

# Curriculum Vitae

## Ehsan Behbahani-Nia

Department of Art History  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

[behbahania@wisc.edu](mailto:behbahania@wisc.edu)

### EDUCATION

#### **Ph.D. in Art History (2020–)**

University of Wisconsin-Madison [Supervisor: Prof. Nick Cahill].

#### **M.A. in Mediterranean and Near Eastern Antiquity (2018–2020)**

Preparatory year for Ph.D. (Master's 2), PSL Research University (École Pratique des Hautes Études), Paris. Courses include Elamite and Ancient Greek language, Achaemenid History and the study of Persepolis' Administrative Tablets, and Greek Archaeology, especially in the study of Greek Architecture [Supervisor: Prof. Wouter Henkelman].

#### **M.A. in Archaeology of Ancient Worlds (2017–2018)**

Research Master's degree (Master's 2), Université de Strasbourg. Seminars included Classical Archaeology, Near Eastern Archaeology, Greco-Roman Art and Architecture, Byzantine Art, History of Greece and Old Languages (Latin) [Supervisor: Prof. Jean-Yves Marc].

#### **M.A. in Architecture and Archaeology (2016–2018)**

Professional Master's degree, a joint degree program run by École d'Architecture de Strasbourg (ENSAS) and Université de Strasbourg. First year of M.A. was held in Strasbourg (University of Strasbourg). Second year consisted of 7 training sessions in different cities (Delos/Greece, Arles, Mandeure, Auxerre and Strasbourg/France) [Supervisors: Professors Philippe Fraisse and Didier Laroche].

#### **Bachelor of Architecture (2012–2016)**

Azad University, Central Tehran Branch, Tehran, Iran

#### **Diploma in Mathematics and Physics (2011–2012)**

The Elites of Allameh High School, Tehran, Iran

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Greek and Roman art and architecture
- Greek urbanism and city planning
- Architecture of Asia Minor and its influence abroad, from the archaic period to late antiquity

- Cross-cultural interactions and craftsmen mobility in the Mediterranean and beyond in antiquity
- Archaeology of Western Anatolia
- Achaemenid art and architecture
- Ancient construction techniques
- Restitution and the study of ruins
- Herodotus and the history of Greco-Persian wars
- History of the relationship and exchange between the West (Greeks and Romans) and Iranians (Achaemenids, Parthians and Sassanids)

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

**Project Assistant**, UW-Madison’s Department of Art History (08.2020–08.2021)

- Working with Prof. Nick Cahill on a variety of tasks related to the research and publications at Sardis. These include helping to organize the records of each field season, working on the on-line database of artifacts, coins, photographs, and other records.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPERIENCE

**Excavation in Argentomagus** (August 2019)

Study of an ancient Gallo-Roman temple and a monument interpreted as “Domus de Quintus Sergius Macrinus” located in the center of the agglomeration of Argentomagus (Saint-Marcel, Indre), organized by *Éveha* and *ArScAn - UMR 7041*.

**The Onchestos Excavation Project** (July 2019)

Sixth campaign of Columbia University’s excavation of the Sanctuary of Poseidon in Onchestos. Dedicated to finishing the analysis of the materials excavated between 2014 and 2017, organized by *Columbia University*.

**University of Chicago Excavations at Isthmia** (June 2019)

Surface survey west of the Sanctuary of Poseidon, around the Isthmian gully and the area interpreted as the “Sacred Glen”. Excavation also focused on study of objects (figurines, pottery) found over previous campaigns in Trench F, organized by the *University of Chicago*.

**Archaeological Research in Pasargadae** (Nov 2018)

Architectural analysis of the Achaemenid monuments of Pasargadae (such as Tol-e-Takht, Zendan and Palace S), as well as study and survey of the so-called reemployed blocks on top of the Sacred Mount (Tol-e Moqadas). As member of the French-Iranian archaeological mission of Pasargadae, organized by *Université Lyon 2* and *Shahid Beheshti University*.

**Excavation and Architectural Study in Rome** (Sept 2018)

Study of the Severan and Claudian breakwaters in the port complex Ostie-Portus, the primary port of imperial Rome, organized by *École Française de Rome (EFR)*.

### **Excavation of the Ancient Theater of Mandeure** (August 2018)

Excavation of the upper part of the Gallo-Roman theater of Mandeure, a French-American program organized by *SIVAMM* and *Carthage College (Kenosha, WI)*.

### **Architectural Study of Northern Part of Caričin Grad** (July 2018)

Photogrammetry, topography and architectural survey of the Caricin Grad (Justiniana Prima), a Byzantine site in Serbia, a French-Serbian program organized by *Archimède UMR 7044*. (End-of-studies internship of the Master's degree in Architecture and Archaeology)

### **Post-excavation Internship of Mandeure** (August and Sept 2017)

Technical drawing, surveying, photogrammetry, recording and conditioning of archaeological objects and architectural elements found over previous excavations in the Ancient Theater of Mandeure, organized by *SIVAMM* and *University of Strasbourg*.

## **WORKSHOPS AND TRAVEL SEMINARS**

### ▪ **Beyond the Northern Aegean: Architectural Interactions across the Black Sea region (Travel seminar)**

A three-week travel seminar in Romania, Bulgaria, Ukraine and Turkey, investigating architectural interactions across Northern Greek, Macedonian, Thracian and Pontic Regions in the late Classical and Hellenistic Periods, as part of Getty Foundation's Connecting Art Histories Program, organized by Emory University. (May 2021)

### ▪ **Historic preservation and development of 'Agora of the Italians' in Delos (Workshop)**

A French-Greek project on the development and preservation of the Agora of the Italians, the largest edifice of Delos island, within the framework of the Master's in Architecture and Archaeology over a 10-day study session on the island, organized by École d'architecture de Strasbourg and École française d'Athènes. (April 2018)

### ▪ **Urban conservation and management of the ancient city of Arles (Workshop)**

Conceptual restoration and development of the main entrance of Arles, the district of the "Porte de la Cavalerie" and its remains, as part of Master's degree in Architecture and Archaeology over two sessions, a total of 20 days in Arles. (Nov 2017 and June 2018)

### ▪ **Educational and research travel to Thessaloniki, Greece**

A 4-day trip to Thessaloniki to study the Roman monuments of the city (especially Arch of Galerius) as part of the Master of Archaeology of Ancient Worlds dissertation. (May 2017)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND PROJECTS

- **Locating the temple of Demeter at Isthmia (Fieldwork project)**

Investigation around the Isthmian gully and the area interpreted as the ‘Sacred Glen’ by Oscar Broneer, to locate the temple of Demeter mentioned in the Priscus inscription and for which there are two Hellenistic inscriptions. Our study also explores previous excavation notebooks and unpublished material. (06.2019–)

- **The Influence of Greek and Lydian Building Traditions on Achaemenid Architecture (M.A. Thesis)**

Subject of Master’s thesis at PSL Research University (EPHE, École Pratique des Hautes Etudes), in preparation for doctoral study on architectural exchanges throughout the Ancient Mediterranean World and abroad (including Persia). (2018–2020)

- **Caričin Grad end-of-studies internship report (Final project)**

A 70-page mission report of activities in Caričin Grad, as a final project for the professional Master’s in Architecture and Archaeology. (Summer 2018)

- **Study of buildings related to the Roman-Persian Wars (M.A. Thesis)**

Thesis subject of Master’s in Archaeology of Ancient Worlds, an overview of monuments related to the Roman-Persian Wars including the Black Gate, and Arch of Galerius, etc. (2017–2018)

- **Design of an archaeological museum (Bachelor’s final project)**

Project of Bachelor of Architecture, design of a new museum of ancient Persia in the heart of Tehran. (Summer 2016)

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING COURSES

**Winter school: Intensive coursework on Ancient Greek (October 2019)**

Intensive coursework for graduate students relying on Ancient Greek for their research (45h), as a prelude to Greek Level 2, Sorbonne, École Pratique des Hautes Études (EPHE), Paris.

**Intensive introduction to Greek Architecture and Urbanism (2019)**

Introduction to Greek architecture for beginners and advanced students, from quarry to finished buildings. École Normale Supérieure (ENS), Paris.

**Winter school: Old Persian epigraphy (2018–2019)**

Introduction to Old Persian and reading of inscriptions of Darius, Xerxes, etc., École du Louvre, *Musée du Louvre*, Paris.

**Summer school: Fantastic Animals from the Ancient Orient to Present day** (25–29 June 2018)

The evolution of dragons, sphinxes, griffins etc. through the centuries in Elam, Iran, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, medieval time, etc., École du Louvre, *Musée du Louvre*, Paris.

**International Thematic School of Bordeaux 2018** (27–29 March 2018)

Third consecutive year of *École thématique internationale de Bordeaux* dedicated to training in expertise in ancient architecture, a French-American program run by Université Bordeaux-Montaigne, Emory University and University of Wisconsin-Madison.

**Intensive training on architectural drawing** (May and June 2017)

Four full days of training on technical drawing and architectural survey of ancient monuments (UEL 222c), organized by École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Strasbourg.

**International Thematic School of Bordeaux 2017** (15–17 March 2017)

Advanced technical training in ancient Greek architecture, delivered by French and American specialists. A French-American program (PUF - Partner University Fund) organized by Université Bordeaux-Montaigne, Emory University (Atlanta) and University of Wisconsin-Madison.

**Training course on sketching and freehand drawing** (Summer 2015)

Specialization in historical monuments, School of Plastic Arts “Tasvirgaran Pouya Andish”, Tehran.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

**Getty Connecting Art Histories Grant**, covering all expenses related to the three-week travel seminar “Beyond the Northern Aegean” in Romania, Bulgaria, Ukraine, and Turkey. May 2021

**Four Year Funding Package** from the Department of Art History of the University of Wisconsin-Madison for PhD studies in Art History. Starting from August 2020

**Ausonius Travel Fellowship**, in support of lecture “From Sardis to Pasargadae”, from the Dept of Archaeology of Université Bordeaux-Montaigne. December 2019

**Funding** from Éveha (the main private office of archaeological studies in France) for expenses related to excavation in Argentomagus, France. August 2019

**Funding** from Columbia University’s Department of Art History and Archaeology for

living expenses during the 2019 campaign of The Onchestos Excavation. July 2019

**Grant and Research Funding** from University of Chicago for expenses related to the archaeological fieldwork project at Isthmia (680€ for 14 days). June 2019

**Travel Grant** from EPHE, in support of Pasargadae fieldwork (450€). 2019

**Funding** from Université de Lyon II for all expenses related to the Architectural Study in Pasargadae. November 2018

**École Française de Rome Research Fund** for participation in Excavation and Architectural Study in Ostie-Portus. September 2018

**Archimède Travel Funding** for expenses related to the Architectural Study of Northern Part of Caricin Grad in Serbia. July 2018

**Delos Travel Fellowship** from École Française d'Athènes (EFA) and École d'Architecture de Strasbourg for all expenses relating to a 10-day study session in Delos Island. April 2018

**Funding** from Carthage College and Université de Strasbourg for participation in two consecutive Archaeological Missions in Mandeuze, France. 2017 and 2018

**PUF Fellowship** from International Thematic School of Bordeaux and PUF (Partner University Fund), transport and hotel support for participation in Franco-American program of ancient architecture. March 2018

**Education Grant** from Crous Strasbourg, additional support for buying a laptop (300€). 2017

**Selected** by École d'Architecture de Strasbourg for “Master’s 2 in Architecture and Archaeology” as one of 10 admitted after interviewing 50 persons. 2017

**Campus France Postgraduate Scholarship** from the French government for two years of master’s degree in Architecture and Archaeology (€ 11 600, 21 months). 2016–2018

**Ranked 163** with a grade of 7046 in Iranian University Entrance Concours (Azad). 2012

## PUBLICATIONS

### Articles:

**Gebhard Elizabeth and Behbahani-Nia Ehsan**, “The Sacred Glen and the Mystery of the Sanctuary of Demeter at Isthmia (Sacred Glen Report I)”, forthcoming.

**Behbahani-Nia Ehsan**, “Tall-i Takht: New Details on the Unfinished Terrace of Pasargadae,” *The Journal of Ancient Architecture* (1), ed. C. Marconi, forthcoming (2020).

**Behbahani-Nia Ehsan and Modena Altieri Ascanio**, “Guerra e sincretismo da Atene a Bishapur,” *L’Intellettuale Dissidente*, Rome, 2019 ([Online](#)).

### Fieldwork Reports:

**Gebhard Elizabeth and al.**, Report of the 2019 Study Season at Isthmia, 2019 (*ASCSA* report).

**Behbahani-Nia Ehsan**, “Preliminary Report on an Architectural Study of Monuments at Pasargadae,” *Report on the 2018 Archaeological Project of the Joint Iran-France Project at Pasargadae and its Surrounding Territory*, Tehran, 2019, pp. 81-85.

**Behbahani-Nia Ehsan**, “Bâtiment 19c,” *Fouille de Caričin Grad : Rapport des activités de 2018*, Belgrade, 2019, pp. 12-18 (unpublished).

## LECTURES

“From Sardis to Pasargadae: the Tall-i Takht and the mobility of Ionian-Lyidian stonemasons in Persia”, organized by Ausonius (UMR 5607), *Université Bordeaux-Montaigne, Bordeaux*, December 6, 2019 ([Program information](#))

“The Capture of Sardis and the Birth of Achaemenid Architecture”, organized by ArkhéopSL, *École Nationale des Chartes, Paris*, May 24, 2019 (Review available [online](#))

“A new project on preservation of the ‘Porte de la Cavalerie’ of the ancient city of Arles”, organized by École d’architecture de Strasbourg, in front of the mayor and municipal government of the city of Arles, *Maison du Secteur sauvegardé, Arles*, June 21, 2018

“Agora of the Italians in Delos: a new area for open-air exhibitions and spectacles on the island?”, in front of the director and members of École française d’Athènes, *Delos*, April 27, 2018

## ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Member of “Beyond the Northern Aegean” travel seminar [[Online profile](#)] (2020–)

Research Associate of the University of Chicago Excavations at Isthmia (2019–)

Member of the French-Iranian archaeological mission of Pasargadae (2018–)

Member of ArkhéoPLS association (Archaeology club of Paris students) (2018–2020)

Member of the association Routes de l'Orient, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (2018–2019)

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Tour Guide of Iranian Groups in Europe** (July 2014 and June 2015)

Tourist guide for Iranian groups in Rome, Paris and other European cities, for *Sana Safar Gasht* Travel Agency.

### **Tour Operator Consultant** (Summer of 2014, and 2015)

Specialist of tourist sites for *Sana Safar Gasht (S.S.G.)* Travel Agency, Tehran.

### **Travel and Tourism Internship** (Summer 2013)

Training course on tourism; program focused on gaining knowledge of monuments, cities and countries, with *Rahyaban-e Tatilat* Travel Agency, Tehran.

## LANGUAGES

### **Modern Languages:**

Persian: Native

French: Fluent

English: Fluent

German: Beginner

### **Ancient Languages:**

Latin: Reading

Greek: Reading

Elamite: Basics

Old Persian: Basics

## COMPUTER SKILLS

- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Illustrator
- Autocad 2D
- Autocad 3D
- ArchiCAD
- SketchUp
- Word
- PowerPoint
- Photoscan
- QGIS



## OTHER SKILLS

Technical drawing and architectural surveying, analyzing monuments, photogrammetry, 3D Reconstructions, excavating, GIS, documenting and preserving.

Leadership, field coordinating, teamwork

## OTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRAVELS

- **As part of Master's in Architecture and Archaeology (October 2017–June 2018)**

*Roman and Gallo-roman Sites:* Besançon, Bliesbruck, Glanum, Augusta Raurica, Uzès, Nimes, Pont du Gard

*Medieval Sites:* Auxerre, Vézelay, Oudun

- **Personal travels**

Ephesus, Smyrna (Izmir); Rome, Hadrian's Villa; Athens, Delphi, Pella, Vergina; Persepolis, Pasargadae, Naqsh-e Rostam

## REFERENCES

Prof. **Nick Cahill:** Director of the Sardis Expedition, and Professor of Greek and Roman Art and Archaeology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

+1 (608) 263 8980, [ndcahill@wisc.edu](mailto:ndcahill@wisc.edu)

Prof. **Elizabeth Gebhard:** Director of the University of Chicago Excavations at Isthmia, and Emeritus Professor of Classics at Edinburgh University

(+30) 274 1031279, [egebhard@staffmail.ed.ac.uk](mailto:egebhard@staffmail.ed.ac.uk)

Prof. **Jean-Yves Marc:** Professor of Roman Archaeology and Director of the Faculty of Historical Sciences, Université de Strasbourg

(+33) 3 68 85 68 61, [jeanyves.marc@unistra.fr](mailto:jeanyves.marc@unistra.fr)

Prof. **Jacques des Courtils:** Professor of Greek Architecture and Urbanism, Université Bordeaux-Montaigne

(+33) 6 20 53 85 65, [jacques.des-courtils@u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr](mailto:jacques.des-courtils@u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr)

Prof. **Wouter Henkelman**: Professor of Elamite and Achaemenid Studies, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Paris

(+49) 1522 4646430, [wouter.henkelman@ephe.sorbonne.fr](mailto:wouter.henkelman@ephe.sorbonne.fr)

Prof. **Didier Laroche**: Architect and Professor of Study and Reconstruction of Ancient Monuments, Strasbourg School of Architecture

(+33) 6 85 53 95 53, [didier.laroche@strasbourg.archi.fr](mailto:didier.laroche@strasbourg.archi.fr)

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