

**Seminarios de la Sociedad  
Española de Mineralogía**

**09**

# **XXXII Reunión de la Sociedad Española de Mineralogía**



**International Seminar on  
Archaeometry and Cultural Heritage:  
the contribution of Mineralogy**  
Bilbao, 27 de Junio 2012

Editores:  
José Miguel Herrero  
Marius Vendrell

**SEM**   
Sociedad Española de Mineralogía

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Seminarios de la Sociedad Española de  
Mineralogía

Volumen 09

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# Archaeometry and Cultural Heritage: the Contribution of Mineralogy

Seminario celebrado en  
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**Cover photo**

French faience test pieces from the Le Bois d'Épense (Les Islettes, NE France) factory, early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Width of the clay balls 2-3 cm. *Photo M. Maggetti (pers. coll.).*



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de Mineralogía

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# Foreword

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The Spanish Mineralogical Society (SEM) has published eight previous thematic volumes concerning different topics of interest for mineralogists. In this new volume we present the key notes of six invited lecturers to the International Seminar "Archaeometry and Cultural Heritage: the Contribution of Mineralogy" held in Bilbao on June 27, 2012, during the SEM-SEA 2012 congress, a joint meeting of the Spanish Clay Society and SEM. These talks deal with the contributions in scientific disciplines like mineralogy, petrology and geochemistry to the characterization, dating and provenancing of artworks and man-made and natural artifacts that constitute part of our tangible Cultural Heritage. New advances in both conceptual and methodological studies are also reviewed. The aim of the seminar is to open up to new ideas to researchers in this field and particularly, to show how Mineralogy may provide critical clues in the study of Archaeology, History, Architecture and Fine Arts and Restoration. The interest for these studies in our country is growing, as we can see in the SEM-SEA meeting proceedings, where 24 papers have been presented about this topic.

The 2012 seminar is being addressed by scientists of international prestige covering a wide range of leading topics: Dr. Domínguez-Bella, who talks about prehistoric lithic tools and prestige objects, Dr. Prudêncio, who focuses on archaeological ceramics or Dr. Maggetti who make a study of glazed ceramic French faiences. The prehistoric smelting technologies is the topic of the lecture of Dr. Artioli; Dr. Hradil introduces us to the non-invasive / non-destructive analysis of pigments in artworks; and Dr. Rodríguez-Navarro explains the use of gypsum and lime in historical buildings.

We particularly wish to thank the authors who have accepted our invitation to participate with generosity. We are also very thankful to the institutions (Education Department of the Basque Government, The University of the Basque Country UPV/EHU, Science and Technology Faculty), companies and entities (Ente Vasco de la Energía, Fisher Scientific, Bilbao Turismo) and to the UPV/EHU Mineralogy and Petrology Department staff. These have provided financial and / or logistics support to the organization of the Seminar and for the preparation of this volume and its distribution to the SEM-SEA 2012 attendants, and to SEM and SEA members.

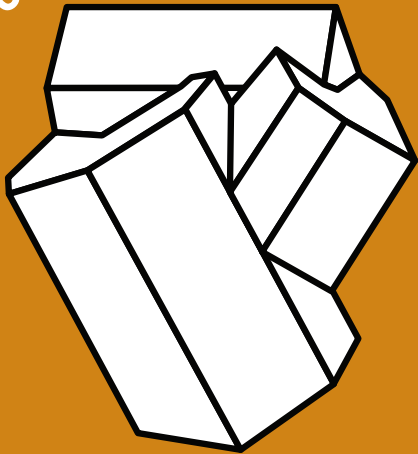
**José Miguel Herrero**  
**Marius Vendrell**  
Bilbao, Junio 2012

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