



MEDIUM

Elaine's secret passion: excavating human burials at Taforalt (Morocco), ca. 2006.



A “medium” steak is in transition from “rare” to “well done”, and in a metaphorical sense this also applies for the period from the Late Middle Palaeolithic to the Middle Upper Palaeolithic between ~ 100,000 until 25,000 years ago. The behaviours we see in the archaeological record from this time interval are neither archaic nor are they fully modern, and we can witness here the foreshadowing changes that finally lead to our “behavioural modernity”.

Dealing with these “transitional” topics is a comparatively recent phenomenon in Elaine’s and Martin’s careers and both have addressed the issues involved from different points of view. While Elaine focused on human-carnivore relationships, Martin’s interest lay in chronology. Both perspectives dramatically changed our anthropological record, as their revisions led to a considerable shortening of the list of fossil hominins in Germany. It turned out that some presumably late Neanderthals were just cave-bears and, quite frequently, presumed early modern humans had to be erased from fossil-lists when directly dated by radiocarbon, due to their much younger age. This is just one of the occasions proving that you should leave Elaine and Martin entirely out of the loop if you seek final confirmation for your research results – as they will always find something to grouse about. Moreover, Elaine and Martin also focused on relevant behavioural aspects when e. g., dealing with dynamics of cultural change and the origin and recognition of new categories indicative of “modern human behaviour”, such as personal ornaments or weaponry.



World-class! Martin occupied 3rd on the world ranking list for Atlatl throwing during the 1990s.



Martin with Thomas Terberger and Jordi Serangeli at the Mid-Upper Palaeolithic site of Wiesbaden-Igstadt, 1992.

2020

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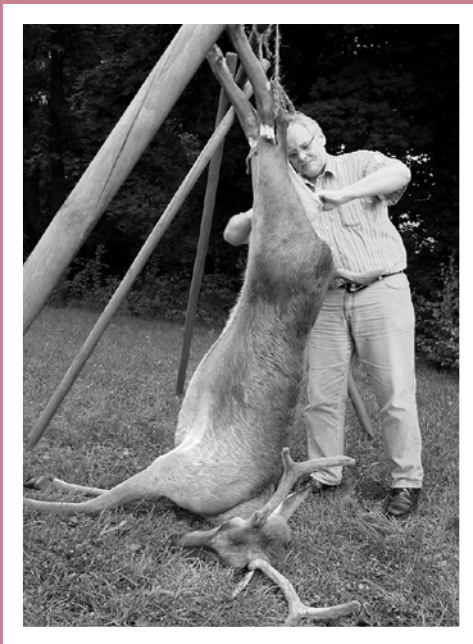
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Elaine with Jalil Bouzouggar
in Morocco, ca. 2006.



Elaine in Morocco, ca. 2006.



Martin, the handyman, 2011.

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Martin preparing for competition during the 1990s.



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Elaine in her usual posture.