

## Abstract

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### **Greek, Anatolian and Persian iconography in Asia Minor: material sources, method and perspectives**

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The study of Asia Minor in the Persian period claims a central place in modern investigations of the history of the Achaemenid Empire as well as of Greek-Iranian contacts. An underlying question is that of the interaction between the Ionian Greeks, the Anatolian populations and the Persians in Asia Minor.

Subsequent to Margaret Cool Root's seminal analysis of Achaemenid iconography, the potential of continued research in this domain to offer insights into imperial mechanisms is indicated by recently published materials like the Daskyleion bullae.

In this paper I would like to present the perspectives and methodology of a very systematic investigation of materials in Turkish museums focusing on a question that is both tricky and controversial: How do we distinguish between what is Greek, Anatolian or Persian? On what basis are these distinctions made, and what is meant when we plump for one or the other identification?