

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

Julye Bidmead is Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Director of the Center for Undergraduate Excellence at Chapman University in Orange, CA. Dr Bidmead received a PhD from Vanderbilt University in Method and Theory of Religion. She is the author of *The Akitu Festival: Religious Continuity and Royal Legitimation in Mesopotamia* (2004), *Investing Your Humanity* (2016) and numerous articles on ancient Near Eastern religions, mythology, ritual studies, and gender. Dr Bidmead has been a field archaeologist on several digs including The Megiddo Expedition and Tel Jezreel Expedition in Israel. Her current book projects include, *Recovering Women's Rituals in the Ancient Near East*, (Equinox Press) which explores women's roles and rites of passage in the religions of ancient Israel, Canaan, and Mesopotamia, and *Vilified, Vituperated, Villainized: Voodoo in Popular Culture*, examining the religion of Voodoo.

Helena Avelar de Carvalho has a BA in History and holds an MA in Medieval History from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities of the Nova University of Lisbon. She is a researcher at CIUHCT (Centro Interuniversitário de História das Ciências e da Tecnologia) and at IEM (Institute of Medieval Studies). Her research focuses on medieval science and culture, with a special interest in astrological practices and techniques. She is currently finishing her PhD studies at the Warburg Institute in the University of London, under the supervision of Professor Charles Burnett.

Astrid Bernadette Leimlehner, a native Austrian, studied psychology at the University of Salzburg (1990-1998). A practising astrologer since 1992, the study of astrology became her life-long passion next to lace knitting and crocheting. Astrid holds a Certificate in Journalism (1996) and is a trained radio presenter (1998-2000; news magazines, late night talk shows at an independent local radio station in Linz). From 2009-2014 she studied for the MA in Cultural Astronomy and Astrology (University of Wales Trinity Saint David), graduating with distinction in 2015. As a bilingual scholar, she uses translated German sources in research projects in order to encourage English-speaking colleagues to engage with this material.

Marilyn Love is a PhD student in the Near Eastern Languages and Cultures Department at UCLA. Marilyn received a Graduate Summer Research Mentorship from UCLA for a project about childbirth rituals in

the Hebrew Bible (2018). She has also worked as a field archaeologist at Tel Jezreel in Israel, where she received a fellowship from American Archaeology Abroad for a research project about water carrying methods in the Late Bronze and Iron Ages (2015).

Reinhard Mussik studied Philosophy and Pedagogy in Leipzig and Moscow and researched and taught at Leipzig University and at the University of Havana. He continued his studies in Educational Science, learning Psychology and Sociology at the Humboldt University of Berlin, and in Cultural Astronomy and Astrology at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David. He holds a degree in Pedagogy and Philosophy (German Diploma), a MA in Cultural Astronomy and Astrology and a PhD in Educational Science. He is a member of the European Society for Astronomy in Culture (SEAC).

Fabio Silva is currently a Research Associate at University College London's Institute of Archaeology and a tutor at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David, where he is module tutor for the postgraduate taught module, 'Skyscapes, Cosmology and Archaeology'. He co-founded and co-edits the *Journal of Skyscape Archaeology*, and is the Secretary of the European Society for Astronomy in Culture (SEAC). His research interests focus on how humans perceive and conceive their environment and use that knowledge to time and adjust social, productive and magico-religious behaviours. This has steered him, at large space and time scales, to the computational modelling and statistical analysis of culture-dependent dispersal dynamics, of human-environment relations and of palaeodemography; and at more regional scales to the landscape and skyscape archaeology of (mostly) late prehistoric monuments.