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Christopher Heaney is an historian of Modern Latin America, with research interests in the history of science, indigeneity, museums, race, and deathways in the Andes, Americas, and the World. He is the author of Cradle of Gold: The Story of Hiram Bingham, a Real-Life Indiana Jones and the Search for Machu Picchu (2010), published in Peru as Las Tumbas de Machu Picchu: La historia de Hiram Bingham y la Búsqueda de las últimas ciudades de los Incas (2012). He is currently at work on two monographs: a cultural and material history of the collection, circulation, study, and display of Inca mummies and ancient Peruvian skulls in the Americas; and an intellectual history of the legalization of grave-robbing in Peru and the Anglo-Iberian Atlantic World. [see also]

Pre-Hispanic Incas and Andeans were expert trepanners: surgeons so successful at cutting away damaged sections of crania that, in some regions, three out of four patients survived. That skill was veiled by the Spanish conquest, such that late nineteenth century Europeans only recognized—and denied—its existence when faced with the circulation of trepanned Andean skulls obtained from Native tombs. This meeting discusses the global afterlife of Andean trepanation and its re-interpretation as Peruvian science recognized, and Peruvian culture penetrated, by Western commodification. It traces two arcs of exchange and artificial replication. It begins with nineteen trepanned skulls that reached the Smithsonian in 1893, where they were photographed and duplicated with plaster models and casts. The casts were sold or gifted to other North American museums, but the photographs, upon their return to Peru, inspired a Native Andean surgery student named Julio César Tello (1880-1948) to collect his own and found Peru’s first archaeology museums. Its second arc explores the work of Peruvian artist Fernando “Coco” Bedoya (1952-), who since the 1990s has taken tourist-market replicas of pre-Hispanic mortuary ceramics (huacos), sawed off their stirrup spouts, and ‘trepanned’ them with Coca-Cola bottle caps. The series, Trepa-Naciones, comments on the violence of making Andean history and culture comestible by aspiring to Western commodification and consumption. These arcs together reveal the radical potential of and limits to reproducing Andean medical and cultural alterities as a plan to explore in a series of museum exhibits in coming years.
adaptive factors provides new clues to understand human evolution and rapid dispersion of modern humans. His second field of research concerns the peopling of Americas by the study of human biological diversity and the prospection and excavation of Paleo-Indian archaeological sites.

A mostly complete cow skull at least 5,000 years old appears to bear the marks of an unsuccessful trepanation — or perhaps just a practice run at the real thing. The skull was found more than 30 years ago at the Neolithic site of Champ-Durand in France, where excavations in the 1970s and 1980s turned up plenty of animal bones, about half of them belonging to cows. The site had been previously described as an important regional trade center specializing in salt and cattle. When the skull was discovered, that big hole was thought to be the result of being gored by another cow. However, a closer look revealed that trepanation is a more logical explanation. This hole in the skull of a Neolithic cow is possibly the earliest example of experimentation in animals of surgery to be practiced in humans.

**Moulages and exchanges**

Irina Podgorny  
National Council of Science (CONICET)

Irina Podgorny is a permanent research fellow at the Argentine National Council of Science (CONICET). She studied Archaeology at the La Plata University, obtaining her PhD in 1994 with a dissertation on the history of archaeology and museums. She has been a research fellow at the MPIWG Dept. III Rheinberger (2009–10), she was also a postdoctoral fellow at Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut Berlin and at MAST (Museu de Astronomia) in Rio de Janeiro. Her current research project deals with historic extinctions and animal remedies. In addition to her academic research, Irina collaborates with Argentine cultural weeklies and Latin American artists, most recently for a 2018 art exhibition in Lima, Perú. She has been a member of the Editorial Board of Science in Context since 2003 and History of Humanities since 2017, and has recently been elected president of The History of Earth Sciences Society. Current work includes History of Paleontology, Museums of Natural History, Archaeological Ruins.

La aceptación ca. 1870 de la trepanación en tiempos precolombinos hizo evidente la trepanación en épocas prehistóricas y despertó una verdadera oleada de la evidencia universal de este tipo de cirugía. En ese contexto, Paul Broca enviaría a los museos sudamericanos copias de los cráneos trepanados hallados en sitios del Viejo Mundo para su comparación y estudio, pero también para fomentar la búsqueda de nuevos casos en otras regiones del continente. Este envío muestra –en la línea esbozada por Christopher Heaney- cómo los objetos americanos despiertan y se inscriben en un debate internacional.

**Trepanaciones en la América Prehispánica**

Carla Jaimes Betancourt  
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Since 2016 she has been lecture and researcher in the Department for the Anthropology of the Americas at the University of Bonn - Germany. She studied archaeology at the Universidad Mayor de San Andrés, Bolivia and obtained her PhD in Anthropology of the Americas at the University of Bonn in 2010. Her research focused on the study of archaeology in the Bolivian Amazon and she is specialist for material culture, particularly pottery and feather work of the Amazon region. She was guest professor at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Quito - Ecuador (2013), the Universidad Mayor de San Andrés (2015) and the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, in Lima (2018). She is author of books and several articles in journals and books on Amazonian archaeology.

La trepanación fue una práctica generalizada en los Andes. Evidencias de cráneos con diversas intervenciones quirúrgicas fueron encontradas para diferentes periodos prehispanicos entre el 400 a. C. y 1500 d. C. correspondientes a diversas culturas precolombinas. A manera de introducción al tema de la mesa redonda, presentaremos algunos de los ejemplos de trepanaciones encontradas en las culturas Paracas, Wari, Tiwanaku e Inca entre otras.