



The Journal
OF THE ANCIENT NEAR
EASTERN SOCIETY



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**OF THE ANCIENT NEAR
EASTERN SOCIETY**

VOLUME 33

Jewish Theological Seminary, 3080 Broadway, New York, NY 10027
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US ISSN 0010-2016

The Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society 33 (2018)

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The Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society welcomes articles on all aspects of the ancient Near East. Manuscripts, which must be typed double-spaced in MS Word according to *Journal* style, and all illustrations should be submitted electronically, together with a PDF version, to the Managing Editor (sholtz@yu.edu). Style guidelines may be obtained on request.

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This periodical is indexed in the American Theological Library Association Religion Database and its articles are summarized in *Old Testament Abstracts* (the Catholic Biblical Association of America).

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Preface

After a hiatus of several years, the *Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society* is being published in electronic, internet form only. There is no charge for access. This new format makes the *Journal* much more widely accessible to interested readers. Since all previous articles are now available at the same website, we hope that readers will also take an interest in scholarship of the preceding years and decades that they have missed until now.

We ask readers to understand that the articles published here now were accepted for publication as many as five years ago. We apologize to the patient authors, who in most cases did not make substantial alterations to their work. If any article is lacking in some recent bibliography, the fault is not the authors'.

The first issue of *JANES* was published almost fifty years ago under the editorship of David Marcus. A few years later the editorship was undertaken by Edward L. Greenstein. For the past three decades and more, the *Journal* has been edited and largely managed by these two colleagues. With the forthcoming issue Shalom E. Holtz, a renowned Assyriologist and Biblicist at Yeshiva University in New York, becomes Managing Editor of the *Journal*. The present Editors wish Professor Holtz every success as the *Journal* undergoes renewal and he in the near future takes full charge as Editor.

A complete set of articles has already been accepted for publication in *JANES* 34. It is our hope to publish this volume relatively soon. We trust that scholars will continue to submit their work to the *Journal*.

In the early 1980s the *Journal*, which began at Columbia University, found a new and supportive home at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. We are very grateful for that institution's continued support.