For more than three thousand years, the Crimean peninsula has been a meeting point for different worlds: the nomadic world of the great Central Asian steppe, the trade routes leading over land from the Middle East and Anatolia, and the interconnected maritime environment of the Mediterranean. These diverse currents were particularly entangled during the Iron Age, when the local population – known to the Greeks as the bloodthirsty Taurians – met, on the steppe side, Scythian horsemen, and on the sea side, Greek sailors establishing cities and trading posts along the coast. And these Greeks and Scythians met each other, too, eventually forming hybrid societies like the Bosporan Kingdom in eastern Crimea. This talk will discuss the demographic and cultural transformations that took place in Crimea between the 7th and the 4th centuries BC, transformations that saw some of the most spectacular works of Greek metalsmiths deposited in the kurgan burials of Scythian princes.

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Next AIA Lecture:

Sunday, April 15, 2018: Dr. Kasia Szapakowska, University of Swansea
Demons in the Dark: Nightmares in Ancient Egypt

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