Marketing Roman pottery: economic relationships between local and imported products

Cluj-Napoca, Romania, 23rd-30th September 2018

Dear Fautores, Friends and Colleagues,

It is our great honor to invite you to the 31st Congress of the Rei Cretariae Romanae Fautores, held in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, from the 23rd to the 30th of September 2018. The Conference will be organized by the National Museum of Transylvanian History, with the collaboration of the Faculty of History and Philosophy of the “Babeș-Bolyai” University and the Institute of Archaeology and Art History of the Romanian Academy at Cluj-Napoca, in partnership with the National Museum of Unification and the University “1 Decembrie 1918” of Alba Iulia, the County Museum of History and Art of Zalău, the Town History Museum of Turda and Deva Museum of Dacian and Roman Civilization.

The RCRF seek to promote research and communication on all types of Roman pottery, including lamps. During this Congress, we shall focus on the economic life of the Roman Empire reflected in the interaction of pottery imports and local developments.

Participation is open to all scholars, not only to members of the RCRF (max. 180 participants, with priority given to Fautores, in order of application).

Cluj-Napoca is the unofficial capital of Transylvania and an important hub of urban life, whose beginnings reach back to the Roman period, with development continuing throughout the Middle Ages and the modern era and ongoing during our times. Roman Napoca (municipium Aelium Hadrianum, and later colonia Aurelia) was the capital of the province of Dacia Porolissensis. Its mediaeval successor, Cluj (Kolozsvár in Hungarian / Klausenburg in German) received the municipal status of a royal free city in the 14th century, later becoming the political and economic center of the Principality of Transylvania during the 16th and 17th centuries. Currently, Cluj-Napoca is Transylvania’s most important city, and its historical and archaeological heritage, as well as its rich array of cultural and artistic events, attract masses of tourists each year.

Arrivals are expected on Sunday (23rd September) with a welcoming session in the late afternoon held at the National Museum of Transylvanian History, in the historical center of the city. The congress sessions will take place at the “Babeș-Bolyai” University.

The Congress will include one-day trips to Alba Iulia, with visits to the local Roman and mediaeval vestiges, the Vauban fortress of Alba Carolina and the local museum, as well as to Zalău, comprising
visits to the History and Art Museum and the Roman archaeological park of Porolissum. Several pottery displays/exhibitions of Roman finds from sites in Romania will also be organized. The length of the lectures is restricted to 15 minutes. As the number of lectures is limited, we ask you to prepare a poster instead of a lecture whenever possible. There will be sufficient space and time for posters (in A0 format). Unaccompanied posters will not be accepted. Each participant should give no more than one lecture or poster. We ask you to offer papers in conformity with the theme of the congress, although papers on other topics may also be accepted. Participants are kindly encouraged to use PowerPoint presentations. The congress languages will be English, Italian, French, German and Spanish.

The optional post-congress trip will include visits to the site of the legionary fortress in Potaissa, as well as to the local museum in Turda, furthermore to Colonia Ulpia Traiana Augusta Dacica Sarmizegetusa, the capital of Roman Dacia (on 29th September) and to the auxiliary forts at Gilău and Bologa, both part of the defensive system of Dacia Porolissensis (on Sunday, 30th September). For those participating in the post-Congress tour departure will be on Sunday (30th September, late afternoon).

Cluj-Napoca can be easily reached by plane, train and/or bus. Hotel accommodation details will be provided on the Congress website (http://www.rcfcluj2018.mnit.ro). If you wish to participate, please complete the registration form that accompanies this announcement and send it via e-mail or air mail to the permanent contact address before 15 December 2017.

Financial support in the form of a small number of grants will be available from the RCRF in order to help those who would otherwise be prevented by financial hardship from attending the congress. Grants could cover congress fee, accommodation or travel costs.

The Congress fee is expected to be 220 Euros and includes: access to the opening ceremony and welcome reception, access to all the museums and the archaeological sites that will be visited during the Congress, access to the closing ceremony, access to all scholarly sessions and poster displays, access to exhibition and pottery displays, congress kit, coffee breaks, lunch or dinner once a day, excursions.

The fee does not include: travel expenses, accommodation, post-congress tour, receipt of the published Acta.

A second circular with further details will be forwarded in February 2018 only to those who are registered. Please copy this circular and pass it on to any interested colleagues and students or display it.

Viorica Rusu-Bolindeț

**General Information:**

**Key Dates:**
- Start Date: 23rd September 2018
- End Date: 30th September 2018
- Post Congress Tour Date: 29th - 30th September 2018
- Provisional registration Deadline: 15th December 2017
Second circular: February 2018
Abstract Submission Deadline: 15th June 2018
Poster Submission Deadline: 15th July 2018
Manuscript Submission Deadline (for publication): 31st December 2018

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