

and his associates will remain a monument to his memory for a long time to come.

*Eeva-Maria Viitanen*

MARISA DÉ SPAGNOLIS: *Pompei e la Valle del Sarno in epoca preromana: la cultura delle tombe a fossa*. Studia archaeologica 111. "L'Erma" di Bretschneider, Roma 2001. ISBN 88-8265-146-0. 183 pp., 143 figs. EUR 104.

The prehistory of the Pompeian region has recently been the focus of great interest with the discovery of the fabulous Bronze Age settlement site at Nola. Slowly, our knowledge of human activity in the area, even during the remotest periods, is increasing either with the spectacular new finds such as those at Nola, or by means of books like the volume at hand: a partial publication of excavations from the past two decades.

The author, Marisa dé Spagnolis, was the director of excavations at the *Uffici Scavi di Nocera e Sarno* between 1988 and 1997. In that position, she had a front row view of all that was done in the Sarno river valley. She was also very aware of what gaps there were in the archaeological record of the area. This book is aimed at increasing available information on the Orientalizing period in the Sarno Valley by publishing burials of the period. Over 500 burials were excavated under dé Spagnolis's supervision and, naturally, not all of the material is yet processed. The value of dé Spagnolis's effort is clear as previously ca. 800 tombs had been dug in the area and these are still unpublished.

The first part of the book is dedicated to giving the general circumstances of the burials presented in the last part. The first chapter deals with the development of the Sarno river valley, also taking into consideration new stratigraphical information derived from the new excavations. Then, the prehistory of the area is presented very briefly up to the beginning of the Iron Age. Three chapters then present the general picture of the river valley during the early Iron Age by looking at local cultures and their relationships, especially to the Greek colonies in the area. The following seven chapters are then dedicated to presenting the chronological periods of the area and correlating them to the phases in other cultural areas in the Apennine peninsula. The most typical artifacts for each period are also presented. Many of the finds featured come from the same towns as the burial sites published here. In this way, the reader has a good opportunity to see the development from the Early Iron Age to the Archaic Period in the area.

After these general considerations, the main part of the book is naturally dedicated to describing and presenting the burials and their finds from two towns, S. Valentino Torio and S. Marzano sul Sarno. Each chapter begins with a short general description of the site with a map of the excavated area. The burials are described very briefly, but, in fact, the clear drawings and photographs are better descriptions than words could provide. When dealing with artifacts, most attention is paid to pottery, as the most plentiful and, perhaps, the most important dating find category. Photographs and drawings are again well used to illustrate the material.

The aims of the volume are perhaps not very high and it does not present revolutionary new data, but as a basic publication of missing and much wanted

information, it fulfills its duty well. Publishing at least part of the data available is better than having 800 unpublished burials.

*Eeva-Maria Viitanen*

*Bronzi antichi del Museo archeologico di Padova. Statuette figurate egizie etrusche venetiche italiche, armi preromane, romane e medioevali, gioielli e oggetti di ornamento, instrumentum domesticum dal deposito del Museo.* Catalogo della mostra a cura di GIROLAMO ZAMPIERI e BENIAMINO LAVARONE. "L'Erma" di Bretschneider, Roma 2000. ISBN 88-8265-117-7. 243 pp. EUR 130.

Whatever could be made of bronze in the age dedicated to that metal, or later in Antiquity and even beyond, is presented in this excellent catalogue, on the condition that the items come from the storerooms of the museum proper. Well known for its collection of Attic, Etruscan and Apulian vases, the innumerable bronzes had been previously neglected. To address this vacuum an exhibition of the bronzes was organized in 2000. The material, consisting of figurines, arms, personal ornaments, cosmetic and medical instruments, domestic implements and objects, even hydraulic parts, are, for the most part, unprovenanced, or originate from old collections and excavations. The material is organized in groups, and every object – altogether 450 – is provided with the technical details and measurements, date and bibliographical comparanda, and a photo. The photos are very good indeed, and the engravings are also presented in drawings. The Museo archeologico di Padova has fulfilled one of a museum's foremost tasks in displaying and publishing this fine material.

*Leena Pietilä-Castrén*

ANNETTE KIRSCH: *Antike Lampen im Landesmuseum Mainz.* Verlag Philipp von Zabern, Mainz 2002. ISBN 3-8053-2864-8. XI, 210 pp., 30 fig. EUR 39,90.

La riche collection lychnologique du *Landesmuseum* de Mayence méritait une étude exhaustive, travail auquel s'est attelée Annette Kirsch, et qui a récemment abouti à la publication monographique dont nous discutons ici.

Le volume, relié, est typographiquement soigné, et d'une consultation facile grâce à une suite de chapitres bien structurés et clairement définis, suivant en tous points la 'norme' allemande élaborée entre autres par les travaux de référence de Karin Goethert sur les lampes du *Rheinisches Landesmuseum* de Trèves.

Après une courte introduction consacrée à l'histoire du corpus des lampes du *Landesmuseum*, on trouve, dans l'ordre, les chapitres traitant des typologies, des lieux de production, et des ateliers de Mayence. Viennent ensuite le catalogue proprement dit, suivi d'un inventaire des motifs iconographiques et des marques de potiers. Un index des lieux de découvertes et une liste bibliographique complètent l'ouvrage.

Si l'on s'arrête un instant sur l'ordre des chapitres, on a quelque peine à comprendre selon quelle logique les discussions relatives aux motifs figurés et aux