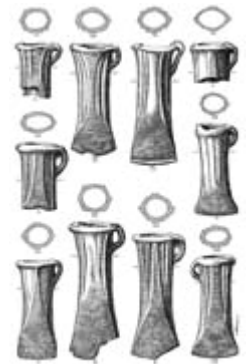


METAL, FIRE, WATER, SALT
LATE BRONZE AGE TRANSITION
Uioara, Central Transylvania, Romania
JULY 03 – AUGUST 06, 2011



Metal, fire, water, salt, mountains, forests, mountains... That is the environment of the mysterious Late Bronze Age Noua Culture bearing people. Near Uioara in Central Transylvania, the three largest bronze deposits in the world were found, near an old, now dried up lake, less than 500m apart. The largest one, measuring several tons was smelted by the Austrians and turned into canons. The other two are still preserved, over 7000 pieces of bronze. All the tools of the time could be found, in working condition, some of them still very sharp. We have hundreds of tools for quarrying salt, working wood, forging metal, plowing fields, harvesting crops, working leather and pelts, not counting jewelry, clothing implements, weapons...

As amazing as these deposits are, we need to ask: who are the people who made them? Why did they make them? Why there? The 2011 summer field project will be an intensive and integrated exploration of the area surrounding the location of the three hoards. Highly detailed site excavations, ecological studies, GPS mapping, soil sampling and phosphate testing will be conducted to map the extent and topography of the human occupation. The laboratory components will include flotation, various GIS related exercises (data entry, map building, digitizing) and material processing.



Duration: 5 weeks (2 weeks minimum stay)

Costs: US\$1550 for 5 weeks, including:

- Excavation registration, taxes, fees and most gear
- Housing in town (double/triple occupancy)
- Breakfast and dinner.

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