



SRII SPRING LECTURE

March 20, 2018, 19:00

Istiklal Caddesi 247 (Beyoglu – Tünel)

Dr.

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Cisterns, Water Supply and Risk in the Greek World

Water is fundamental to human survival. Consequently, growing societies have to create a reliable water supply system, especially in regions characterised by a warm and dry climate such as the Mediterranean. Ancient Greek societies were no exception, as has been acknowledged by modern scholars. Yet, the vast majority of studies on ancient Greek water management have focused on monumental structures, primarily fountains and aqueducts, while less impressive but far more common installations such as cisterns and wells remain severely understudied. This imbalance has left a critical gap in our understanding of a basic premise of ancient Greek society.

Based on my study '*Greek cisterns. Water and risk in ancient Greece, 600–50 BC*', this lecture will discuss cisterns in the Greek world. It will begin by exploring the basic empirical material. How were cisterns constructed, where were they used and when? This will be followed by a discussion of how cisterns were used and functioned within their context. Finally, the paper will address why cisterns formed an important part of the water supply system in the ancient Greek world only during certain periods.

Dr. Patrik Klingborg is a post-doc researcher at Uppsala University, Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, where he defended his PhD in 2017. Currently he is studying how and especially why past societies changed something as fundamental as their water supply systems.

Admission only after registration to event@sri.org.tr !