



Polar Hour 2022

An online series of popular science talks
Open to members and friends of the Polar Archaeology Network (PAN)

Insights into Polar Archaeology Tue., 15 February, 4 pm – 5 pm GMT (UTC +0)

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How can archaeology help us living through the Anthropocene?



Archaeology can provide answers about how we can live during the Anthropocene, in the world often changing in the most unpredictable ways. One set of answers, I will argue, can be found in the visual clues left on Fennoscandian rock surfaces by prehistoric fisher-gatherer-hunter communities, which can be interpreted as environmental proxies for changing climate between c. 7,000 and c. 2,000 years ago. By considering rock art imagery as environmental proxies for changing climate at Alta Fjord, Norway and Vig River, Russian Federation, and by exploring the concept of ontological security as an epistemological resource of know-how, I suggest we can see the dynamic and altering aspects of the world around the communities who created this imagery during the Holocene. This is of significance to us as we deal with changes brought about by the Anthropocene in the arctic, subarctic and beyond.

A Kalaallit perception of fieldwork in the Arctic



Scattered in the Arctic landscape are sites of memory and human practice, sites we document during archaeological surveys and sometimes excavate on a later date. Many of these sites have long been forgotten but the human practices associated with living there are vibrantly present in the cultural memory of many Indigenous peoples.

In this presentation, I highlight how perceptions and expectations shape the experience for motley crews conducting archaeological fieldwork in Kalaallit Nunaat. I contrast how the combination of people greatly impact how fieldwork is experienced and outline some of the issues, challenges, and opportunities that present themselves during fieldwork.

Participation is **free of charge**. A ZOOM link will be shared a day before the event via the PAN mailing list. Non-members may contact fkruise@ecology.uni-kiel.de

