



School: Bath School of Art

Researcher: Stephen Vaughan

Project Title: *Kourion: Earthquake House*

UOA: 32: Art and Design: History, Practice and Theory

Research Timeline

Date	Rationale of research activities and decisions undertaken
<i>Helike-Maeander project</i>	
Preparatory research in south-eastern Mediterranean	
Jan/Feb 2013	Initial discussions with Professor Iain Stewart (Director of the Earth Institute at Plymouth University and BBC earth science presenter) about the relationship between earthquake faults in the southern Mediterranean region and sacred oracular temples that may have been deliberately built on or near them. Particular interest emerges in Helike (Gulf of Corinth) in Greece and sites adjacent to the Menderes River in western Turkey.
March 2013	Early development and testing of photographic work in Greece. First exploration of significant sites in the Gulf of Corinth related to the complex tectonic setting and earthquake histories in the south-eastern Mediterranean. Sites include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Helike Delta (Rizomylos, Nikolaiika) site of the 373 BC earthquake and tsunami– Delphi, Temple of Apollo, Temple of Athena and artefacts held in the Delphi Museum

- Corinth Canal
- Perachora, Temple of Hera Akraia, Temple of Hera Limena
- Mycenae
- Cave of Heracles at Boura

May 2013-14

Early development and testing of photographic work at the sites of sacred temples in Turkey that are situated on seismic faults. Collaborative field trip with Professor Iain Stewart (Chair of Geoscience Communication at Plymouth University) to the Menderes valley.

Sites include:

- Temple of Apollo, Ephesus
- Tomb of the Seven Sleepers, Ephesus
- Temple of Apollo, Priene
- Temple of Aphrodite, Aphrodisia
- Temple of Apollo, Hierapolis, Pamukkale
- Temple of Apollo, Lydica
- Temple of Apollo, Claros
- Temple of Apollo, Didyma
- Temple of Zeus, Euromos
- Temple of Pluto and Persephone, Acharaca
- Temple of Artemis, Magnesia in Maeander

August 2013-14

Early development and testing of further photographic material on the southern shore of the Gulf of Corinth – site of an earthquake and tsunami in 373 BC that destroyed Helike, the ancient cult centre of Poseidon, God of earthquakes and the sea.

Documentation at sites of current and earlier excavations by 'The Helike Project' led by Dora Katsonopoulou, including:

- Hellenistic Dye Works
- Geometric Settlement
- Early Helladic Bronze Age Settlement.
- Also, documentation of archaeological artefacts in the process of consolidation at the Helike Project headquarters

2015-17

Editing photographic material and reflecting on findings of visual field research.

Gathering work-in-progress under the working title 'Helike –

Maeander' while working on other projects in Japan and America.

***Ar[t]chaeology Project and Development of Kourion:
Earthquake House***

May 2017

Announcement of call for interest –
Ar[t]chaeology: Intersections of Archaeology and Photography in
association with International Association of Photography and
Theory, European University, Cyprus.

Submission of application.

October –
November
2017

Discussions with participating artists and curators from
International Association of Photography and Theory, European
University, Cyprus. The broad themes of these discussions were:

1. Fabricated Narratives: Re-Imagining & Re-Writing Histories
2. Excavating the Earth: Tracing, Wandering, Collecting
3. Unearthing the Past: The Construction of Archives/the
Political, the Public and the Private

Work-in-progress from the 'Helike–Maeander' project was
presented in the second of these discussions and the following
subjects were considered:

- Tracing as a mode of producing knowledge
- Archaeology of memory
- Archaeological methods in understanding the contemporary
social
- Wandering and documenting as a process
- Understanding ruins, absences and erasures
- The archaeological site as a political zone
- The relationship between archaeological finding, display
and meaning

These conversations led to an emerging interest in Kourion – the
site of a Roman city in south-west Cyprus, destroyed by an
earthquake in 365 AD.

July 2018

Dialogue with Dr David Soren (Arizona University) who led excavations at Kourion in the 1980s and who discovered human and animal remains in earthquake debris from the 365 AD earthquake. Introduction to Tom Davis, Bill Weir and Laura Swantek, archaeologists currently excavating the site as part of KUSP (the Kourion Urban Space Project) in association with the Tandy Institute of Archaeology.

August 2018

The production of photographic work in Cyprus in response to ideas generated in dialogue with artists and curators from the International Association of Photography and Theory involved in the Ar[t]chaeology Project.

Photographic work generated includes:

- Visual response to archaeological remains at the Kourion site in southwestern Cyprus, facilitated by the Cyprus Department of Antiquities
 - Sanctaury of Apollo Hylates
 - Earthquake House
 - House of Eustolios
 - Roman Forum
 - Nymphaeum
 - Sudatorium
 - House of the Gladiators
 - House of Achilles
 - Necropolis
- Photographic documentation of archaeological discoveries kept at the Episkopi Museum – including human and animal remains, sculpture and other artefacts that would have been present at Kourion at the time of the 365 AD earthquake.
- Documentation of current archaeological excavations that have revealed intact earthquake debris from the 365 AD earthquake adjacent to Earthquake House as part of the KUSP (Kourion Urban Space Project 2018) in association with the Tandy Institute of Archaeology.
- A series of photographs that document all eight sites of the Digital Seismological Network of Cyprus, facilitated by the Cyprus Geological Survey Department.

September - October 2018	<p>Processing and production of photographic work</p> <p>Reflection on findings</p> <p>Editing and preparation of book maquette</p> <p>Photographic printing</p>
October 2018	<p>Publication</p> <p><i>Ar[t]chaeology: Intersections of Photography and Archaeology</i></p> <p>Produced by IAPT [International Association of Photography and Theory], Edited by Elena Stylianou, Artemis Eleftheriadou, Yiannis Toumazis</p> <p>2-volume publication documenting the work of an international group of artists whose work considers the relationship between the disciplines of photography and archaeology. The first volume gives an overview of work-in-progress, development, ideas and research dialogues. The second volume is an overview of the works produced by each artist involved in the final exhibition.</p>
October 2018 – January 2019	<p>Exhibition</p> <p><i>Ar[t]chaeology: Intersections of Photography and Archaeology</i></p> <p>Venue</p> <p>NIMAC [The Nicosia Municipal Art Centre, Associated with the Pierides Foundation] and IAPT [International Association of Photography and Theory]</p> <p>Curated by Elena Stylianou, Artemis Eleftheriadou, Yiannis Toumazis</p> <p>19 October 2018 – 12 January 2019</p> <p>Artists: Victoria Ahrens, Peter Ainsworth, Charalambos Artemis & Alexandra Manglis, Nicolas Lambouris, Wiebke Leister, Adam O'Meara, Zé Barretta, Kyriaki Costa, Marina Kassianidou, Efi Savvides, Stephen Vaughan, Michal Baror, Armenoui Kasparian Sairadari, Thomas Nicolaou, Sara Sallam, Lena Séraphin & Andrea Meinin Bück, Theopisti Stylianou-Lambert, Andreas Papallas & Thomas Aquilina.</p>