Tuesday, April 16th
Reception 6:30pm
Lecture 7:00pm

Location
1957 E Street NW Room, 113
The George Washington University

This lecture focuses on the extensive research carried out over the past twenty years on the Acropolis of the Ancient Maya site of Copan. Here are found some of the best-preserved buildings in the entire Maya area. These have extensive and complex artwork on their facades and reveal enormous amounts of data about Maya cosmology and the roles of kings.

The lecture is abundantly illustrated with archaeological materials from Temple 16 and its architectural sequence, at the center of the Copán Acropolis, where the speaker discovered two building that represent the only complete examples of Early Classic architecture and monumental art at Copán. He gave these the field names of “Rosalila” and “Oropendola”. Rosalila has enormous modeled stucco panels, painted in deep red and accented with yellow, white and green. In turn, Oropendola has the first mosaic sculpture panels carved in stone at the site and represents the beginning of a tradition that would later become the hallmark of Copan. Sheltered, within these two buildings are magnificent royal tombs whose contents were recently represented in the University of Pennsylvania's temporary exhibit, Maya 2012: Lords of Time.

For more information, contact capitolarchaeologicalinstitute@gmail.com

“Temples that speak: art and architecture at Copan, Honduras” is a public lecture sponsored by The GWU Capitol Archaeological Institute.