

# Jemdet Nasr 1926–2026: a Century of Investigation and Research

Institut National d'Histoire de l'Art, Paris, 2–4 June 2026  
Jullian Room, Galerie Colbert (1<sup>st</sup> floor), 2 rue Vivienne (75002)



Photograph of the excavations at Jemdet Nasr, taken in February 1926 (Rol, 107067, BnF Gallica. <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b531580481>)

Organized by **Hugo Naccaro** (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Jaussen & Savignac, ArScAn), **Camille Lecompte** (CNRS, ArScAn) & **Roger Matthews** (University of Reading)

## 1<sup>st</sup> Day – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

14h00–14h10 Introduction

### Session 1 – Jemdet Nasr: The Site

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Chair: **Camille Lecompte** (CNRS, ArScAn) & **Hugo Naccaro** (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Jaussen & Savignac, ArScAn)

**14h10–14h40 Roger Matthews** (University of Reading)

*Jemdet Nasr: Excavations and Outcomes of the 1920s and 1980s Seasons*

**14h40–15h10 Nancy Highcock** (Ashmolean Museum)

*“This section is developing into a predominantly Mesopotamian one”: Jemdet Nasr and the search for the ‘Early Sumerian Copper Age’ at a time of transition for the Ashmolean Museum*

**15h10–15h40 David Mudd** (University of Reading)

*Lithics from Jemdet Nasr*

 **Break**

### Session 2 – Transition between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> millennia BCE in Southern Mesopotamia

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Chair: **Pascal Butterlin** (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, ArScAn)

**16h00–16h30 Hugo Naccaro** (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Jaussen & Savignac, ArScAn)

*The Jemdet Nasr Period: Dawn of the Sumerian City-State*

**16h30–17h00 Cale Johnson** (Freie Universität Berlin)

*The ‘Second Dozen’ and the Subalterns: ArO 13–24 and Late Uruk Local Bureaucracies*

**17h00–17h30 Margarete van Ess** (Deutsches Archäologisches Institut)

*Developments in Pottery technology: Vessels from Uruk IV, III and I Eanna in Uruk*

**17h30–18h00 Discussion**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Day – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

 9h00 – Coffee

### Session 3 – Jemdet Nasr Period: Views from Outside

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Chair: **Benjamin Mutin** (Sorbonne Université, Orient & Méditerranée)

**9h30–10h00 Steve Renette** (University of Cambridge)

*The 'Jemdet Nasr' Period East of the Tigris: Separated Regionalisation or Interlocking Interaction Spheres?*

**10h00–10h30 Michael Lewis** (Universidade de Coimbra)

*A View from the North: Some Preliminary Thoughts on the Post-Uruk Ceramic Assemblage from Kani Shaie, Iraqi Kurdistan*

**10h30–11h00 Sara Quaggio** (University of Pisa)

*Reassessing the Jemdet Nasr Horizon: Ceramic Evidence and Regional Dynamics from Central and Southern Mesopotamia towards Magan*

 Break

**11h30–12h00 Jacob Dahl** (University of Oxford)

*Uruk and Jemdet Nasr: a View from Susa*

**12h00–12h30 Holly Pittman** (University of Pennsylvania, Penn Museum)

*The Long Jemdet Nasr Period: A View from the Periphery through the Lens of Glyptic*

**12h30–13h00 Discussion**

 Lunch

### Session 4 – Jemdet Nasr Tradition: Writing, Sealings

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Chair: **Jean-Jacques Glassner** (CNRS)

**14h30–15h00 Clélia Paladre** (Musée du Louvre, ArScAn)

*Material Ambiguities in Proto-Elamite Administration: Perforated and Lenticular Tablets from Susa*

**15h00–15h30 Massimo Maiocchi** (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia)

*Early Scribal Culture and the Problem of Diffusion*

**15h30–16h00 Amy Richardson** (University of Reading)

*States of Clay: scientific approaches to the bureaucratic corpus*

 Break

**16h30–17h00 Vitali Bartash** (Universität Münster)

*Ritual, Resources and the Making of the City-State: Urban–Rural Networks in Early Dynastic Mesopotamia c. 2900 BC through the Nippur Feast Tablet*

**17h00–17h30 Camille Lecompte** (CNRS, ArScAn)

*An Overview of the Jemdet Nasr Textual Corpus and Its Provenance*

**17h30–18h00 Discussion**

 18h10-19h30: Cocktail – Institut National d'Histoire de l'Art

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Day – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June

 9h00 – Coffee

### Session 5 – Unearthing the Jemdet Nasr World: Current Approaches and Fieldwork

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Chair: **Clélia Paladre** (Musée du Louvre, ArScAn)

**9h30–10h00 Jaafar Jotheri** (University of Al-Qadisiyah)  
*Water Management in the Jemdet Nasr Period: Insights from Recent Discoveries*

**10h00–10h30 Sidonia Obreja** (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, SPHINX, ArScAn) & **Amaury Havé** (University College London, ArScAn)  
*Shadows of Rivers and Monuments: Results from the First Survey Season at Umm el-Ajjaj*

**10h30–11h00 Melania Zingarello** (CNRS, CEPAM) & **Johnny S. Baldi** (CNRS, Archéorient)  
*Beyond Ur. Investigating Early Urban Growth and Townscape at Rejibah*

 Break

### Session 6 – Unearthing the Jemdet Nasr World: Old Sites and New Data

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Chair: **Philippe Quenet** (Université de Strasbourg, ArchiMèdE)

**11h30–12h00 Ivana Puljiz** (Universität Freiburg) & **Peter Pfälzner** (Universität Tübingen)  
*Looking for a needle in a haystack – The hidden Jemdet Nasr period at Kish and the question of the origin of a major Early Dynastic city state*

**12h00–12h30 Adelheid Otto** (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München)  
*Fara-Šuruppak in the Jemdet Nasr period: New results*

 Lunch

**14h00–14h30 Jacob Jawdat** (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München)  
*The Settlement Patterns in the Fara-Šuruppak Region Revisited: From the Uruk to the Jemdet Nasr Period*

**14h30–15h00 Davide Nadali** (Università La Sapienza) & **Luca Volpi** (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid)  
*Jemdet Nasr from the Lagash Region: The Archaeological Evidence at Ancient Nigin*

**15h00–15h30 General Discussion – Conclusions**



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Du Village à l'État au  
Proche et Moyen-Orient



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