

MARIANNA FUSCO

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JOB HISTORY

January 2025-present Post doctoral research assistant
Paleolithic Technology Lab
Department of Anthropology, Emory University, Atlanta (GA)

July 2023 – present Co-PI of the project “Gotera archaeological mission” in southern Ethiopia
Field director of the GOT10 site excavation
Sapienza University of Rome
Ethiopian Heritage Authority, Addis Ababa

March- Dec 2024 → Post-doctoral Research Fellow
Department of Ancient World Studies, Sapienza University of Rome

EDUCATION

May 2024 → Ph.D. in Archaeology, Quaternary and Prehistory
“La Sapienza” University of Rome and Universitat Rovira I Virgili, Tarragona, Spain
Thesis: Decoding changes: technological and statistical investigation of the MSA-LSA transition in the Horn of Africa

2019 → Post-Graduate School of Specialization in Palaeolithic Archaeology
“La Sapienza” University of Rome

2014 → Master Degree in Archaeology
“L’Orientale” University of Naples

GRANT AND AWARDS

November 2024 Early Career Research Grant, Sapienza University of Rome (2360,00 €)
November 2023 Early Career Research Grant, Sapienza University of Rome (2000,00 €)

February 2023 Mobility fellowship for Ph.D. students, Sapienza University of Rome (5400,00 €). ~~Three months~~ research stay at the Ethiopian Heritage Authority Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

November 2022 Mobility ~~individual~~ fellowship for Ph.D. students, Sapienza University of Rome (5400,00 €). ~~Three months~~ research stay at the ~~Department of Zoology~~, Evolutionary Ecology Group, University of Cambridge, UK.

November 2022 Laziodisu Scholarship (5009 €) and total exception for the fees due for Ph.D. School in Prehistoric Archaeology

October 2022 Early Career Research Grant, Sapienza University of Rome (1400,00 €)

<u>November 2021</u>	Mobility individual fellowship for Ph.D. students, Sapienza University of Rome (10800,00 €). Six months research stay at the Catalan Institute of Human Paleoecology and Social Evolution (IPHES), Tarragona, Spain.
<u>November 2021</u>	Laziodisu Scholarship (5009 €) and total exception for the fees due for Ph.D. School in Prehistoric Archaeology
<u>October 2021</u>	Early Career Research Grant, Sapienza Università di Roma (1900,00 €)
<u>January 2021</u>	Grant for joint supervision of doctoral thesis, Universitat Rovira I Virgili (5000,00 €)
<u>January 2021</u>	British Institute in Eastern Africa (BIEA) 2021 Thematic Research Grant to conduct research activities in Ethiopia (1500 £)
<u>December 2020</u>	Centre français des étude éthiopiennes (CFEE) 2021 Fieldwork grant to conduct research activities in Ethiopia (30000 ETB)
<u>November 2020</u>	Laziodisu Scholarship (5009 €) and total exception for the fees due for PhD School in Prehistoric Archaeology
<u>December 2017</u>	Laziodisu Scholarship (5118 €) and total exception for the fees due for the Graduate School of Specialization in Prehistoric Archaeology
<u>Sept-Dec 2013</u>	Erasmus program scholarship (700 €), KULeuven, Belgium
<u>October 2011</u>	Adisu Scholarship (1000 €) and total exception for the fees due to Master degree in Archaeology

PUBLICATIONS

- Asrat, S., Lucchini, F., Tafuri, M.A., Aureli, C., Gallinaro, M., Zerboni, A., **FUSCO, M.** and Spinapoli, E.E. in revision. “A strontium (87Sr/86Sr) isoscape of Southern Ethiopia: implications for hominin land use and faunal mobility patterns”. *Frontiers in Environmental Archaeology, section Archaeological Isotope Analysis*.
- **FUSCO, M.**, Habte, B., Leplongeon, A., Ménard, C., Manica, A., Spinapoli, E.E. and Leonardi, M. 2024. “The environmental context of the Middle-to-Late Stone Age Transition in eastern Africa: seasonality as a key factor”. bioRxiv 2024.12.09.627606; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.12.09.627606>. In submission to: Scientific Reports
- **FUSCO, M.**, Asrat, S., Aureli, C., Zerboni, A., Lemorini, C., Gallinaro, M., Spinapoli, E.E. in press. “The Gotera archaeological mission in southern Ethiopia: ongoing research in the Middle Stone Age site of Gotera (Oromia, Borana zone)”. *Annales d’Éthiopie*, vol 35.
- Solomon, T., Spinapoli, E.E., **FUSCO, M.**, Shoba, H., Zerboni, A., Gallinaro, M. in press. “Rock art in the Borana zone (southern Ethiopia), new perspectives from fieldwork”. *Annales d’Éthiopie*, vol. 35.
- **FUSCO, M.**, Spinapoli E.E. 2022. “New evidence of bipolar technique use in the eastern Africa Middle Stone Age (MSA)”. *Incontri annuali di preistoria e protostoria*, IX: 18-20.
- **FUSCO, M.**, Carletti, E., Gallinaro, M., Zerboni, A., Spinapoli, E.E., 2021. “Raw material exploitation and lithic variability at the MSA site of Gotera, southern Ethiopia: technological and quantitative approaches combined”. *Journal of Lithic Studies*: 1-29.
- Spinapoli, E.E., Zerboni, A., Meyer, M., Slon, V., Talamo, S., Garcia, J.M., Lugli, F., **FUSCO, M.**, Maiorano, M.P., Marciani, G., Mariani, G.S., Silvestrini, S., Tassoni, L., Romandini, M., Fiorini, A., Curci, A., Benazzi, S., 2022. “Back to Uluzzo. Archaeological, palaeoenvironmental, and

chronological context of the Mid-Upper Palaeolithic sequence at Uluzzo C (Apulia, Southern Italy)”. *Journal of Quaternary Science*, 37(2): 217–234

- Carletti, E., **FUSCO, M.**, Gallinaro, M., Zerboni, A., Spinapolice, E.E., 2018. “Raw material exploitation and lithic variability at the MSA site of Gotera, southern Ethiopia: technological and quantitative approaches combined”. Proceedings of 2018 IEEE International Conference on Metrology for Archaeology and Cultural Heritage, Cassino, University Campus, Italy. October 22th - 24th, 2018.
- **FUSCO, M.**, Valentini, R., D’Andrea, A., 2018. “Integrated 3D Survey Methods to Document the Middle Pleistocene Site of Valle Giumentina (Abruzzo, Italy)”. *Annali dell’Università degli studi di Ferrara, sezione di museologia scientifica e naturalistica*, 13: 74-77.

SESSIONS AND CONFERENCE ORGANIZED

- “Beyond traditional labels: Multidisciplinary perspectives on transitions in Africa during the Late Pleistocene and Holocene”. Session organized with C. Pruvost (University of Geneve), B. Habte (Ethiopian Heritage Authority), O. Scancarello (Université Côte d’Azur) and G. Bader (University of Tübingen). 27th Biennial Meeting of the Society of Africanist Archaeologists (SAfA), 21st-26th July 2025, Faro.
- “Ethnographic analogy and the African Middle Stone Age archaeological record: re-assessing potentials and pitfalls”. Session organized with Dr. N. Taylor (Turkana Basin Institute, Kenya; Stony Brook University, NY). 30° annual conference of the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA), 28th -31st August 2024; Roma.
- Abbondanzieri, E., De Luca, S., Di Matteo, M., **FUSCO, M.**, Giovino, N., Petrini, M., Pizzuti, E., Vilmercati, M. 2023. Organizzazione della X edizione del seminario della scuola di dottorato in archeologia. Università di Roma "La Sapienza". 22th – 24th February 2023.
- **FUSCO, M.**, Spinapolice, E.E. 2022. Organization of the workshop: “Human Evolution and Archaeology. New Research Activities of the University of Rome La Sapienza in Ethiopia”. Italian Cultural Institute in Addis Ababa, 28th July 2022.
- **FUSCO, M.**, Di Matteo, M., and Rotunno, R. 2021. Organization of an online seminar series on African prehistory (APSS – African Prehistory Seminar Series). Guest speakers included: Dr. A. Mounier (*African Palaeoanthropology: from the Early-Middle Pleistocene Transition*); Dr. A. Leplongeon (*Late Pleistocene Lithic Variability in Eastern and North-Eastern Africa*); Dr. A. Janzen (*Methodologies for Exploring Ancient African Pastoralism: ZooMs and Stable Isotope Analysis*).
- “People vs Food: Technologies and Terminologies of Subsistence Strategies in a Comparative Perspective from Prehistoric Contexts”. Session organized in collaboration with R. Rotunno (University of Rome “La Sapienza”). SAfA 25th Biennal Meeting: African Archaeology – A 20:20 Vision for the Future. 1st September 2021, online.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- **FUSCO, M.**, Douze, K., Habte, B., Leplongeon, A., Ménard, C., Manica, A., Spinapolice, E.E., Leonardi, M. 2024. “Evaluating the role of climate and environment in lithic production during the Middle Stone Age-Later Stone Age transition in eastern Africa”. Eastern African Association of

Paleoanthropologists and Paleontologists (EAAPP) Conference, 28th July– 1st August; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

- Fusco, M., and Spinaplice, E.E. 2023. "Bipolar evidence from southern Ethiopia: a simple technique that may indicate a complex behaviour". 4S Society for Social Studies of Science Meeting, Honolulu. 8-11 November 2023.
- Asrat, S., Aureli, C., **FUSCO, M.**, Tafuri, M., Spinaplice, E.E. 2023. "New insights into the late Pleistocene paleoecology using $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ enamel isotope evidence from Gotera, Southern Ethiopia". Session 125: African Quaternary Anthro-environments: Palaeoecology and cultural responses to environmental variance. XXI INQUA Congress, 14-20 July, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
- Aureli, C., Asrat, S., **FUSCO, M.**, Melaku, S., Spinaplice, E.E. 2023. "Homo sapiens behaviour and adaptation in East Africa. New evidence from an open-air site in a modern Ethiopian savannah environment: the GOT10 site". Session 64: Mapping Ancient Africa: Climate, Vegetation & Humans. XXI INQUA Congress, 14-20 July, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
- **FUSCO, M.** 2023. "The MIS3 archaeological record of Ethiopia: What did happen and what do we know?". Seminario della scuola di dottorato in archeologia, X edizione. Università di Roma "La Sapienza". 22 - 24 February 2023.
- Asrat, S., Aureli, C., **FUSCO, M.**, Tafuri, M., Spinaplice, E.E. accepted. "New Insight into the late Pleistocene paleoecology: stable isotopes evidence from Gotera, southern Ethiopia". SAfA 26th Biennal Meeting, 1-6 June 2023, Rice University, Houston, Texas.
- **FUSCO, M.** and Spinaplice, E.E. 2022. "Human adaptation during the MIS3 in Eastern Africa: Gotera 10, a new Middle Stone Age site in southern Ethiopia". 28th EAA Annual Meeting in Budapest, 31 August- 3 September. Session #224. Hunter-gatherers Resilience: Adaptation Patterns to Climatic Shifts at Different Latitudes from MIS3 to MIS 1 (Dr. Giuseppina Mutri; Dr. Latifa Sari).
- **FUSCO, M.**, Bucci Casari, F., Maiorano, M.P., Spinaplice, E.E. 2022. "Bipolar Technique in the East African Middle Stone Age: new evidence from Gotera, southern Ethiopia". 16° Pan-african Archaeological Association Congress, 7-12 August, Zanzibar, Tanzania. Session n.22: "Discreet evidence of rarely preserved human technical behaviours in the African Palaeolithic (Dr. Katja Douze; Charlotte Pruvost; Dr. Aurore Val).
- **FUSCO, M.**, Asrat, S., Aureli, C., Bucci Casari, F., Talamo, S., Urban, P., Meyer, M., Gallinaro, M., Zerboni, A. & Spinaplice, E.E. 2022. "The Middle Stone Age site of GOT10, Gotera, southern Ethiopia, in its cultural, chronological and environmental contexts". Eastern African Association of Paleoanthropologists and Paleontologists (EAAPP) Conference, 31 st July– 4 th August; Arusha, Tanzania.
- **FUSCO, M.** 2022. "The analysis of Gotera area: new evidence for the Ethiopian Middle Stone Age". Human Evolution and Archaeology. New Research Activities of the University of Rome La Sapienza in Ethiopia. Italian Cultural Institute in Addis Ababa, 28th July 2022.
- **FUSCO, M.**, Spinaplice, E.E. 2022. "New evidence of bipolar technique use in the Eastern Africa Middle Stone Age (MSA)". IX Incontro Annuale di Preistoria e Protostoria – IIPP, DAFIST, Via Balbi 2, Aula Magna – Genova – 3rd March 2022
- **FUSCO, M.** 2021. 'The Horn of Africa in the MIS 3: a comparative analysis of archaeological contexts during the late Middle Stone Age (MSA) – Later Stone Age (LSA) transition'. BIEA's first Annual Conference, 24th November, online.

- **FUSCO, M.**, Spinapolic, E.E. 2021. "Gotera, southern Ethiopia and its place in the technological variability of MIS 3 in the Horn of Africa". XIXth World UISPP Congres, Meknès (virtual): 2-7th September 2021.
- **FUSCO, M.**, Zerboni, A., Gallinaro, M., Spinapolic, E.E., 2019. "Exploitation strategies of local environment in prehistoric sub-Saharan Africa: the analysis of MSA site of Gotera, southern Ethiopia". LIV Riunione scientifica dell'IIPP: Archeologia del cambiamento: modelli, processi, adattamenti nella preistoria e protostoria. Museo delle Civiltà, Rome: 23rd – 26th October 2019.
- **FUSCO, M.**, 2019. *La Middle Stone Age dell'Africa orientale. Approccio tecnologico e metodi statistici*. Workshop organized in the frame of the Prehistory and Protohistory class held by Prof. Giulio Lucarini at the University of Naples "L'Orientale", in collaboration with prof. Marco Pacciarelli (University of Naples "Federico II").
- Spinapolic, E.E, Gallinaro, M., Zerboni, A., Solomon, T. Berhane, H., **FUSCO, M.**, Carletti, E., Guidi, L. 2018. "Italian Archaeological Mission in Southern Ethiopia" poster presented at the IAM conference, Cairo, 4-8 December 2018.
- **FUSCO, M.**, Carletti, E. and Spinapolic, E.E., 2018. "Raw material exploitation and lithic variability at the MSA site of Gotera, Southern Ethiopia". African Archaeology Research Day –AARD 2018, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK, November 24th 2018.
- Carletti, E., **FUSCO, M.**, Gallinaro, M., Zerboni, A., Spinapolic, E.E., 2018. "Raw material exploitation and lithic variability at the MSA site of Gotera, Southern Ethiopia: technological and quantitative approaches combined". 2018 IEEE International Conference on Metrology for Archaeology and Cultural Heritage, Cassino, University Campus, Italy. October 22-24, 2018.
- **FUSCO, M.**, Valentini, R., D'Andrea, A. 'Integrated 3D Survey Methods to Document the Middle Pleistocene Site of Valle Giumentina (Abruzzo, Italy)'. FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF PREHISTORY AND PROTOHISTORY 'Application of emerging technologies to Italian Palaeolithic and Mesolithic case-studies'. Università degli Studi di Ferrara, Aula Magna di Economia - Via Voltapaleotto 11 - Ferrara (Italy) 7th-8th February 2018.
- D'Andrea, A., Bosco, A., Forte, F., **FUSCO, M.**, Valentini, R., 2017. "Vesuviana, Dher. Domus Herculaneum Rationes. Ercolano, Insula III: Rete Topografica 3D per lo Studio e la Tutela, in Ricerca e valorizzazione. Questioni di archeologia, arte e museologia, Convegno di studi internazionale e interdisciplinare, Bologna 4th – 6th May 2017" (Poster).

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

January 2024 - ongoing: Field assistant, lithic analyst and responsible for Pleistocene evidence for the project "Exploring the Omani Rub al'Khali" Sultanate of Oman. Dohfar, Oman. PI: Dr. Maria Pia Maiorano, Frankfurt University. Funded by Beatrice De Cardi Award (Society of Antiquities of London) and the Earth Sciences Consultancy Centre Muscat, supported by the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, Sultanate of Oman.

September 2023 - ongoing: Lithic specialist for the Lebanese-Italian Archaeological Project in the region of Tyre, Pi: Prof. Marta D'Andrea (Sapienza, University of Rome), Prof. May Haider (Lebanese University), Dr. Ali Badawi (Directorate-General of Antiquities).

July 2023 - ongoing: Member and lithic specialist of the project "Arte rupestre e paesaggio in Tanzania centrale". PI: Prof. Marina Gallinaro (University of Rome "La Sapienza"), Co-PI: Dr. Makarius Itambu (University of Dar es-Salaam). Funded by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affair and Sapienza University of Rome.

July 2017 - ongoing: Field director of the GOT10 site excavation, Gotera, southern Ethiopia. PI: Prof. Dr. Enza E. Spinapoli (University of Rome "La Sapienza"), Co-PI: Dr. Marianna Fusco (University of Rome "La Sapienza"). Funded by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affair and Sapienza University of Rome.

July 2017 - ongoing: Member and lithic specialist of the project "Arte rupestre nella Borana Zone (Oromia, Etiopia meridionale): ricercar, conservazione e sviluppo sostenibile. PI: Prof. Dr. Marina Gallinaro (University of Rome "La Sapienza"), Co-PI: Dr. Tadele Solomon (Ethiopian Heritage Authority). Funded by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affair and Sapienza University of Rome.

July 2023: archaeological survey and excavation of the Middle Stone Age evidence in the frame of Ng'ipalajem project. PI: Prof. Marta Mirazòn Lahr, University of Cambridge.

August 2021: archaeological excavation at the Pleistocene site of Abric Romanà (Spain). Institut Català de Paleoecología Humana I Evolució Social (IPHES); PI: Eudald Carbonell; M. Gema Chacòn.

August- September 2017: archaeological excavation at the prehistoric cave of Uluzzo C, Lecce (Italy). ERC Success; PI Prof. Dr. Stefano Benazzi, Prof. Dr. Antonio Curci (University of Bologna), Prof. Dr. Enza E. Spinapoli (University of Rome "La Sapienza").

2014 - 2017: Archaeological excavation of the Middle Pleistocene site of Valle Giumentina, (Pescara). École française de Rome. Field archaeologist. PI: Dr. E. Nicoud (CNRS; École française de Rome) Dr. D. Aureli (University of Bologna); Dr. M. Pagli, (University of Paris-West-Nanterre- La Défense).

September 2014: Archaeological excavation of the italic necropolis of Navelli, (Aquila). University of Chieti-Pescara "G. d'Annunzio". Field archaeologist. PI: Prof. V. Acconcia, Sapienza University of Rome.

16-30 September 2012: Archaeological excavation of the greek-roman site of Cuma (Naples). University of Naples "L'Orientale". Field archaeologist. PI: Prof. M. D'Acunto, University of Naples "L'Orientale".

1-15 September 2012: Archaeological excavation of the roman temple of Diana at Nemi (Rome). University of Perugia. Field archaeologist. PI: Prof. F. Coarelli, University of Perugia.

September 2011: Archaeological excavation of the greek-roman site of Cuma, (Naples). University of Naples "L'Orientale". Field archaeologist. PI: Prof. M. D'Acunto, Department of Asia, Africa and Mediterranean, University of Naples "L'Orientale".

June-August 2011: Archaeological excavation of the roman thermae at Villa San Silvestro, Cascia (Perugia). University of Perugia. Field archaeologist.

PI: Prof. F. Coarelli, University of Perugia.

October 2010: Archaeological excavation in Pompeii, Mission of Pompeii Regio VI (Naples). University of Naples "L'Orientale". Field archaeologist. PI: Prof. F. Pesando, University of Naples "L'Orientale".

EXPERIENCES OF CONTRACT ARCHAEOLOGY

May 2020 – June 2021: Contract archaeology, Assistant archaeologist for Archeodomus S.r. l. s. excavation monitoring and responsible for related documentation, Rome (Italy).

May 2018- March 2019: Contract archaeology, Assistant archaeologist for GEA S.c.a.r.l.; excavation monitoring and responsible for related documentation, Rome (Italy).

April 2018: Contract archaeology, Assistant archaeologist for Telecom Italia Spa, excavation monitoring and responsible for related documentation, Piazza Cairoli, Rome (Italy).

January-June 2015: Full-time archaeologist at ECA Consultants Ltd., Archaeological services for Contract Archaeology. Triq in-Naqqax, Mosta (Malta). Assistant archaeologist, operation and monitoring services, co-responsible for the excavation and documentation of the archaeological remains found in the frame of the project of road work in conjunction with the widening and reconstruction of CoastRoad from NA8 to Maghtab (Malta), partially financed by European Union. Co-responsible to the archaeological excavation of the ancient Roman harbour for the same aforementioned project.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

2024: Lithic technology. Graduate and undergraduate, Sapienza University of Rome (30 hours).

2023: Lithic technology. Graduate and undergraduate, Sapienza University of Rome (24 hours).

2018- 2024: laboratory of lithic technology for MA and BA students at the University of Rome "La Sapienza".

ADVISING

MA thesis supervision

2024- ongoing. Giusy Di Domenico. Technological analysis of Middle Stone Age assemblages from northern Africa. A reassessment of museum collections.

2023. Andualem Girma, Techno-typological analysis of Middle Stone Age assemblages from Gotera, southern Ethiopia. Addis Ababa University

BA thesis supervision

2023-ongoing. Caterina Fanucchi. Analysis of lithic assemblages from Mousterian sites in southern Italy. Sapienza University of Rome.

EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

2021 – ongoing: associate editor for "EX-Novo Journal of Archaeology"

Reviewer for the following journals:

- PlosOne
- Quaternary Science Advances
- Quaternary Environments and Humans
- Open Quaternary
- Journal of African Archaeology

MEMBERSHIP

- Society of Africanist Archaeologists (SAfA).
- British Institute in Eastern Africa (BIEA)
- Union Internationale des Sciences Préhistoriques et Protohistoriques (UISPP)
- PanAfrican Archaeological Association (PANAF)
- European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)
- Society of American Archaeologist (SAA)

TECHNICAL AND IT SKILLS

- Advanced knowledge of technical drawing of lithic tools.
- Advanced knowledge of R and RStudio programming.
- Advanced knowledge of several software packages (**Office suite; Adobe Photoshop; Adobe Illustrator; Agisoft Metashape; Qgis**)
- Advanced knowledge of digital photographic and 3D photogrammetry techniques, including software for 3D modelling.

LANGUAGES

Italian	Native speaker
English	Advanced speaking and reading
French	Good speaking and reading
Spanish	Good speaking and reading