

**February 25<sup>th</sup> 2026**

LaBRI Amphitheater A30; Talence



## Understanding Humanity: Archaeology, Innovation and Human Evolution\*

Organised on the occasion of the awarding of  
an honorary doctorate to Professor João Zilhão

### Programme

#### 9h30-9h50 **Opening**

- 9h30-9h40 Francesco d'Errico «General introduction»  
9h40-9h50 João Zilhão «A word by the Honorary Doctor»

#### 9h50-11h05 **Session 1 - Categories, Transitions and Cultural Models**

- 9h50-10h15 Nicolas Teyssandier  
«Histories of "Proto-": Protoaurignacian, Protosolutrean and the Making of Paleolithic Categories»  
10h15-10h40 William Banks, Philippe Lanos & João Zilhão  
«The devil is in the details: how assumptions and choice of algorithm impact the chronological modelling of the Middle-to-Upper Paleolithic Transition in Italy»  
10h40-11h05 Priscilla Bayle  
«Dental development in Pleistocene children: what Lagar Velho 1, Qafzeh 4, and other immature individuals tell us about human evolution»

#### 11h05-11h15 **Coffee break**

#### 11h15-11h35 **Morning Cross-cutting Discussion with young researchers**

#### 11h35-13h15 **Session 2 - Chronology, Development and Cultural Emergence**

- 11h35-12h00 Clément Zanolli  
«Teeth: a "black box" preserving information on the life of hominins»  
12h00-12h25 Nicolas Zwyns  
«New chronological data from Tolbor-4 (Mongolia) and the age of the Initial Upper Paleolithic in Asia»

- 12h25-12h50 Isabelle Crevecoeur

«Fragmentation of Neanderthal populations and behavioural responses during periods of transition»

- 12h50-13h15 Peiqi Zhang

«An MIS 3 technological reversal and its implications for the Upper Paleolithic in North China»

#### 13h15-14h00 **Lunch break**

#### 14h00-15h50 **Session 3 - Cooperation, Networks and Cultural Traditions**

- 14h00-14h25 Solange Rigaud  
«Signaling cooperation: personal ornaments as material foundations of social connectivity in prehistoric Europe»  
14h25-14h50 Francesco d'Errico  
«Revisiting the Grotte du Renne and the authorship of the Châtelperronian»  
14h50-15h15 Bruno Maureille, Juliette Henrion & Arthur Gicqueau  
«Review of paleoanthropological research on the human remains from Arcy-sur-Cure»  
15h15-15h30 Norbert Mercier  
«João Zilhão and geochronology: an insider's perspective»  
15h30-15h50 Daniela Rosso  
«Ochre from Finca Dona Martina and la Boja»

#### 15h50-16h00 **Coffee break**

#### 16h00-16h20 **Afternoon Cross-cutting Discussion with young researchers**

#### 16h20-17h30 **General Discussion & Closing Remarks**

\*Presentations in French and English

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