Ancient Graffiti
and Emulation of Moche Mural
Wall Paintings

Gabriella Wellons
History of art

This research project involves the investigation of ancient “graffiti” documented, surveyed, and cataloged at the Huacas de Moche archaeological complex, occupied by the Mochicas in the Early Intermediate Period and Middle Horizon, between ca. 200 to 800 CE. During her summer travel to north coastal Peru, Gabriella Wellons created a graphic record of graffiti at the Huacas de Moche archaeological complex, the site of a former urban and religious center with two monuments (Huaca del Sol y Huaca de la Luna), located within the Moche Valley. Her honors thesis will explore the relationships between ancient graffiti, murals, and ceremonial spaces, and the possible purposes and meanings of incised imageries set within the context of Moche visual culture.

Gabriella Wellons is a senior undergraduate in the History of Art Department. Her research involved the close examination of mural wall paintings and incised graffiti from the Moche culture of ancient Peru (ca. 250-850 CE). She is a recipient of the Haas Scholars Program, Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program, International Studies Institute (IIS) Undergraduate Merit Scholarship, George A. Miller Scholars Program and the Digital Humanities at Berkeley Summer Institute Fellowship.

SOCIAL SCIENCES, ARTS & HUMANITIES, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

DATE
Wednesday
Nov. 8

TIME
12:10
until
1 p.m.

PLACE
Moffitt Library
Fourth floor

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