Lost World found again

By Vesna Tenodi, MA archaeology; artist and writer

Consequences of political correctness

When my last article was published I was again at-

tacked and abused for saying that some Australian archaeologists are making false claims, deliberately misrepresenting, or in some cases—

outright fabricating evidence to support their invented story of the "ancient culture" that never actually existed.

Even though a number of authors before me, even some Aboriginal people among them, who have had enough of this charade, noted the same thing and criticized the political correctness which forbids us to think and speak freely, I seem to have become a pet hate for some people who believe that filling academic papers with sentimental ramblings is a good idea.

Some of them perhaps truly believe that outrageous lies are ethical, culturally sensitive, and therefore justified.

I disagree. Deliberate deception with the intention to mislead and to harm anyone who objects to the ideological imperatives of the moment is neither ethical nor justifiable.

Political correctness and identity politics are reigning supreme in Australia and have led to an unimaginable loss of evidence, as well as to the unforgivable deliberate destruction of prehistoric human remains, and have rendered any independent research, especially genetic research, impossible.

I am happy to report that over the last few months, while reconnecting with my colleagues in Europe, in contrast to Australian practice, independent thought and independent research are supported and fiercely defended in most European countries. One highlight is that European scientists have found a way to investigate Australian prehistory as it should be investigated—following the evidence wherever it might lead. This involves the fact that there is a plethora of Australian samples collected and brought back by European explorers at the time when that was possible. So, even though Australia itself is destroying evidence much can be gleaned from that preserved in Europe.

Such artifacts and samples from Australia, guarded by European institutions, are used to compare prehistoric people, and are helping in mapping out various stone age migrations.

In contrast to the stagnant state of Australian archaeology, European archaeology is quite an exciting realm. This is especially so in countries such as Romania, Bulgaria, Greece and Turkey which have become hotspots for multinational teams of researchers.

For example, several months after discoveries of unusual fossil teeth in Greece and Bulgaria—dated at c. 7 million years old and interpreted by the mainstream as belonging to a "hominin ape" dubbed "El Graeco"—fossil footprints with remarkable human-like characteristics were found at Trachilos, Crete.

The footprints are estimated to be 5.7 million years old, a time equated with the end of the Miocene (Cosmos,

September 2017). While there is, of course, no connection between the teeth and the footprints they each, nonetheless, represent exciting discoveries. The footprints, especially, being so old and depending on what further research turns up may have many profound implications.

Also, recent finds involving genetic research are changing the story of prehistory in many unexpected ways such as suggesting a remapping of various ancient human migration routes that were, until recently, believed to have unfolded during the Pleistocene and beyond.

The oldest North American sites

Although in the U.S. rather than Australia, another intriguing find recently published in the journal Nature (May 2017) after 25 years is calling for revision of American prehistory as the mainstream knows it. Implications of the site were first brought to public attention by PC founding member, Dr. Virginia Steen-McIntyre, as they were prior hidden away in a little-known government report since 1995 until she began drawing attention to them and published in PCN, January 2010. It is the Cerutti Mastodon Site in California now dated at 130,000 years old and which strongly suggests the presence of an unidentified species of *Homo* in the Americas during the last interglacial period. Formerly known as the Caltrans or National City Site until this year it has been kept in the public eye in many PCN articles since 2010. After the site's publi-

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Lost World found again (cont.)

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cation in Nature, PCN continued providing perspective on the site which is not found in the Nature articles. Also, I make a special mention here of the important insider perspectives on the Cerutti Site provided by our late friend, colleague and founding member of the Pleistocene Coalition, Chris Hardaker. Chris was a field archaeologist for over 30 years and associate of the site's discoverer, Richard Cerutti.

An important thing to mention especially here in our 8th Anniversary Issue is that even though Nature publication of the Cerutti Site is an exciting new development, contrary to claims in the articles, it is not the oldest in situ, welldocumented archaeological site in North America as Virginia noted straight up in her Issue #47 article, Thoughts on early man (May-June 2017). That honor goes to the sites at the core of the Pleistocene Coalition and regularly published in PCN, namely, Valsequillo, Mexico, at 250,000 years old and Calico, in southern California, at 200,000 years old. These facts need to be kept in order whatever one might read in mainstream journals. As editor David Campbell puts it, "Caltrans should take third place in the order of truly ancient sites in North America." Apart from Chris' personal and professional connection to the discover of the Cerutti Mastodon Site, he played an immeasurably important and central role in helping to keep Valsequillo and Calico in the public eye as the oldest sites reported so far in North America.

Every such discovery can and should serve as yet another prompt to encourage us to rethink everything we were conditioned and/or trained to think, or forced to adopt as our own thoughts.

The lost world I am talking about is the world of independent scientific inquiry, of the freedom to think and voice our thoughts without fear of being attacked. And it can be found again, with groups of people who are willing to sacrifice a great deal in order to regain and help others regain their intellectual freedom, and to encourage people to seek the truth that can only be found through intellectual honesty-with people like our late friend Chris Hardaker.

That is, to me, the most important role of the *Pleistocene Coalition News*—to inspire and encourage and show the way towards liberating ourselves from scholarly conditioning that threatens to kill any speck of imagination and to silence that inner voice that guides every seeker of truth towards a great discovery.

As we mark the 8th anniversary of *Pleistocene Coalition News*, my congratulations to all the participants in this noble endeavour.

VESNA TENODI is an archaeologist, artist, and writer based in Sydney, Australia. She received her Master's Degree in Archaeology from the University of Zagreb, Croatia. She also has a diploma in Fine Arts from the School of Applied Arts in Zagreb. Her Degree Thesis was focused on the spirituality of Neolithic man in Central Europe as evidenced in iconography and symbols in prehistoric cave art and pottery. After migrating to Sydney, she worked for 25 years for the Australian Government, and ran her own business. Today she is an independent researcher and spiritual archaeologist, concentrating on the origins and meaning of pre-Aboriginal Australian rock art. In the process, she is developing a theory of the PreAboriginal races which she has called the Rajanes and Abrajanes. In 2009, Tenodi established the DreamRaiser project, with a group of artists who explore iconography and ideas contained in ancient art and mythology.

Website: www.modrogorje.com

E-mail: ves@theplanet.net.au

All of Tenodi's articles published in *Pleistocene Coalition News* can be found at the following link:

http://
pleistocenecoalition.com/
#vesna_tenodi



The Pleistocene Coalition

Prehistory is about to change

- Learn the real story of our Palaeolithic ancestors—a cosmopolitan story about intelligent and innovative people—a story which is unlike that promoted by mainstream science.
- Explore and regain confidence in your own ability to think for yourself regarding human ancestry as a broader range of evidence becomes available to you.
- Join a community not afraid to challenge the status quo. Question with confidence any paradigm promoted as "scientific" that depends upon withholding conflicting evidence from the public in order to appear unchallenged.

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SPECIALTY EDITORS
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Matt Gatton

ADVISORY BOARD Virginia Steen-McIntyre

CONTRIBUTORS to this ISSUE

David Campbell

Richard Dullum

Kevin Lynch

Ray Urbaniak

Tom Baldwin

Bonnye Matthews

Chuck Naeser posthumously

Vesna Tenodi

Virginia Steen-McIntyre

John Feliks

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The Pleistocene Coalition is now entering its ninth year of challenging mainstream scientific dogma. If you would like to join the coalition please write to the editors.