.m.

Well-known Blackfeet beadwork artist Jackie Larson Bread will speak at the C.M. Russell Museum on the inspiration resources for her beadwork designs.



Shell Jewelry and Ornaments in the Ancient Southwest

The Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's "Third Thursday Food for Thought" dinner and presentation

Dragon's View Asian Cuisine

400 N. Bonita Ave

Tucson, Arizona

April 17, 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

The presenter will be archaeologist Arthur W. Vokes, one of the foremost experts in the analysis of shell artifacts found in southwestern archaeological sites. Based on his years of experience analyzing shell artifacts recovered from excavation projects, he will provide an overview of the kinds of shells used by which cultural groups and discuss routes and social networks involved in ancient shell transport and exchange.

Donations will be requested to benefit Old Pueblo's educational efforts. Because seating is limited, those wishing to attend must call 520-798-1201 and must have their reservations confirmed before 5 p.m., Wednesday, April 16. Guests may select and purchase their own dinners from the restaurant's menu.



Spirit in Glass: Plateau Native Beadwork

Maryhill Museum of Art

35 Maryhill Museum of Art Dr

Goldendale, Washington

Thursday, July 24, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Join Los Angeles filmmaker Penny Phillips in viewing the recently completed Mimbres Fever Production documentary *Spirit in Glass: Plateau Native*

Beadwork. The film provides a rare opportunity to experience Columbia River Plateau culture through the eyes and hearts of contemporary regional artists who share their history, artistic motivations and the beadwork that plays an important role in binding their families and communities together. Narrated by Nez Perce storyteller Nakia Williamson-Cloud, the full-length documentary features artists from the Warm Springs, Yakama and Umatilla Reservations. Free to Maryhill members; \$5.00 for non-members.



The Cheapside Hoard: London's Lost Jewels

Museum of London

150 London Wall

London, England

Through April 27, 2014

"At nearly 500 glittering pieces, the Cheapside Hoard includes delicate finger rings, cascading necklaces, Byzantine cameos, a beautiful jeweled scent bottle, and a unique Columbian emerald watch. Now known to be a 17th century jeweller's stock-in-trade, this priceless collection of jewels is the City of London's most exquisite stash of buried treasure, and it is the single most important source of our knowledge on early modern jewellery worldwide." — Hazel Forsyth, exhibition curator. Catalog available for £19.95.



Floral Journey: Native North American Beadwork

Autry National Center of the American West

The Autry in Griffith Park

4700 Western Heritage Way

Los Angeles, California

Through April 26, 2015

Curated by Lois Sherr Dubin, *Floral Journey* showcases 250 objects to explore how beaded floral designs became a remarkable art form as well as a means of economic and cultural survival for the native North American people. Includes catalog, available from the Autry store (\$65 hardbound/\$40 paperback).



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Plains Indians: The Artists of Earth + Sky

Musée du quai Branly

37 Quai Branly

Paris, France

April 7 to July 20, 2014

then

Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

Kansas City, Missouri

September 19, 2014–January 11, 2015

This exhibition will unite the Plains Indian masterworks found in European and North American collections, from pre-contact to contemporary, ranging from a 2,000-year-old Human Effigy stone pipe to 18th-century painted robes to a 2011 beaded adaptation of designer shoes. The distinct Plains aesthetic — singular, ephemeral and materially rich — will include porcupine quill and glass bead embroidery; feather work; painted robes depicting figures and geometric shapes; richly ornamented clothing; composite works; and ceremonial objects.

Many nations are represented — Osage, Quapaw, Omaha, Crow, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Lakota, Blackfeet, Pawnee, Kiowa, Comanche, Mesquakie, Kansa and others. Objects will travel from France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Canada and the United States. The exhibition is being organized by Musée du quai Branly in Paris in collaboration with The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, and The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. It is curated by Gaylord Torrence, one of the nation's leading scholars of Plains Indian art and the Fred and Virginia Merrill Senior Curator of American Indian Art at the Nelson-Atkins.



Count Your Blessings

Rubin Museum of Art

150 West 17th St

New York, New York

Through June 9, 2014

Count Your Blessings focuses on aesthetic and ritual aspects of the prayer beads used in Buddhist traditions of Tibet, Bhutan, Mongolia, China, Korea, Japan, Thailand and Burma. It addresses the origins of prayer beads' 108 beads in a set, the structure, their materials and symbolism, and status versus practice aspects of their use.



Brightly Beaded: North American Indian Glass Beadwork

McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture
1327 Circle Park Dr

Knoxville, Tennessee

Through June 1, 2014

Of the many things American Indians acquired through trade with whites, few items held greater value than glass beads, and female artists throughout much of native North America quickly mastered the craft of bead working. This exhibition presents exemplary selections of beadwork, primarily from four culture areas — Plains, Great Lakes, Subarctic, and Northeast — and explores the techniques, as well as the functional and cultural significance of these pieces. This brightly beaded art served as a highly visible expression of ethnic identity and pride that continues to this day.



Ubuhle Women: Beadwork and the Art of Independence

Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum

1901 Fort Place SE

Washington, D.C.

Through September 21, 2014

Ubuhle Women: Beadwork and the Art of Independence recognizes the powerful cultural currents and back stories from the artists as central to their every stitch. The 31-piece exhibition of bead art — what the artists call *ndwango*, which means cloth or rag — features religious, metaphysical and earthbound themes rendered both literally and through various stages of abstraction. The tiny glass beads densely hand-sewn onto black fabric canvases showcase both Xhosa and Zulu traditions. They display a partnership begun in 1999 on a former sugar plantation north of Durban that now includes the five featured artists, who live and work together in rural KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, and others.



Native American Beadwork in the MNHS' Collections

Minnesota Historical Society

345 W Kellogg Blvd

St. Paul, Minnesota

Through April 30, 2014

Minnesota Historical Society is the repository for approximately 9,000 ethnographic objects of Native

American origin. These objects include everything from basketry and ceramics to clothing and pipes, and span two and a half centuries. Perhaps 1,000 of those objects are embellished with beads; necklaces, leggings, sashes, shirts, pipe bags, watch fobs, feather bonnets, and things made for sale to the tourist trade are all represented in the Society's collection, as are objects from every corner of the U.S. and Canada. Due to MNHS' mission to specifically collect objects that are meaningful to the history of the state of Minnesota, the overwhelming majority of these items come from the immediate area. As a reflection of this regional depth, most of the Native beadwork in our collection falls into either the Plains (for example, Dakota, Lakota, Cheyenne) or Woodland (Ojibwe, Ho-Chunk, Cree) category.

Within the exhibit one can explore pre-contact precursors to indigenous beadwork; different techniques used; a glimpse of the wide variety of cultural styles in Native beadwork across the U.S. and Canada; how beaded objects functioned in the changing 19th century Native economy; and the modern resurgence of Native American beadwork.

More information can be found on these objects at Minnesota Historical Society's collections website www.mnhs.org/collections.



Spirit Seeds: A Celebration of First Nations Beadwork

Peel Art Gallery Museum and Archives
9 Wellington St. E.
Brampton, Ontario, Canada
June 14 - October 13, 2014

This exhibition features beautiful objects decorated with tiny glass beads, called "Spirit Seeds" in some First Nations languages. The tradition of beadwork began when Europeans brought enchanting glass beads as an item of trade, and continues today as an important part of Native life and artistic expression. We celebrate this legacy by sharing historical and contemporary objects and the stories they tell of the artisans who created them.



Nuchu: Voice of the Ute People
BYU's Museum of Peoples and Cultures
700 North 100 East
Provo, Utah
Through October 2014

The museum's current major exhibition celebrates the rich history and culture of the Ute Indian tribe found throughout northeastern Utah and features a variety of clothing, tools, beadwork, and other objects telling the story of an indigenous people continuing to call Utah home. Most of the items in the exhibition were collected around the Vernal, Utah, area during the 1930s and '40s. Text and display labels augment *Nuchu* with information gleaned from student-conducted interviews with members of the Ute tribe.

Selected Publications

Bala, Poline

2013 Conserving Ancient Beads Within Shifting Contexts: A Case Study among the Kelabit of Sarawak. In *Journal: Borneo International Beads Conference 2013*, edited by Heidi Munan and Kay Margaret Lyons, pp. 1-28. Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.

Examines why ancient beads play important roles in the social life of the Kelabit of the highlands of Borneo and discusses efforts to preserve the value of such beads in contemporary Kelabit society.



Bar-Yosef Mayer, Daniella E., Naomi Porat, and Mina Weinstein-Evron

2013 Natufian Green Stone Pendants from el-Wad:

Characteristics and Cultural Implications. In *Natufian Foragers in the Levant: Terminal Pleistocene Social Changes in Western Asia*, edited by Ofer Bar-Yosef and François R. Valla, pp. 139-145. *International Monographs in Prehistory, Archaeological Series* 19.

Discovered in el-Wad Cave, Mount Carmel, Israel, the pendants are among the earliest green stone beads in the Levant and are attributed to the Late Natufian period.



Bouzouggar, Abdeljalil, Nick Barton, Marian Vanhaeren, Francesco d'Errico, et al.

2013 82,000-Year-Old Shell Beads from North Africa

and Implications for the Origins of Modern Human Behavior. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 104(24):9964-9969.

The first appearance of explicitly symbolic objects in the archaeological record marks a fundamental stage in the emergence of modern social behavior in *Homo*. Ornaments such as shell beads represent some of the earliest objects of this kind. Examples of perforated *Nassarius gibbosulus* shell beads from Grotte des Pigeons (Taforalt, Morocco) come from archaeological levels dated by luminescence and uranium-series techniques to ~82,000 years ago.

∞

Golani, Amir

2013 *Jewelry from the Iron Age II Levant*. Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis, Series Archaeologica 34. Academic Press, Fribourg.

Presents a detailed study of the jewelry recovered from archaeological sites in the southern Levant. Discusses the archaeological and cultural contexts, the materials used and manufacturing techniques, and the typology utilized. Beads and pendants are well represented; materials include metal, stone, terra cotta, bone/ivory, shell, and composites.

∞

Green, Richard

2013 Resplendent Regalia!: 20th Century Northern Plains Shirts. *Bead Society of Great Britain Journal*, Winter (114): 19-22.

Includes both color and b&w photographs, as well as a map.

∞

Grover, Margan Allyn

2014 Chapter Nine: Clothing and Items of Personal Adornment. Castle Hill Archaeological Project. Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Office of History and Archaeology, Anchorage, AK. <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/castlehill/chpt-nine.htm>, accessed 5 February 2014.

Archaeological excavations at Baranof Castle State Historic Site, commonly called Castle Hill, in Sitka, Alaska, produced a small but varied collection of 19th-century glass and bone beads.

∞

Kurzwaska, Aldona, Daniella E. Bar-Yosef Mayer, and Henk K. Mienis

2013 Scaphopod Shells in the Natufian Culture. In *Natufian Foragers in the Levant: Terminal Pleistocene Social Changes in Western Asia*, edited by Ofer Bar-Yosef and François R. Valla, pp. 611-621. *International Monographs in Prehistory, Archaeological Series* 19.

This paper presents the first step of a project that intends to re-evaluate the role of *scaphopod* (tusk) shells in prehistoric societies in the Levant.

∞

2013 London's Buried Treasure! *Bead Society of Great Britain Journal*, Winter (114): 1, 4-5.

Covers the Cheapside Hoard's discovery and its subsequent display *The Cheapside Hoard: London's Lost Jewels* at the Museum of London and includes both color and b&w photos.

∞

Recklies, Adele

2013 WWI Beadwork at the Imperial War Museum. *Bead Society of Great Britain Journal*, Winter (114): 12-14.

A well illustrated article showing Turkish prisoner-of-war beadwork from World War I as in the collection of the Imperial War Museum, London. Color and b&w photos.

∞

van Alphen, Richard

2014 Waardevolle kralen: handelskralen (Precious Beads: Trade Beads). Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam. <http://tropenmuseum.nl/nl/node/95>, accessed 14 March 2014.

Online catalog of the extensive J.F. Sick and Co. trade bead sample cards that are the subject of van Brakel (2006) *The Bead Goes On: The Sample Card Collection with Trade Beads from the Company J.F. Sick & Co. in the Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam*. KIT, Amsterdam.

∞

Yurova, Elena

2013 A Finnish Girl (une Finlandoise). *Bead Society of Great Britain Journal*, Winter (114): 24-25.

Analysis of a damaged piece of 19th-century bead embroidery and its relationship to the work of a Russian painter and the Russian noblewoman who worked the original piece, plus the story of its restoration by the author. Color and b&w photographs.

Conferences

Borneo International Beads Conference 2013

Heidi Munan



The Minister of Tourism, Dato Abang Johari, cutting a string of “beads” to open the conference; with Heidi Munan and Valerie Hector.

BIBCo 2013 was again held in Kuching, Sarawak, 11-13 October 2013. The academic component was of a very high standard and the papers have been published in *Journal: Borneo International Beads Conference 2013* (see next column). Besides the excellent papers, there was occasion for informal discussions, exchange of information, and making contacts.

This conference had a much expanded workshop program. Local participants took turns at learning, and teaching, in an informal but well organized environment. Workshop facilitators included experts like Valerie Hector, Martina Dempf, and Maggie Mueller. Each contributed a new skill, quite new to Sarawak, to the event. A group of Paiwanese ladies, led by Kathy Chen from Taiwan, shared their indigenous beading techniques, while the host, Sarawak, gave workshops

in paper-bead making, painting of perforated “Sibu Olive” seeds, and stringing the intricate “bobbles” that embellishes the front of Orang Ulu ceremonial necklaces. A young glassworker gave a demonstration of lamp beadmaking, an art that is practically unknown in Sarawak.

The 2013 BIBCo Journal (see *Beads* 25, p. 102, for a review and a list of the contents) is available by mail order at US\$50 per copy (sent registered air mail); together with a BIBCo 2013 T-Shirt the cost is US\$65. We don’t yet have a payment facility on our web site, so please send orders to crafthub@gmail.com, and we will get PayPal to send you an invoice. A few copies of the BIBCo 2011 Journal are also still available, on the same terms.

Who We Are

The Society of Bead Researchers is a non-profit corporation, founded in 1981 to foster research on beads of all materials and periods, and to expedite the dissemination of the resultant knowledge. Membership is open to all persons involved in the study of beads, as well as those interested in keeping abreast of current trends in bead research. The Society publishes a semi-annual newsletter, *The Bead Forum*, and an annual journal, *BEADS: Journal of the Society of Bead Researchers*. The Society's website address is <http://www.beadresearch.org>. Free PDF copies of articles from Volume 3 of *Beads* are available at our Journal website <http://www.beadresearchjournal.org>.

Contents of the newsletter include current research news, requests for information, responses to queries, listings of recent publications, conference and symposia announcements, and brief articles on various aspects of bead research. Both historic and prehistoric subject materials are welcome.

The deadline for submissions to the next *Bead Forum* is September 1, 2014. Electronic submissions should be in Word for Windows 6.0 or later with no embedded sub-programs such as "End Notes." References cited should be in *Historical Archaeology* format (http://www.sha.org/publications/for_authors.cfm).

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