



© Amykles Research Project / Adrien Delahaye



**GEPRICO : rites de commensalité gaulois, étrusques et phocéens
(Galic, Etruscan and Phocean rites of commensality)**

MINIATURE VASES IN CONTEXT Functions and uses

(Europe and the Mediterranean, from the beginning of the first millennium BC to the 5th century AD)

International conference
University of Lille, 25-27 September 2024

Call for papers

The aim of this conference is to provide some thoughts on a particular category of vessels that is well known to archaeologists, but which raises a number of issues of interpretation: miniature vases.

The practice of miniaturisation is universal, involving a vast range of materials (utilitarian, ludic, aesthetic, symbolic, religious) and various materials (metal, stone, wood, basketry, pottery). In protohistoric and ancient cemeteries and sanctuaries, miniature objects can be numerous, sometimes with technical characteristics and/or archaeological contexts that make it possible to identify their symbolic status and ritual functions. Some objects, described as offerings by destination, were made solely to be offered to deities or the deceased. In most cases the uncertainty remains, the act of miniaturising not being systematically linked to the will to offer. For example, miniature containers that have not been hollowed out, and therefore lack the utilitarian function of their larger models, may have had a variety of uses (aesthetic, apotropaic, magico-therapeutic, ludic, technical), all the more so when they are uncovered in settlements and craft sites.

The term 'miniature' has many meanings, referring either to small objects or, more specifically, to reduced reproductions of larger objects. The Lille conference will take a general interest in small vases (a few centimetres), whatever their material and technical characteristics, and will favour a multidisciplinary approach involving archaeology, iconography, philology, ethnology and archaeosciences (including biochemical analyses of contents). The geographical area covered will be Europe and the Mediterranean, between the 1st millennium BC and the 5th century AD.





© Amykles Research Project / Adrien Delahaye

Organisation committee

Anne-Françoise Cherel, INRAP
Dominique Frère, Bretagne Sud University
Sandrine Huber, University of Lille

Proposals must be submitted before 15 January 2024.

at the following address: sandrine.huber@univ-lille.fr

with the following items:

- Last name, first name, e-mail address
- Institutional affiliations
- Title of the communication (provisional)
- Summary of 300 to 500 words

The proposals will be examined and selected by the scientific committee. Responses will be submitted by the end of February 2024.

The conference will be published.

<https://geprico.hypotheses.org/>