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The Domestication of Equidae in Third-Millennium BCE Mesopotamia

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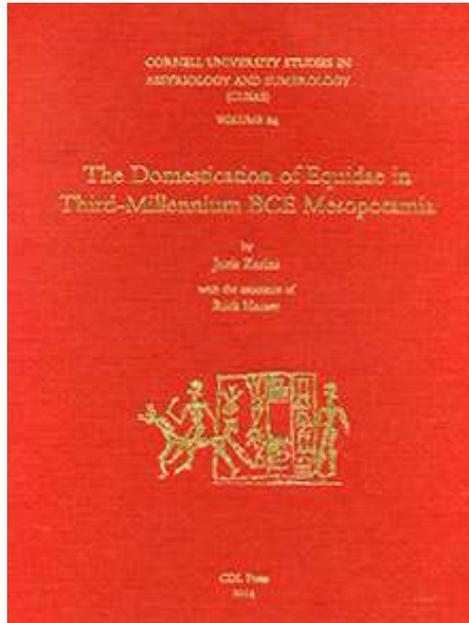
The Domestication of Equidae in Third-Millennium BCE Mesopotamia

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REFERENCES

Juris Zarins, Rick Hauser, *The Domestication of Equidae in Third-Millennium BCE Mesopotamia*, *Cornell University Studies in Assyriology and Sumerology*, vol. 24, (2014), pp. XI + 432 (ISBN 978-1934309-513)

1 Asia after a century of intense study and excavation. The study provides a unique perspective from the viewpoint of field archaeologists on the complex issues associated with the physical study of the remains of *equidae* and their associated terminology in cuneiform sources as well as their artistic representation. The study integrates diverse and recently excavated data, which reflect a wide geographical and chronological range, with cuneiform sources and new artistic finds to create a synthesis that will serve as a basis for all future research on the subject.



2 The volume includes numerous illustrations, photographs, and charts that enhance the presentation of the data. Figurines are prominently featured in

sections about artistic representation and seen in context of other research in cuneiform studies and archaeological documentation. In fact, it is they who offer incontrovertible evidence regarding the presence of domesticated *equidae*. Being subject to measurement (ratio, proportion, discrete measurement) and analysis of the relationship of diagnostic body parts to each other, the evidence they afford is subject to verification, whereas sealings and other pictorial representations are difficult to identify with certainty.

3 The volume will be of interest to archaeologists, anthropologists, Assyriologists, and to all those interested in the role of *equidae* in the early history of Mesopotamia and Western Asia.

ABSTRACTS

It has been forty years since the first edition of this book, as an Oriental Institute doctoral dissertation, was completed. Now, in a fully revised and much expanded study, CUSAS 24 presents a comprehensive discussion of the philological, historical, and archaeological evidence for the range of *equidae* known now from much of Western

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