

TEXAS[®] ARCHEOLOGY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Meet Our New President

Sarah Chesney

The new president of the Texas Archeological Society, Sarah Chesney, has been passionate about archeology since she was a child growing up in Austin, TX. Her first interest in the subject to her experience at a summer camp run by the Texas Memorial Museum on the campus of UT-Austin in the early 1990s.



Newly elected TAS President Sarah Chesney in the field (photo by Stephen Menegaz)

Although a relative newcomer to TAS (joined in 2017), Sarah believes firmly in the mission of TAS and the importance of public archeology. She hopes to continue the great work started by James Everett in keeping TAS decisions and details as transparent as possible, especially regarding financial matters. Her focus for her presidential term is on membership: she wants to grow membership, especially among younger generations (college students and teens), and to increase diversity of membership. One of the ways of doing this is for TAS to have a larger and more consistent presence in social

media outlets, including Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube (in addition to our great Facebook page). Reaching out to communities across the state to find out how TAS can help them is another key priority. Texas archeology is for all Texans, and we as an organization should seek a membership that represents the population and serves the needs of our great state.

Sarah has been a professional archeologist in one capacity or another for almost two decades, earning her first “professional” paycheck for archeological work several months after graduating with her BA in Anthropology and Classical Studies from the University of Pennsylvania in 2005. Her professional interest in historic-period domestic and town sites dates to her undergraduate days spent working in southern New Jersey and her field school at Historic St. Mary’s City in Maryland. After graduating from Penn, Sarah went straight into graduate school, entering the MA/PhD program at the College of William and Mary in the Fall of 2005. While a graduate student in the Chesapeake, Sarah worked on several archeological sites including at George Washington’s Mount Vernon and Colonial Williamsburg. She earned her MA in Anthropology in January 2009, and her PhD in Anthropology in 2014. Both her MA thesis and PhD dissertation explored the relationship of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Americans to exotic plants and the places in which they were kept. (*continued, page 3*)

Are you ready to learn even more about archeology? Registration is now open for the 2021 TAS Archeological Academies. Turn to page 6 for more information!

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY® ETHICS

- Members of TAS must abide by all terms and conditions of the TAS bylaws and all Federal and State antiquities laws or regulations.
- TAS does not condone the practice of buying or selling artifacts for commercial purposes.
- TAS does not condone the disregard of proper archeological field techniques or the willful destruction or distortion of archeological data.

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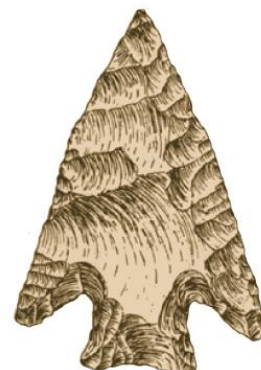
NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Friday, February 12, 2021 — Spring Edition

TAS BOARD MEETINGS

January 16, 2021 - Virtual
 April 10, 2021 - Virtual
 June 13, 2021 – TBD (Field School)

A digital version of this newsletter can be found on the TAS website: <http://www.txarch.org>.



(continued from page 1)

Sarah moved to Philadelphia (the site of her dissertation research) in 2011, and worked on several historic archeological sites in the area including Valley Forge Battlefield, James Logan's Stenton, The Woodlands Cemetery, Elfreth's Alley, the Marcus Hook Plank House, and as a researcher at Cliveden of the National Trust while finishing her degree and teaching in the History Department of The College of New Jersey (TCNJ).

After three semesters teaching undergraduate history majors the beauty of archeology, Sarah moved to Charleston, SC where she worked as the Collections Care Manager of the House Museum at Middleton Place plantation. Finding that all of her time indoors reminded her that her one true love was archeological fieldwork, Sarah moved back to Texas in 2017 determined to finally find a job in her field in her home state and contribute to historical archeology in Texas.

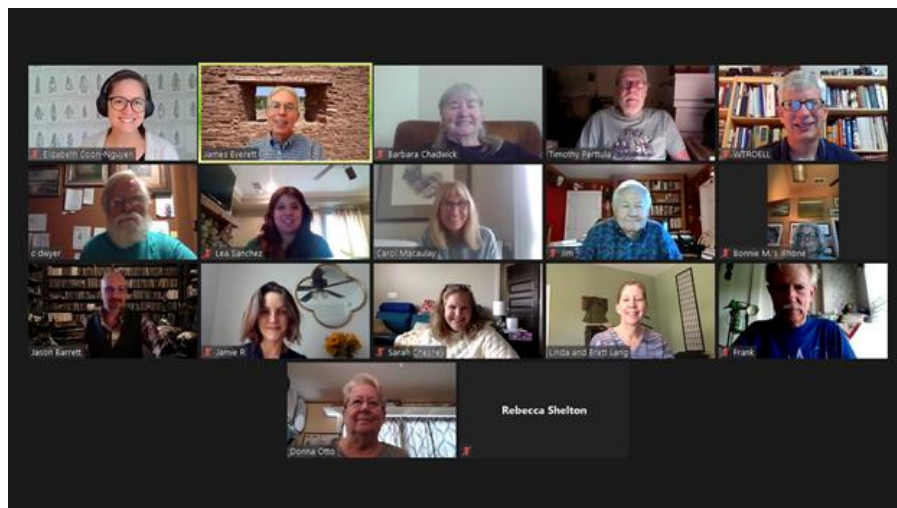
In 2018 Sarah was hired as the first full-time, site-specific archeologist in the Historic Sites Division of the Texas Historical Commission to help create a permanent public archeology program at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site. Since her hire she's been actively involved in both the TAS and the Houston Archeological Society (HAS), and although she's never one to be quiet, she did not expect to be in the thick of TAS leadership...!

However, she is deeply grateful for the opportunity, and for the expertise and guidance from James Everett, Jason Barrett, the Executive Committee and the TAS Board. She hopes that she can continue in their footsteps and contribute in her own small way to furthering the mission of the Texas Archeological Society by bringing TAS to as many people as possible. To amend and build on Willey and Phillips (1958): "archeology is **public**, or it is nothing."

Message from the Past President

Excerpt from James Everett's e-mail to members, 10/31/2020

"I would like to express my gratitude for the honor of serving as your President for the last 12 months. This year was filled with challenges, but thanks to the very capable, dedicated TAS members through the State, TAS was able to overcome a huge pandemic-related budget deficit, produce an outstanding BTAS, conduct every scheduled Executive Committee and Board meeting, complete TAS's first financial audit, make significant progress towards revising the Society's financial procedures, restructure our investment accounts, and prepare the way for an even better 2021."



The TAS Board at the October 24, 2020 Zoom Meeting (photo by James Everett/Zoom)

Plans for TAS Annual Meeting Continue Amid COVID-19 Pandemic

Linda Gorski and Sarah Chesney

Planning a TAS Annual meeting in the middle of a pandemic is a huge challenge! And it is requiring some difficult decisions by the TAS leadership and the Local Arrangements Committee in Houston. Do we plan a large in-person meeting at a hotel, thus incurring major cancellation fees if this pandemic continues? Do we plan a virtual meeting? Do we plan a hybrid meeting where we will offer both virtual and in-person options? We are not alone in facing these questions. Many other organizations are having the same conversations and looking for a model that will best serve their members.

As you know, a contract was signed last year with the Houston Omni Westside to host the meeting October 21-25, 2021. The hugely successful 2015 meeting was held at this hotel and we were looking forward to hosting at the Omni again. However, due to the COVID pandemic, the Omni Westside has been closed since early summer 2020 and is only scheduled to reopen in January 2021 “depending on the business climate in Houston at that time”. We also found out recently that the hotel is being offered for sale so there is very real possibility that the new owners might not honor our 2021 contract as it is written. So rather than wait any longer and face the uncertainty of holding a meeting at this hotel, we negotiated a cancellation of our contract without having to pay a \$17,255 cancellation fee.

We are currently looking at other venues to hold a virtual/hybrid meeting in the Houston area, but the uncertainties of the course of the pandemic and the economic situation across Texas is affecting planning large events at hotels. Currently short-staffed hotels simply cannot guarantee that they will be up and running - and fully staffed - by October 2021 to support a large meeting. Not only that, but some major hotel groups are instituting “pre-existing condition” clauses in their contracts. This means that if COVID-19 continues to persist through your meeting date, and possibly leading

to shut-downs of your county/city, it is even harder to cancel or amend an existing contract. Event experts are advising that groups enhance their insurance policies to include a “COVID Clause” which adds a good sum to any insurance policy you already have in place for a meeting. And they are advising that all groups seek legal counsel before any contracts are signed.

We have also heard from several TAS members, especially those in the “high-risk” category, that they would not feel comfortable traveling to Houston and attending an in-person meeting if COVID is not under control or a vaccine not available. However, other members have missed out on a key component of archeological study – presenting information and data through papers and posters at a meeting. It’s a dilemma for sure.

So we are becoming ever more creative in our search. This includes considering smaller meeting spaces that are *not* hotels and ways to ensure that as many people can attend as safely as possible. This may be by attending the meeting in person or virtually. We have become very familiar with digital platforms over the last several months, and plan to incorporate them in the plans for the 2021 annual meeting. Having a virtual component to the meeting will make it more accessible to more members – people who can “attend” without the stress of travel and choosing to participate in the way which works best for them.

Feel free to reach out to the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) with any comments or questions you may have about the planning process. You can reach the LAC Chair at lindagorski@cs.com.

Times are uncertain, but we look forward to a great 2021 meeting that is safe and positive for everyone. Keep an eye out for more information as our plans develop in the coming months. In the meantime, stay safe, stay healthy and keep digging!

DONATIONS- THANK YOU!

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Funding for organizational expenses has been provided to Texas Archeological Society from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020.



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

2021 TAS ARCHEOLOGY ACADEMIES

Jimmy Barrera

The Texas Archeological Society is offering three archeology academies for the 2021 season: Ceramics Academy (February 20-21, 2021); Archeology 101 (March 13-14, 2021 and March 20-21, 2021) and Archeobotany Academy (April 24-25, 2021). As with other educational opportunities being offered across the state, the 2021 academies are being held either entirely virtually or as a hybrid course. Registration links, TAS scholarship information, updates, and other information can be found on the academies webpage.

[Click Here for Academies](#)



Ceramics Academy Instructor Dr. Chris Lintz moves a pot as part of a ceramics demo (Photo provided by TAS).

Ceramics Academy: The Stories Found in Pottery

An exciting academy to be held VIRTUALLY via Zoom, this academy will introduce the importance of archeological ceramics in terms of technology, chronology, dating, trade, subsistence, and cultural identity. Other topics will include definitions and origins of ceramics, decoration and how pottery was embellished, sherd analysis and how pottery is classified and typed, and interpretations including what we can learn from pottery analysis. Each participant in the Ceramics Academy will receive an excellent class manual and they will receive a kit with materials for hands-on exercises that will be virtually

instructed such as making pottery and identifying vessel types, age, and firing.

Instructors: Marybeth Tomka, Dr. Chris Lintz, and Rebecca Shelton.

The academy is scheduled for the weekend of February 20-21, 2021; registration deadline is February 6, 2021.



A successful day of excavation ends with dirty hands! An excavation team from the 2019 Archeology 101 Academy (Photo provided by TAS).

Archeology 101 Academy

Another exciting 2021 TAS Academy is the Archeology 101 Academy. Class instruction for this academy will be held VIRTUALLY via Zoom, with a hands-on field component scheduled to be held at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site, located in the town of San Felipe, Texas. This academy provides background information on the archeology of the state and how to identify archeological sites, both pre-European and historic in nature. Instructions are provided for accurate site recording that allows archeologists to assess the importance and significance of a site or sites and contribute to the synthesis of the state's cultural heritage.

The course's primary goals are to provide each participant with the tools necessary to identify, properly record, and assess an archeological site. The first step in managing archeological resources on private lands is to

know the site is there and learn something about that site. One site, however, never tells the whole story. It is the cumulative knowledge of the location of archeological sites in time and space that allow archeologists to piece together the larger puzzle. A better understanding of the past 15,000+ years and better management of our archeological resources comes from understanding site locations across a broad area.

Course instructions will include basic knowledge needed 1) to identify archeological sites in various regions across the state; 2) how to properly investigate/document a site; 3) how to complete a standard **TexSite survey form**; 4) how to perform a **test excavation** if necessary; 5) how to establish horizontal and vertical controls; 6) what and how much to sample; 7) how to record provenience of artifacts recovered; 8) how to properly wash, **catalogue**, and inventory specimens; 9) how to sort and classify a collection; 10) how to organize the data and write a descriptive **report**. Each of these topics will be covered in specific sections of this Academy. Finally, participants will have the opportunity to participate in a half day of excavations and other field investigations on the historic site of San Felipe de Austin on either Saturday or Sunday March 20 and 21, 2021 (your choice!).

Instructors: Dr. Jon Lohse, Dr. Sarah Chesney

The classroom portion of the academy is scheduled for the weekend of March 13-14, 2021. And participants will have the option to choose their half day of field excavations at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site on either March 20 or 21, 2021; registration deadline is February 27, 2021.

*Archeobotany Academy:
An Introduction to Archeobotany*

The 2021 TAS Archeobotany Academy will be offered VIRTUAL via Zoom with an emphasis on Caddo ancestors and the plant species of east Texas. The academy will introduce participants to how archeologists understand the relationships between

people and plants in the past. The recovery and analysis of macroremains (actual bits of plants), pollen, phytoliths, and chemical residues from archeological sites will be discussed in detail with examples from East Texas and the Ozarks. The wealth of information that can be gained from replication of ancient technologies will also be covered, as will the value of historical accounts, traditional stories, memories, and the ancestral knowledge held by modern Native people.

Participants will receive a kit containing materials for hands-on activities to supplement the lectures, including tastes of various edible plants. A handbook that covers class material and suggestions for further reading and YouTube viewing will be provided as well. Logistics for a possible future outdoor component to the Academy will be discussed during the weekend.

Lead Instructor: Dr. Leslie Bush (Macrobotanical Analysis)

Special guest lecturers: Phil Cross (Caddo Nation, traditional technologies), Alaina Tahlate (Caddo Nation, Caddo language), Dr. Kevin Hanselka (TxDOT archeobotany), and Dr. Elizabeth Temple Horton (Rattlesnakemaster Paleoethnobotany).

The academy is scheduled for the weekend of April 24-25, 2021; registration deadline is April 10, 2021.



A hands-on activity at the 2019 Archeobotany Academy (Photo provided by TAS).

A Hike Back in History – The Sea of Mud: The Retreat of the Mexican Army after San Jacinto

Linda Gorski

As most of you will recall, one of the items offered for bid during our recently concluded TAS 2020 Ebay Auction was a personal tour of the famous *El Mar de Lodo* ("Sea of Mud"), a significant location in Texas history. Guiding this tour was the author of the book *Sea of Mud: The Retreat of the Mexican Army after San Jacinto*, Dr. Gregg Dimmick, a retired pediatrician and an avocational historian and archeologist from Wharton, Texas. The lucky winners of this amazing tour were Dr. Elizabeth Coon-Nguyen, TAS president elect and Linda Gorski, President of the Houston Archeological Society (HAS). They invited TAS President Sarah Chesney and HAS secretary Beth Kennedy to join them on a recent Sunday to take a hike back in history.



The Elizabeth Powell's place historical marker in Kendleton, Texas. This is where our tour began. (Photo by Linda Gorski)

This tour took them back to two forgotten weeks in 1836 and one of the most consequential events of the entire Texas Revolution that had been missing from the historical record until the 1990s — the tale of the Mexican army's misfortunes in the aptly named "Sea of

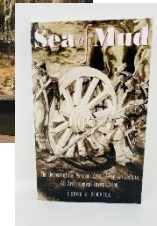
Mud," where more than 2,500 Mexican soldiers and 1,500 female camp followers foundered in the muddy fields of what is now Wharton County, Texas. In 1996, Gregg decided to try to find evidence in Wharton County of the Mexican army of 1836. Following some preliminary research at the Wharton County Junior College Library, he focused his search on the area between the San Bernard and West Bernard rivers.

Our tour began at Elizabeth Powell's place in Kendleton, Texas, where the Mexican Army encamped after the Battle of San Jacinto in April 1836 and began its retreat

to Mexico. This site, 41FB269, was excavated by members of the Houston, Fort Bend and Brazosport Archeological Societies in 1999 and 2000. Three reports were produced by the HAS on this important site and can be accessed through the Society's website ([Part 1](#), [Part 2](#) and [Part 3](#)).



Dr. Gregg Dimmick standing in front of a painting of The Sea of Mud by artist Manuel Hinojosa (photo by Linda Gorski). Details from the painting were used to illustrate his book (right).



After visiting Madame Powell's, our tour took us back to Wharton where Gregg introduced us to the site of the *El Mar de Lodo*. He told us that in 1996, within two weeks of beginning the search for artifacts at the "Sea of Mud", a Mexican army site was discovered, and, with the help of the HAS, excavated. Thus began the archival exploration of the history behind the archeology, the contacting of historians with expertise in that period, and even the learning of Spanish so that the original source documents could be studied. The result is an amazing *tour de force* for a doctor who was "adept at circumcisions, spinal taps, and treating asthma but . . . knew next to nothing about Texas history."

In his book and during the fantastic tour, Gregg follows the movements of the Mexican army during the two-week period from April 21 to May 9, 1836 in meticulous detail, based on the full scope of published and unpublished sources, many of which appear in English, and in their entirety, for the first time. The actions of Mexican generals Vicente Filisola and José de Urrea and the bitter rivalry between them are presented in their

own words, from their letters and diaries. Gregg and his fellow archeologists and historians have located many actual artifacts dropped or discarded in the mud by Mexican *soldados* more than 165 years ago. Thousands of hours excavating in the Sea of Mud (*El Mar de Lodo*) have produced hundreds of items (many pictured and described in the book) along with the army's trail—munitions, arms, uniform fragments, and personal items—all serving to paint a more accurate picture than we have heretofore had of Santa Anna's army and its response to his order to retreat. Best of all, most of these artifacts are now being offered to museums, universities and other sites around Texas – including the Alamo – for display and educational purposes. Additionally, two archeological reports have been published on this site and can be accessed on the HAS website www.txhas.org ([Report No. 13](#) and [Report No. 16](#)).

Because this tour package was such a success for the 2020 TAS Ebay Auction, Gregg has offered to donate

another package to our 2021 Silent Auction! Prepare to bid on this fantastic auction item by ordering a copy of Gregg's book or reading the archeological reports. If you have questions about this tour, please email lindagorski@cs.com.



Beth Kennedy, Linda Gorski, Sarah Chesney and Elizabeth Coon-Nguyen at the Sea of Mud Site. (Photo by Gregg Dimmick)

Texas Clovis Fluted Point Survey (TCFPS): Call for Data

Alan M. Slade

In 1985, David Meltzer initiated a survey of Clovis fluted points in Texas. That survey continues to the present, and as of 2007 when the 3rd edition of the survey was published there were over 544 Clovis fluted points recorded by the Texas Clovis Fluted Point Survey (TCFPS). Clovis fluted points occur throughout the state, with concentrations on the High Plains, Coast, and along an arc through central Texas following the Balcones Escarpment along which high quality chert and freshwater sources were readily available. The majority of Texas Clovis fluted points were made of Edwards chert from central Texas, with a minority fashioned of Alibates agatized dolomite and Tecovas jasper from the High Plains.

The TCFPS has now come under the control and curation of the Texas Archaeological Research Laboratory (TARL). It is anticipated that the number of Clovis fluted points from Texas will be increased as will the counties from

where the points were reported. This call for data will provide details regarding how to report any Clovis fluted point discoveries and to whom to report them.

The author of the TCFPS and colleagues at TARL and the Prehistory and Research Project (PRP) ask for help in updating information for the 4th edition of the Texas Clovis Fluted Point Survey. If you would like to contribute data to the TCFPS, please contact Alan M. Slade at alan.slade@austin.utexas.edu or (512) 232-4898 (please leave a message). More information can be found at <https://liberalarts.utexas.edu/tarl/texas-clovis-fluted-point-survey.php>.



TxDOT Roadside Chat – A Closer Look at African American History in Texas

Before construction begins, teams of environmental scientists examine project areas to look for cultural resources and review how transportation projects may affect Texas' history, heritage, and cultural environments. TxDOT archeologists are currently in the field digging up African American history on two separate projects.

As part of the FM 455 project in Denton County, TxDOT proposes to expand the roadway from a two-lane to four-lane urban highway between the Sanger and Bolivar communities. During archeological investigations at Site 41DN617, archeologists uncovered a late 19th century blacksmith shop. Preliminary research indicates that the shop and associated farrier facility may have been owned and operated between 1870 and 1890 by Thomas "Tom" Cook, a formerly enslaved person born in South Carolina.

Mr. Cook was a literate landowner and reverend in the Bolivar area. The 1880 United States Census notes that he and his wife, Lethia, had eight children. As a leader in the African American community, Tom Cook was respected by the Anglo community throughout the county, and he participated as service staff for Denton County's frontier militia group called the Owsley Rifles. Active in the civil rights movement, Mr. Cook appears to have mentored the future Texas civil rights leader, Fred Moore. A review of historic maps from the late 1800s shows that the blacksmith shop was located in Bolivar and along the Chisholm Trail. Being located along the Chisholm Trail presumably brought in a lot of business. Test excavations at this site encountered a waste pile with blacksmith shop materials including tools, wagon parts, broken horseshoes with wrought iron nails, and 19th century stoneware fragments. Archeologists are currently excavating the area and expect to find

remnants and the foundation of a one-room wooden building or forge area.

The site is significant as the discovery of a 19th century seasonal, rural blacksmith shop with abundant artifacts is rare. TxDOT hosted a consulting party meeting in June 2020 to raise awareness about the FM 455 project and potential archeological sites. The site has been recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and will enhance the story of a prominent figure in local history. To learn more about the project or the other discoveries in Denton County, listen to this [webinar](#) or request to become a consulting party.

In Anderson County, TxDOT is in the final phase of widening US 175 into a four-lane divided highway. Archeological investigations have revealed a farmstead owned by an African American family, Newt and Sarah Ray Ewell, during the Jim Crow Era. This family played an

important role in the development of a local school, and their daughter Yvonne later served as the associate superintendent of the Dallas Independent School District. The historic farmstead remained deeded to Ewell family descendants until the property was acquired by TxDOT for the US 175 project.



Horseshoe from Site 41DN617. (Photo courtesy of TxDOT).



Assorted artifacts from Site 41DN617 (Photo courtesy of TxDOT)

Initial artifacts found at the site provide evidence of the historic occupation and domestic life, including glass fragments of windows, bottles, ceramic whiteware, and embossed and colored glass. This archeological site was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP and meets the requirement for designation as a State Antiquities Landmark (SAL). TxDOT will begin excavations at the site later this month. To learn more about this site and another uncovered in Anderson County, or to join us for the upcoming stakeholder meeting, subscribe to our [webpage](#) for project updates.

Fun fact: This year TxDOT archeology turns 50 years old! In 1970, TxDOT was the first agency to conduct permitted excavations in Texas. Since then, we have dug up tens of thousands of cubic feet of dirt. Subscribe to our [webpage](#) to learn more about our program and how to get involved on upcoming projects.

Had Your Fill of Netflix? Get Ready for Heritage Broadcasting Service!

Dr. Richard Pettigrew, Archaeological Legacy Institute

Are you tired of mindless reality TV shows, or watered-down content disguising itself as science? Would you be interested in binge-worthy shows, NOT from Netflix, that you can watch on your smart TV? How about if they were about archaeology and related topics from all over the world?

This dream soon will be realized. Heritage Broadcasting Service, or just plain *Heritage*, will launch on January 1. Developed by nonprofit Archaeological Legacy Institute (the people who created ***The Archaeology Channel*** at archaeologychannel.org), *Heritage* at the outset will

feature more than 100 outstanding film titles from many countries on familiar subjects such as ancient Egypt, Stonehenge, Mesoamerica, and Peru, but also diverse topics ranging from prehistoric astronomers to the only Japanese bombing of the US mainland in World War II. Many more titles are in the pipeline. Subscribers will be able to watch all the shows on their smart TVs with Roku as well as on their desktop computers, tablets and smartphones.

You can check out the *Heritage* beta site now at heritagetac.org, where you already can watch many trailers and read the descriptions of the dozens of titles that have been posted there so far. Although subscriptions will not be available until January 1, gift cards (at http://heritagetac.org/gift_cards/new) already are available for redemption on and after the launch date. You could support this nonprofit service now by getting gift cards as presents or even for yourself.



A still from the documentary The Builders of Stonehenge (Courtesy of Tournez S'il Vous Plait)

Here are some sample titles to give you an idea about what we are talking about.

The Builders of Stonehenge

The Stonehenge megaliths site on UK's Salisbury Plain is one of the world's most famous and most enigmatic prehistoric monuments. Neolithic farmers erected dozens of huge standing stones here in the third millennium BC. Who were the men and women who erected such a monument? And why did they do it? These questions have long been the subject of speculation, yielding probable answers only recently. Thanks to the use of cutting-edge technologies, scientists are gradually lifting the veil on the identity of the amazing builders of Stonehenge and their world.

The Origins of Music

This is a biological story of Musicality. Its journey, guided by four advanced researchers, shows Music to be no singular entity. Music integrates distinct traits—in humans, uniquely so. Via diverse cinematic languages, this film explains how these traits shaped us and function socially and have analogues in other animals. We witness a vast variety of musical manifestations, collected with deep aesthetic sensitivity. Many

collaborators participate, spanning from Mu Mbana's deep voice to the Roxanne Butterfly's graceful dancing, from tribal rituals to modern dance, from Pyrenees songbirds to Polynesian whales. Explanations

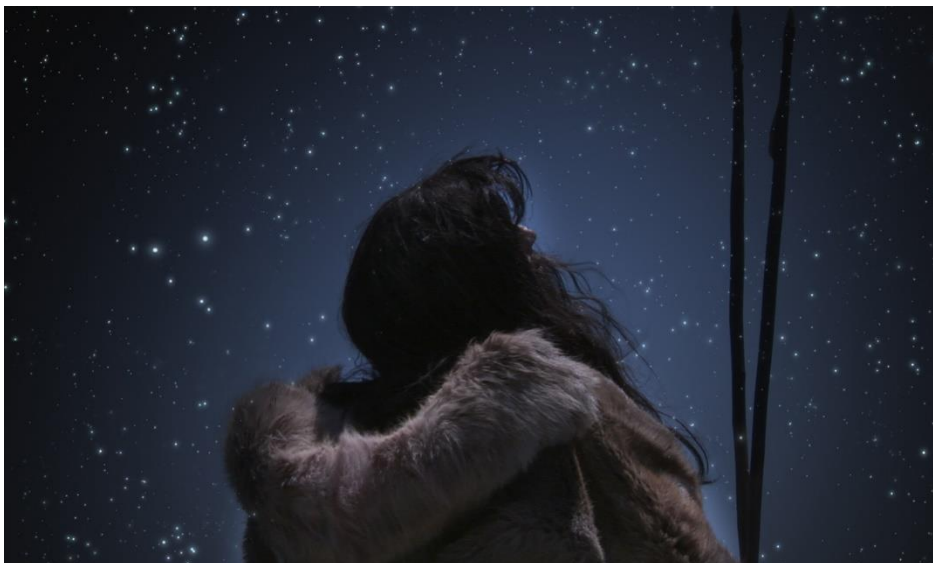


The Origins of Music (Courtesy of Daniel Arvizu).

interconnect, co-conveying key concepts and mechanisms—via digital animations, MRI, ultrasound footage, even metaphorical images, abstractly evoking the otherwise ineffable. The narration is punctuated by expert interviews, sustaining a rigorous, yet poetical, academic coherence. Biomusicology only recently burst in and remains mostly unknown. So misconceptions regarding Musicality's human exclusivity remain widespread—even in academia.

Prehistoric Astronomers

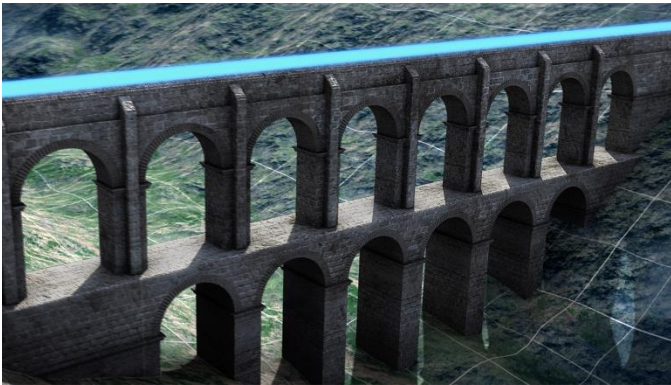
Famous ethnologist and astronomer Chantal Jègues-Wolkiewiez comes forth with a revolutionary proposal that could completely overturn our conceptions about the origins of arts and sciences. In her view, about 17,000 years ago, Cro-Magnon people already were observing the complicated moves of the sun, the moon and the main constellations. A cross between an investigation and a stellar tale, this film is a dive into time immemorial. It recounts the birth of a new science that is on the crossroad of two otherwise unrelated fields: astronomy and prehistory.



Prehistoric Astronomers (Courtesy of Lucky You).

Roman Engineering: Aqueducts

This documentary relives the moment in history when the decision was taken to build the aqueduct of Nemausus (modern Nîmes in France). An engineer is commissioned to decide where to build the town and to provide it with an aqueduct to guarantee a water supply. Isaac Moreno allows the viewer to see all this through the eyes of that engineer. By means of precise and elaborate computer simulations, combined with superb pictures taken from the air and land, he helps us understand the structures and engineering needed to turn the Nîmes aqueduct into a reality. Armed with that knowledge, he then takes us on a dizzying journey across the whole Roman Empire, where other breathtaking structures were built and challenges met with amazing technical solutions.

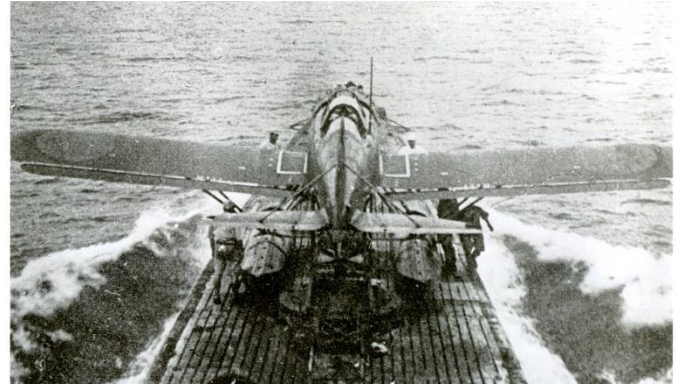


Roman Engineering: Aqueducts (Courtesy of Jose Antonio Muniz).

Samurai in the Oregon Sky

In 1942, Japanese pilot Nobuo Fujita catapulted his seaplane off a submarine, flew over the Oregon coast, and became the only pilot to bomb the U.S. mainland during World War II. He never dreamed he would one day be invited back to the region, where he would begin a lifelong friendship with the people of a small Oregon town. “Samurai in the Oregon Sky,” created by director Ilana Sol of Portland, Oregon, chronicles how Mr. Fujita came to refer to his former target as his “second home.”

[Click Here to Access The Archaeology Channel on YouTube](#)



Samurai in the Oregon Sky (Courtesy of Ilana Sol).

The Secrets of Strasbourg Cathedral

It was the highest building constructed during the Middle Ages and is an architectural masterpiece. Built over hundreds of years, between 1176 and 1439, Strasbourg Cathedral is radically different from any other cathedral. It was built using new technologies and according to principles never tested before. For the first time, the researchers described in this film were able to trace in 3D the incredible history of this centuries-old construction project. They reveal how the builders were able to defy the laws of physics to build higher and higher and explain the importance of iron in this stone cathedral. Welcome to Strasbourg Cathedral: an exceptional project that lasted 400 years and mobilized the best architects of the Middle Ages. This is an episode in the “Extreme Constructions” series.



The Secrets of Strasbourg Cathedral (Courtesy of Java Films).

Each amazing show on *Heritage* is just one episode in the long human story that began millions of years ago—a story that continues today. It’s a story without end that will push the limits of your imagination!



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