



gewoben – Archäologische Textilien zwischen Bodensee und Zürichsee» zeigt schwerpunktmässig die aussergewöhnlich gut erhaltenen Textilien aus den jungsteinzeitlichen Feuchtbodensiedlungen der heutigen Ostschweiz und Süddeutschlands. In den Kantonen Thurgau und Zürich sowie im Archäologischen Landesmuseum Baden-Württemberg in Konstanz lagern über tausend Gewebe und Geflechte aus Bast und Lein aus der Zeit zwischen 4200 und 800 v.Chr. Basthüte, Sandalen, Körbe, Netze, Taschen, vernähte Rindenschachteln, Kleiderfragmente dokumentieren die grosse Vielfalt an textilen Fundstücken, die in den wassergesättigten Schichten der sogenannten Pfahlbausiedlungen die Jahrtausende überlebt haben. Neben den «Fertigprodukten» werden aber auch zahlreiche Funde der Textilherstellung vorgestellt: Erntemesser, Flachsschäben, Hechelkämme,

Spindeln, Spinnwirtel sowie Garnknäuel und Fadenspulen belegen verschiedene Abläufe bei der Fadenproduktion.

Zur Sonderausstellung erscheint ein reich bebildeter **Katalog**. Er kann an der Museumskasse für Fr. 20.- erworben werden.

ARACHNE (Occasional Publication for the History of Costume and Textiles in the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean) 3, 2009, I. Tzachili / T. Bolonti (eds.).

Annette Paetz gen. Schieck and Michael Tellenbach

Three Years of DressID

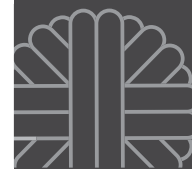
– Interim Report

Three years of successful and fruitful research collaboration lie behind us. Further two years of inspiring meetings, great collaborations, and fascinating results about “Clothing and Identities – New Perspectives on Textiles in the Roman Empire” are ahead of us. Thanks to the financial support of the European Commission’s Culture Programme 2007–2013 (www.DressID.eu), DressID began on October 1st 2007 and will last until the end of September 2012. Seven research institutions, universities, and museums participate in the programme, providing interdisciplinary approaches and a multinational pool of participants. The project is being coordinated by the Curt-Engelhorn-Stiftung für die Reiss-Engelhorn-Museen in Mannheim. Partners are the Danish National Research Foundation’s Centre for Textile Research at the University of Copenhagen, the KIK-IRPA in Brussels, the archaeological and historical institutes of the universities of Sheffield, Valencia and Rethymnon, as well as the Naturhistorisches Museum in Vienna. Starting off with 35 researchers from European countries, the number of colleagues attracted by DressID

constantly increases due to its infrastructure, network, and the inspiring platform it provides for this particular field of archaeological research. Today, DressID encompasses more than 90 researchers from Europe and beyond.

The programme focuses on sociological aspects of Roman antiquity, illustrated by dress as the most important vehicle of human beings to express their identity within society. It is the individual choice of garments, the combination of its elements and accessories, the cut, shape and colour, as well as the quality of cloth that non-verbally transmits information on a person’s cultural and social identity, status, profession, ethnicity, and age. Dress and textiles provide great insights into cultural processes of acceptance or rejection or even creativity in transferring foreign impacts into new fashion.

In this respect, the Roman Empire is of great interest. Its growth was based on military conquests followed by the establishment of civil administrations. The extent to which Roman political power and its symbols were accepted or not is not easy to discern.



Roman influence has long been determined by certain markers of identity such as baths or theatres, or tools, as for instance, the grinding bowl, or even foodstuff such as olives, wine and olive oil. Garments as markers of identity are being investigated by DressID and when combining the research results of our colleagues, it becomes evident that those subjected to Roman rule, found highly individual ways of assimilating to certain Roman parameters, accepting some symbolic accessories in certain contexts or rejecting others, or even emphasising traditional elements or inventing new garments and traditions triggered by the foreign impact. On the other hand, foreign influences, types of garments and materials were adopted by the Romans. The most obvious types of garments that illustrate this mutual exchange are the toga and the trousers, being respectively ultimate symbols of Roman citizenship or Barbarian identity. DressID participants come from various fields of research such as archaeology, papyrology, ancient history, textile research and restoration, chemistry, physics, and many other disciplines, grouped into eleven study groups with two focuses: basic research and contextual research. Multidisciplinary approaches, the combination of methods, the joint discussion and interpretation of the results mark the progressive way of dealing with ancient textiles and lift textile research to a new and higher level.

Three years of DressID mark a great moment especially when looking back at the tremendous output of the participants, their achievements, and the amazing speed of advancement within this field of archaeological research. The project's productivity and records are impressive. Five General Meetings have been held so far, starting off in Valencia with published conference papers (Alfaro Giner, Tellenbach and Ferrero 2009), followed by Copenhagen, Rethymnon, Hallstatt, and Sheffield. Countless meetings and workshops such as the textile production workshop in August 2010 at The Land of Legends, Lejre, Denmark, have been conducted by the study groups. Study Group A (Self and Society) held a conference in Sheffield in May 2009 (Carroll and Rothe 2010); Study Group E held a conference on certain aspects of "Production and Trade" in Hallstatt in June 2009; Study Group D (Dress and Religion) had a conference in Bonn in October 2009; and Study Group B met in November 2010 on the topic "Rome and the Provinces" in Valencia. Furthermore, two international conferences related to the project have been organised by the Danish co-organiser in Copenhagen, May 2008, focusing on "Military and Textiles", and by the British co-organiser in Sheffield, June 2010, on "Dressing the Dead". All of these conference papers

have either been published or are currently being prepared for publication. So far, our DressID colleagues have published four monographs, and 130 articles in conference proceedings, scientific journals, and catalogues. Beside the above mentioned conferences and meetings, DressID members have also participated in numerous other conferences bringing the attention to the often overlooked aspects of textiles and costumes in the archaeological record.

While the already started research activities will continue, the project is now entering a new phase: the launching of the DressID exhibition which will be the first to present large numbers of original textiles and garments, reconstructions of costumes and tools, combined and illustrated by sculptures, paintings and reliefs from Roman times. It will confront central Roman material with textiles from the borders of the Empire such as Scandinavian or Syrian textiles, as well as Pre-Roman Hallstatt, Hochdorf and Etruscan textiles. It will demonstrate technical traditions and changes through Roman impact, as well as individual ways of dealing with Roman influence in the various regions of the Empire. The exhibition will open on December 16th, 2011, at the Reiss-Engelhorn-Museum in Mannheim. In June 2012, it will be transferred to the Naturhistorisches Museum in Vienna, and then to the Museum Principe Felipe in Valencia.

We expect the coming two years to be just as challenging and successful as the past three years and we look forward to further great insights into antiquity, and great collaborations among our highly motivated colleagues.

Bibliography

Alfaro Giner, C. Tellenbach, M. and Ferrero, R., eds. (2009) *Textiles y Museología. Aspectos sobre el estudio, Análisis y Exposición de los Textiles antiguos y de los instrumenta textilia. - Clothing and Identities. New Perspectives on Textiles in the Roman Empire, DressID, Actas del I Meeting General Valencia-Ontinyent, 3-5 diciembre de 2007*. Valencia.

Carroll, M. and Rothe, U. (2010) Tagung der Arbeitsgruppe „Self and Society“ im Rahmen des EU-Projektes DressID, veranstaltet von Maureen Carroll und Ursula Rothe am 27. und 28. Februar 2009 am „Department of Archaeology“ an der Universität Sheffield. *Mannheimer Geschichtsblätter* 19, 2010, 41 – 146.

Annette.Schieck@cez-archaeometrie.de

Michael.Tellenbach@Mannheim.de