

The third workshop on Women in the Archaeology of Greece, jointly organised by the École française d'Athènes and the Polish Archaeological Institute at Athens, will take place on 12 and 13 March 2025. The event will be held in honour of Maria Ludwika Bernhard (1908-1998), a Franco-Polish classical archaeologist, former foreign member of EFA, Professor of Classical Archaeology at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków and curator of the Ancient Art Gallery at the National Museum in Warsaw.

For its third edition, the workshop will focus on the women often referred to as the ones 'behind great men', whose behind-the-scenes support helped these men rise to scientific prominence. In particular, it will highlight the wives – and, more broadly, the female partners – of renowned male archaeologists who worked alongside their husbands, helping them build brilliant careers and lasting legacies, while they themselves faded into obscurity, their contributions reduced to mere footnotes. Much like a magician's assistant, whose skills and discretion bring the magic trick to life, these women operated in the shadow of a prominent male figure, either with his success as the sole objective or setting aside their own aspirations as secondary. Their role as devoted wives extended beyond the private and domestic sphere into their spouses' professional lives: in addition to managing the household and raising children, they took charge of a range of archaeological tasks, such as securing funding, cataloguing excavation finds, drawing and photographing objects and architectural remains, writing reports, proofreading and editing publications, and sometimes even directing excavation campaigns in their spouse's name.

Some of these women had no formal archaeological education but nevertheless embraced their husband's profession, gradually learning their way into it. Others were trained as archaeologists but renounced (or were forced to renounce) pursuing independent careers – whether owing to tradition, personal choice, or a lack of professional opportunities – and instead dedicated their time, energy, and expertise to supporting their partners. A few managed to continue their archaeological research while contributing to their spouse's projects, which always took precedence over their own. These women often had to lower their professional ambitions and forgo academic positions to avoid competing against their life partners, and as they assisted their husbands, their own work progressed more slowly and resulted in fewer publications. Often deprived of paid research positions, their access to resources was more limited, their professional networks were less extensive, and they did not officially mentor students – all of which prevented them from achieving the same lasting recognition as the 'great men' behind whom they stood.

This workshop is devoted to them.



Prof. Maria Ludwika Bernhard (archive of the Department of Classical Archaeology of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków)

Wednesday & Thursday

12 & 13 / 03 / 2025

École française d'Athènes,  
Conference room, Didotou 6

Webinar registration



<https://u.efa.gr/in>

## THE GREAT WOMEN BEHIND THE GREAT MEN

Third workshop on Women in  
the Archaeology of Greece

Tribute to  
Maria Ludwika Bernhard

By the *École française d'Athènes* & the Polish Archaeological Institute at Athens,  
with the support of the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Greece

Organisers: Sylviane Déderix, Maguelone Bastide, Katarzyna Dudlik, Inga Głuszek,  
Małgorzata Kajzer, Beata Kukiel-Vrila, Ewdoksia Papuci-Władyka & Laureline Pop

## Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March

**18.00 - 18.50 | Welcome, greetings and general introduction**

**Véronique Chankowski** Director of the *École française d'Athènes*

**HE Wojciech Ponikiewski** Ambassador of the Republic of Poland in Athens

**Bogumiła Kaniewska** Rector of the University of Adam Mickiewicz in Poznań

**Janusz Czebreszuk** Director of the Polish Archaeological Institute at Athens

**Ewdoksia Papuci-Władyka** Professor at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków & University of Warsaw

**18.50 - 19.20 | Beata Kukiel-Vrila** Polish Archaeological Institute at Athens

Presentation of the book *Archaeology without make-up*

## Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> March

**09.00 - 09.20 | Véronique Chankowski** *École française d'Athènes* & **Ewdoksia**

**Papuci-Władyka** Polish Archaeological Institute at Athens

Welcome & introduction

**09.20 - 09.40 | Sylviane Déderix** University of Warsaw & **Maguelone Bastide** *École*

*française d'Athènes*

Introduction. From footnotes to history: the great women behind the great men of Greek archaeology

**09.40 - 10.05 | Ewdoksia Papuci-Władyka** Jagiellonian University in Kraków &

University of Warsaw

Marianne of Polish Classical Archaeology – Maria Ludwika Bernhard

**10.05 - 10.30 | Hubert Kowalski & Monika Dunajko** University of Warsaw

Maria Ludwika Bernhard. A developing, yet difficult, episode of her academic life in Warsaw

**10.30 - 10.50 | Coffee break**

**10.50 - 11.15 | Polymnia Synodinou** Ephorate of Antiquities of Piraeus and the Islands  
Byzantine couples and byzantine wives: Euthalia Lampaki and Maria Soteriou

**11.15 - 11.40 | Rebecca Sweetman & Amalia Kakissis** British School at Athens

BSA wives of the early 20th century: their contributions to scholarship

**11.40 - 12.05 | Raphaëlle Rannou** Université de Tours & *École du Louvre*

Les épouses sur les chantiers de fouilles, des archéologues « malgré elles » ?

**12.05 - 12.30 | Katharina Brandt** German Archaeological Institute, Athens

Sisters, daughter(s), and nieces – the many supportive women behind the great Wilhelm Dörpfeld

**12.30 - 13.45 | Lunch break**

**13.45 - 14.10 | Massimo Cultraro** National Research Council of Italy

The woman who lived twice. Sophia Schliemann and her contribution to pioneering archaeology

**14.10 - 14.35 | Ioanna Rapti** *École Pratique des Hautes Études*

Une muse sur le chantier ? Sophie Millet, artiste, compagne, illustratrice

**14.35 - 15.00 | Samantha Ximeri** Independent researcher

Hilda White Pendlebury: 'the right wife for an archaeologist'

**15.00 - 15.25 | Katarzyna Dudlik & Natalia Skrzypek** Adam Mickiewicz University

in Poznań

From Egypt through Greece to Poland: Krystyna Michałowska's legacy of preserving and promoting ancient heritage in local communities

**15.25 - 15.45 | Coffee break**

**15.45 - 16.10 | Olga Boubounelle & Matilde Garré** *École française d'Athènes*

Between recognition and indifference: Jeanne Robert, a woman in the shadow of a legend in Greek epigraphy

**16.10 - 16.35 | Ioanna Christoforaki** Academy of Athens

A French Aphrodite in Cyprus: Jacqueline Karageorghis-Girard

**16.35 - 17.00 | Maguelone Bastide** *École française d'Athènes* & **Caroline Carrier**

Laboratoire Orient et Méditerranée

Anne-Marie Bon: une « Thasienne » numismate et pionnière de l'étude des timbres amphoriques

**17.00 - 17.25 | Discussion**