

weiter zeitlich gegliedert werden, die Besiedlungsdauer scheint ebenfalls eher beschränkt gewesen zu sein. Der direkte Vergleich von Gefäßformen der beiden Siedlungen auf Abb. 19 unterstreicht die kulturelle Zusammengehörigkeit aufs Engste. Das Fehlen gewisser Typen im Material aus Rabelčja vas wird eher auf lokale Besonderheiten und die größere Materialbasis in Dolnji Lakoš zurückgeführt und scheint nicht auf eine kürzere Dauer der Siedlung hinzudeuten. Problematisch ist eine Datierung der beiden Siedlungen, fehlen doch verwertbare Parallelfunde aus Slowenien. Aufgrund dessen stützt sich eine chronologische Einordnung auf Funde aus Ungarn, der Slowakei und Mähren, wo vergleichbares Material vorliegt, das gut in einzelne Zeithorizonte abgegrenzt werden kann. Eine Analyse aussagekräftiger Funde aus Dolnji Lakoš und auch Rabelčja vas ergibt, dass der Beginn beider Siedlungen am Ende der Mittelbronzezeit anzusetzen ist, in die Zeit der ausgehenden mitteldanubischen Hügelgräberkultur. Für die Masse der Funde finden sich Vergleichsstücke in den Horizonten Vor-Čaka und Čaka in der Slowakei, Blučina-Kopčany in Mähren und Baierdorf-Lednice in Niederösterreich. In Zentraltransdanubien im Bereich des Bakony-Gebirges entspricht dies der älteren und jüngeren Stufe der Hügelgräberbronzezeit (Bz D bzw. Bz D-Ha A1). Während die Besiedlung in Dolnji Lakoš spätestens in Ha A abbricht, deuten vereinzelte unstratifizierte Metallfunde (Keulenkopfnadel, abgeflachte Kugelkopfnadel) eine etwas längere Benutzung des Siedlungsareals von Rabelčja vas an, die sich allerdings im Keramikmaterial nicht abzeichnet. Nach dieser chronologischen Positionierung der beiden großflächiger erforschten Siedlungen gibt Dular einen Überblick über die übrigen zeitgleichen Fundorte in Slowenien. Neben den drei Flachlandsiedlungen Šiman bei Gotovlje, Črnolica bei Šentjur und Podsmreka bei Višnja Gora, den Höhensiedlungen Brinjeva gora bei Zreče, Veliki Korinj und Semenič oberhalb von Gaber pri Semiču sind auch wenige Grabfunde bekannt geworden. Es sind dies Grabfunde aus Podsmreka bei Višnja Gora, Ptuj, Kamnik und zerstörte Gräber von der Krka. Alle diese Fundstellen haben Material geliefert, das in formaler oder ornamentaler Hinsicht mit der Virovitica-Gruppe in Verbindung gebracht wurde.

In einem umfassenden Konspekt werden von Janez Dular zuerst die westtransdanubischen jungbronzezeitlichen Gruppen (Bakony- und Balaton-Gruppe), und dann die Gruppen im Einzugsgebiet der Drau und der Save (Virovitica- und Gredani-Gruppe) in ihrem Verbreitungsgebiet, kulturellem Habitus und ihrer chronologischen Stellung referiert. Jedes dieser beiden Kapitel schließt mit einem Vergleich zwischen Dolnji Lakoš und den jeweiligen Gruppen, wodurch das weitere Umfeld der Siedlung im Prekmurje nachgezeichnet wird. Die Gesamtanalyse ergab, dass das Keramikmaterial von Dolnji Lakoš klare Verbindungen mit Stücken aus Westtransdanubien, Nordwestkroatien und Nordbosnien aufweist. Obwohl die materielle Kultur dieses größeren Gebietes untereinander enge Parallelen besitzt, kann Transdanubien und das Einzugsgebiet von Mur, Drau und Save keineswegs als einheitlicher Kulturraum bezeichnet werden, fällt doch besonders die Bakony-Gruppe durch ihre Brandbestattungen in Tumuli aus dem Rahmen, auch die Gredani-Gruppe weist eigentümliche Bestattungsweisen und -sitten auf. Das bislang bekannt gewordene jungbronzezeitliche Fundmaterial aus Slowenien läßt seine Ähnlichkeiten zu Virovitica nicht verleugnen, und auch Dolnji Lakoš sowie Rabelčja vas verfügen über viele Berührungspunkte, wenngleich auch Formen vorliegen, die ihre besten Entsprechungen in den Siedlungen und Gräberfeldern im Bereich des Balaton finden. Dular betont deshalb ausdrücklich, dass eine Einordnung der Fundorte von Slowenien in den Kreis der Virovitica-Gruppe nur als präliminare Lösung angesehen werden darf. Erst die Publikation der westtransdanubischen ungarischen Fundorte wird es ermöglichen, hier eine präzisere und zuverlässigere Definition anzubieten. Während die Anbindung von Dolnji Lakoš an östliche bzw. südöstliche Kulturgruppen evident ist, vermisst man einen Versuch,

Berührungspunkte nach Westen bzw. Nordwesten herauszufiltern. Obwohl der katastrophale Publikationsstand besonders im anschließenden Gebiet der österreichischen Steiermark dieses Unterfangen erheblich einschränkt, lassen sich aus den wenigen vorgelegten Funden vielleicht doch Verbindungen herauslesen. In erster Linie muß dabei an eingedrückte bzw. eingestempelte Ornamente (Ornament O 16) gedacht werden, die in Dolnji Lakoš selten vorkommen und in Rabelčja vas zur Gänze fehlen, hingegen in den weststeirischen zeitgleichen Flachlandsiedlungen (z. B. Hörbing bei Deutschlandsberg) häufig auftreten und anscheinend auf Kontakte zu Gebieten nördlich der Alpen (Salzburg und Oberösterreich) zurückzuführen sind. Auch die Ähnlichkeit gewisser Gefäßformen im steirischen Material deutet auf intensivere Beziehungen zu Dolnji Lakoš hin, doch wird eine Beurteilung erst nach Vorlage der noch unpublizierten großen Materialmengen möglich sein. Besonders unter diesen Gesichtspunkten wird abermals die Bedeutung und der große Wert der Monographie über Oloris / Dolnji Lakoš unterstrichen, die dank ihrer detaillierten Analyse von Befund und Funden sowie der kulturhistorischen Einordnung einen Grundstein für weitere Arbeiten zur Jungbronzezeit im Bereich der Ausläufer der Südostalpen, Westtransdanubiens und dem Drau-Save-Gebiet bildet.

Georg TIEFENGRABER

**Borut Križ:** *Kelti v Novem mestu. Katalog razstave (The Celts in Novo mesto. Exhibition Catalogue)*. Dolenjski muzej, Novo mesto 2001. ISBN 961-6306-04-9. 168 pages, 498 illustrations (including 32 in colour).

The late Sir Mortimer Wheeler, in the 1950s BBC television quiz show 'Animal, vegetable or mineral', when identifying an object often used to preface his remarks with the statement 'Ah, I was there when it was dug up!'. So too with some of the material from the large cemetery of flat cremation graves on Kapiteljska njiva which I saw in process of excavation on my last visit to Novo mesto in 1994. While the total excavation of the cemetery is planned to continue under the direction of the author of this sumptuous exhibition catalogue until 2005, the present publication follows on the long tradition of attractive publications from Novo mesto. Its general format is close to that another catalogue devoted to earlier finds from the Kapiteljska njiva cemetery (Križ 1997). Illustrated summaries of the site, whose prehistory extends back into the late Urnfield period, have appeared previously, for example in the volume issued to mark the centenary of Ferdinand Schulz's pioneering work in the area (Knez 1990, esp. sl. 80-89), while in 1993 Tone Knez published what was to be his last important contribution in a sumptuous series on excavations in Novo mesto, devoted to the great 'dynastic' Ha C-D barrow I (Knez 1993).

In the present case, as before, there is a generous selection of colour photographs - not always, it must be said, as crisply printed as might be - while the actual catalogue section has the added bonus of every object being illustrated. Following the admirable practice of many recent Slovene archaeological publications, the text is given *in toto* in an almost perfect English translation - provided as previously by Phil Mason. In fact, the exhibition and its catalogue are not restricted to the 708 flat graves discovered so far on the Kapiteljska njiva, the largest cemetery of its type and one of the largest in Central Europe. There is a selection of material from the 63 Middle La Tène graves from the Kandija site excavated by Tone Knez as well as some of the finds from the late La Tène settlement discovered in the course of rescue excavations in the vicinity of the parish church of Sv. Nikolaj; this is contemporary with the cemetery at Beletov vrt below the Marof hill-fort which continued into the Roman period.

The catalogue proper is prefaced by a general introduction

by Mitja Guštin (pp. 19-38) placing what he firmly terms 'Celts' in the context of the later Iron Age - that is, La Tène-archaeology of Slovenia; he titles, with reason, his opening section 'The Celts on the march' and it would be churlish to pick up some minor errors, probably due as much as anything to the need for compression. For example, despite previous claims, there is no certain evidence for silk in either the late Hallstatt or early La Tène period in Central Europe with the exception of a fragment from the Dürrnberg salt-mines. On the other hand, Guštin offers a valuable summary down to the gradual annexation of the Balkans by Rome in the first century BC. While pointing out the difficulties of relating the archaeological evidence to the wider historical picture in the absence of ancient sources referring to Slovenia, Guštin largely follows the present orthodoxy concerning the ethnogenesis of Celtic tribes in Slovenia. He begins with the arrival of the Taurisci in the middle of the third century BC - one aspect of the historically attested migrations which were to bring Celts and Celtic culture to as far east as the Anatolian Plateau - and their dominance over the local Illyro-Venetic population. This is represented by the hill forts and the great barrows of the region containing evidence of the Middle La Tène material culture of the former that was first characterised in 1966 by Stane Gabrovec as the 'Mokronog group' after the key cemetery site of that name.

In contrast to the karst region to the south-west there was little penetration and indeed the local communities remained virtually independent until the Roman occupation in the first century; the newcomers seem to have rapidly become acculturated. Thus, with regards to their pottery as contrasted with that found in such cemeteries of the Scordisci along the Danube further to the east (Karaburma, Pećine) the pottery found in the graves is mostly of poor quality and sometimes hand-built with only a few hand-thrown carinated bowls and miniature vases to compare with the normal repertoire of contemporary Middle La Tène fine wares. Guštin is puzzled by the relative frequency of coil-built pottery (a better term than 'hand-thrown' used in the catalogue). However, there are other examples of local pottery side by side with rich warrior graves - for example in the case of the so-called 'Arras culture' graves of North-eastern Yorkshire, best explained as the continuance of local pottery traditions in a community to a lesser or greater degree intrusive to the region. Vessels such as the famous *kantharos* with its human- and monster-heads from Kandija grave 40 (cat. no.532; Knez 1990, sl. 90-92) must be regarded like that from Blandiana in north-western Romania, as imports, outliers of a distribution centred on the Danube Valley. Whether however there is a stylistic link between the faces on the Kandija *kantharos* and the well-known pair of fourth-century bronze fingerings from Vače as claimed by Guštin is another matter entirely.

Guštin is on surer ground when emphasising the warrior element emphasised in the grave archaeology of Novo mesto where both the burial rite and associated grave goods - weapons, shears, single-edged knives (*Hiebmesser*) and animal bones, most frequently of pig, are typical of Middle La Tène groups from Western France to the Balkans. A useful summary of the complexities of the relative chronology of the region emphasises the differences between Middle La Tène (LT C) which in general - though not in detail; see above - is typical of the south-eastern Balkans while the late period (LT D) as exemplified by the Beletov vrt cemetery contains some Roman imports and shows contacts with western Balkan neighbours as well as a range of local types.

Following, Guštin's essay is a longer analysis (pp. 53-70) of the various classes of material represented in the later Iron Age graves of Novo mesto preceded by a brief summary and detailed location maps for each of the four main cemeteries and concluding with a brief but useful polyglot bibliography. Križ comments that the occasional occurrence of early La Tène

objects such as the typical example of a bronze LT B1 'Duchcov' brooch from Kapiteljska njiva grave VII / 37 must be interpreted as trade goods (?heirlooms); a similar pedigree might be suggested for the 'bent (finger-) rings' one in silver and one in bronze respectively from Kapiteljska njiva graves 436 and 656; such finger-rings are typical of LT Ic graves from the Swiss plateau but occur right across the track eastwards of Celtic migration.

Križ offers a summary of the various classes of artefacts represented in the Novo mesto cemeteries of the La Tène period - 'Weapons and [military] equipment'; 'Dress fittings [sic; better 'accessories'] and ornaments'; 'Pottery'; 'Coinage' - the only coinage are two first-century BC silver tetradrachms of the 'Samobor' type (Kos 1977, esp. Kat. Nr. 22A-B) from the Beletov vrt; and 'Metal vessels' - again only two examples also from late graves in the Beletov vrt. Here I can only draw attention to one class of artefact which has for me a particular interest; this is the decorated iron sword scabbard as occur on twelve of the more than 100 swords so far recovered from the Kapiteljska njiva graves. What is particularly noticeable is the variety of styles represented by the decorated scabbards - as of course is the case of the most remarkable of all Middle La Tène weapon finds. This is the sanctuary site of Gournay-sur-Arondes, Oise with more than 700 swords, 40 of which having been shown to have been decorated. In contrast, the type-site of La Tène, Marin-Épagnier, Ct. Neuchâtel where of some 160 swords recovered from the lake about a quarter had decorated scabbards shows greater conformity of styles, allowing retention of the term 'Swiss sword style' or, more properly, 'Swiss sub-style'. Of the Kapiteljska njiva scabbards those from graves 239, 522 and 642 fit very much into the conventions of the Swiss scabbards and the presence of punched surface decoration or 'chagrinage' as found on the grave 239 and at other Slovene site such as Veliko Mraševo indicates clearly that on occasion we must be dealing with importations - or foreign settlement - rather than local manufacture. Other scabbards, particularly that from grave 115, fall within the 'vegetal-based' conventions of the other main sub-style, that found mainly but far from exclusively on Hungarian soil. But one must observe caution; when compared with the 'classic' examples as found in the great cemeteries of Kosd, Nógrád mm. and Szob, Pest of the Budapest region - both alas still waiting complete publication - the scabbard from grave 115 appears as very poor workmanship. As with other LT C weapon finds outside the main area of fine metalwork production such as those from the so-called 'Gaital' hoard actually from Förker Laas Riegel in Carinthia, one may postulate local imitations of unfamiliar forms by local craftsmen. There are also several examples of that ubiquitous heraldic badge, the so-called 'dragon pair' most clearly to be seen on the sword scabbard from grave 555 which belongs to De Navarro's earliest form, his Type II which appear first of all in LT B1-2. These 'dragon pairs', whatever their significance, have a distribution from the northern Balkans to Iberia in the south-west and the River Thames in the north-west; they now number about 150 and more continue to be found by excavation of new material or re-examination of old finds (see most recently Frey 1995, esp. pp. 169-171).

The other important Slovene sites contemporary with Kapiteljska njiva - Dobova, Brežice, Formin and sites in the Celje region exhibit much the same range of material, the quality and variety of particularly the material equipment contrasting with the - mostly - poor level of pottery and other domestic objects. This contrasts with the situation in Transdanubia and Lower Austria (see most recently Ramsel 2002) where large-scale cemeteries and matching settlements exhibit all the features of 'classic' developed La Tène forms - including a wide range of fine wheel-turned pottery. What was the situation in Slovenia? Are we dealing with the last resting places of the first military groups moving south and east into the Balkans - or more likely their immediate descendants? Have we the intermingling of

an intrusive and largely male group with the local population? Whatever may be the correct answer, these communities remained in touch with the latest developments in military equipment, in particular fine swords and their decorated scabbards; nothing so clearly establishes the complex and widespread nature of such contacts.

All this and much, much more is inspired by the publication which I have before me but not everything in the Dolenjski muzej is perfect. In his 'Forward' (sic) to *Kelti v Novem mestu* the current Director of the Dolenjski muzej, Zdenko Picelj concludes his remarks with a hard-hitting appeal for some semblance of adequate support for the Museum and its work, starting off with a new purpose-built building. Looking at the photographs of metalwork included in this catalogue, one can guess that an on-going programme of conservation is also a priority.

As I have remarked, this has not been the place for detailed discussion of the results of this fascinating and still on-going research. Such must await the full publication of the material - as one waits also for full publication of other of the interesting La Tène cemeteries in Slovenia such as Dobova and Brežice, not to mention, from Serbia, Pećine. Recent decades have certainly not made such work easy and one must hope for a better research environment in the future.

I have made mention of the distinguished tradition of publications emanating from the Dolenjski muzej. Indeed over the last two decades the former Yugoslavia in general and Slovenia in particular has been well supplied with publications on the La Tène period whether they be in other catalogues of special exhibitions (Božič 1983; Pirkmajer 1991; Tasić 1992) or overviews (Guštin 1984; Jovanović, Božič 1987) not to mention more general surveys placing the region within its wider geographical and cultural context (Szabó et al. 1983; id. 1991; id. 1992). Indeed, what is wanted now is an up-to-date synthesis which will incorporate the wealth of recent discoveries within the framework of current European research into the period. Notwithstanding, I began this brief review on a personal note and I may conclude in similar vein. My first visit to Novo mesto was in 1969 and from then until his untimely death Tone Knez used to keep me supplied with his latest publications accompanied by comments written in a somewhat old-world English that Sir Mortimer Wheeler himself would have approved of - though Tone himself never visited an English-speaking country. Several of the finds from his earlier excavations find their place in the present catalogue - including of course the splendid *kantharos* from Kandija grave 40 (here cat. no. 532; see also Knez 1990, sl. 90-92). Despite the obvious need for better resources, I'm sure Tone would approve of the way in which his work is being continued; indeed I can hear him say: 'Good show, old chap, good show ...'

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J. V. S. MEGAW

**Marjeta Šašel Kos:** *Pre-Roman divinities of the eastern Alps and Adriatic*. Situla 38. Ljubljana 1999. 227 S., 75 Abb. ISBN 961-616 9-11-4. Mit SW-Fotos und Karten, Abkürzungsverzeichnis, Bibliographie, Gesamtindex.

Das Buch geht aus einer längeren Beschäftigung der Autorin [vgl. "Autochthonous Cults between Emona and Poetovio" in: Jenő Fitz (ed.), *Religions and Cults in Pannonia (Székesfehérvár 1998)* 17-22 und "Sacred Places and Epichoric Gods in the Southern Alpine Area - Some Aspects" in: *Les cultes polythéistes dans l'Adriatique romaine*, Séminaire Bordeaux, 1997, Textes réunis par Christiane Delplace et Francis Tassaux. Ausonius-publications, Études 5 (Bordeaux 2000) 27-51] mit dem Thema hervor und besteht aus einem Vorwort und acht eigenständigen Beiträgen von unterschiedlicher Länge. Vier davon sind überarbeitete Versionen publizierter Aufsätze (The Goddess Aecorna in Emona; Matres Magnae in Saloniae - a Note; Savus and Adalluta; Iuppiter Depulsor - a Norican Deity?); vier weitere wurden eigens für das Buch verfaßt (From Fons Timavi to Aecorna in Savaria: Epichoric and Imported Divinities; Histrian and Liburnian Goddesses; The World of Local Divinities from Celeia and Its Territory; Nutrices Augustae Deae). Wiederholungen sind dabei unvermeidlich, fallen aber nicht ins Gewicht; Druckfehler sind fast keine vorhanden (p. 41 Poggendorf - richtig: Poggersdorf; p. 55 Tiefen - richtig: Tiffen). Jeder Beitrag enthält eine Übersichtskarte mit den darin genannten Orten und qualitätvolle Inschriftenfotos. Im Schlußbeitrag werden die lokalspezifischen Kultdenkmäler der Nutrices aus Poetovio katalogmäßig aufgelistet, wobei die soziale Bedeutung des Kultes aus der Analyse der Inschriften hervorgeht. Auffällig ist, daß zumeist der Kindesvater als Dedikant auftritt [siehe weiters: M. Šašel Kos, *The Nutrices of Poetovio - Three Lost Fragments*, in: M. Vomer Gojković u.a. (Hg.), *Ptuj v Rimskem cesarstvu. Mitraizem in njegov doba*, *Archaeologia Poetovionensis* 2 (Ptuj 2001) 343-347].

Das Werk hat also kein einheitliches Gepräge, bietet aber eine nützliche und längst fällige Studie [vgl. eine ältere Liste bei G. Alföldy, *Noricum* (London, Boston 1974) 239-241: Appendix IV "Celtic names of deities in Noricum"] zu Quellensituation und Sekundärliteratur. Trotz der hohen Informationsdichte ist eine gut lesbare Darstellung gelungen, wozu das präzise und leicht verständliche Englisch wesentlich beiträgt. Leider fehlt ein Inschriftenregister, was den Nutzen der Arbeit als Nachschlagewerk erhöht hätte.

Quellentheoretische und religionswissenschaftliche Ansätze werden zwar nicht ausdrücklich erörtert, doch geht manches