

Abstract for the Athens Greek Religion Seminar, November 8, 2016, Swedish Institute at Athens

**Mario Denti & Clarisse Prêtre:** *Ritual practices in a Greek-indigenous site of West Greece in the VIIIth and VIIth Century BC*

Excavations at Incoronata (region of Basilicata, southern Italy) provide an exceptional record of the meeting of non-Greek and Greek peoples between the 8th and 7th centuries BC, revealing the crucial importance of this site in our understanding of the relations, in proto-colonial times, between the indigenous Iron Age communities established throughout the Ionian coastal belt of Oenotria and the first groups of Greek peoples coming from the Aegean.

The study of the materials and archaeological contexts has allowed us to build a conceptual framework strongly characterized by worship and ritual activities. We will see how the crossing of literary sources and archaeological evidence helps us to lay the first tracks for the analysis of the nature and purpose of those ritual practices at Incoronata.