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## Three doctoral theses completed in 2023 in collaboration with the Papuan Past Project

Francois-Xavier Ricaut

► **To cite this version:**

Francois-Xavier Ricaut. Three doctoral theses completed in 2023 in collaboration with the Papuan Past Project. 2023, 10.58079/snwb . hal-04739874

**HAL Id: hal-04739874**

**<https://cnrs.hal.science/hal-04739874v1>**

Submitted on 17 Oct 2024

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Posted on [12/12/2023](#) by [Papuan Past Project Editors](#)

## Three doctoral theses completed in 2023 in collaboration with the Papuan Past Project

Ms [Roxanne Tsang](#) graduated with a PhD in Archaeology on the 21st of July 2023 at the University of Griffith (Australia). Dr Tsang's PhD is entitled "The Ethnoarchaeology of Rock Art in East Sepik, Papua New Guinea".

Ms **Nicole Pedro** graduated with a PhD in Biomedical Sciences on the 28th of April 2023 at the University of Porto (Portugal). Dr Pedro's PhD is entitled "Genome – microbiome dynamics in human evolution and in emergence of diseases".

Ms [Mathilde André](#) graduated with a PhD in Gene Technology on the 12th of September 2023 at the University of Tartu (Estonia). Dr André PhD is entitled "New Guinea, a hotspot for Human evolution: settlement history and adaptation in northern Sahul".

THE ETHNOARCHAEOLOGY OF ROCK  
ART IN EAST SEPIK, PAPUA NEW  
GUINEA

ROXANNE TSANG, BA, BA(Hons)



School of Humanities, Languages and Social Science  
Place, Evolution and Rock Art Heritage Unit  
Griffith Centre for Social and Cultural Research  
GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

Submitted in fulfilment of the requirements of the degree of  
Doctor of Philosophy  
OCTOBER 2022

Ms **Roxanne Tsang** graduated with a PhD in Archaeology on the 21st of July 2023 at the University of Griffith (Australia). Dr Tsang's PhD is entitled "[The Ethnoarchaeology of Rock Art in East Sepik, Papua New Guinea](#)".

Dr Tsang was affiliated to the School of Humanities, Languages and Social Science, and Place, Evolution and Rock Art Heritage Unit (PERAHU), Griffith University, Queensland, Australia.

Dr Tsang doctoral thesis focuses on the ethnoarchaeology of rock art, particularly, hands and material culture objects stencils from East Sepik, Papua New Guinea. Dr Tsang is the first woman from Papua New Guinea to attain a PhD in archaeology.



DOUTORAMENTO EM CIÊNCIAS BIOMÉDICAS

Genome - microbiome dynamics in  
human evolution and in emergence of  
diseases

Nicole Sónia Neto Pedro

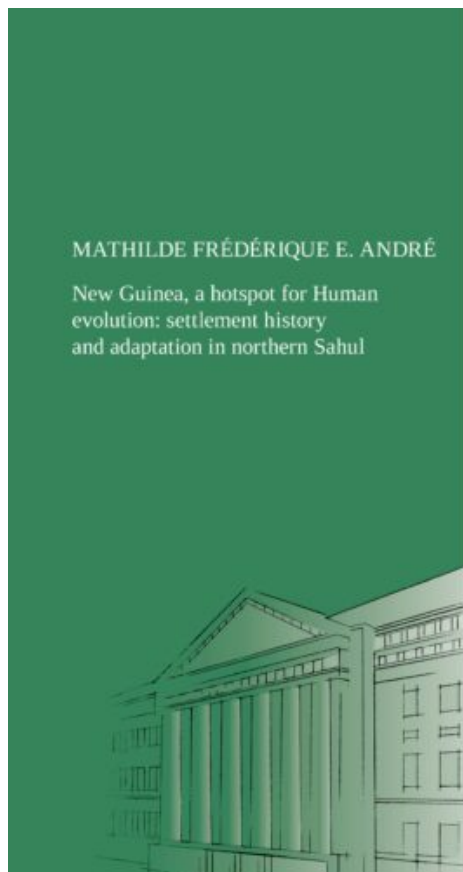
**D**  
2023



**Ms Nicole Pedro** graduated with a PhD in Biomedical Sciences on the 28th of April 2023 at the University of Porto (Portugal). Dr Pedro's PhD is entitled "[Genome – microbiome dynamics in human evolution and in emergence of diseases](#)".

Dr Pedro graduated from the Institute of Biomedical Sciences Abel Salazar of University of Porto, Porto, Portugal. During her PhD, Ms Pedro was hosted by the Genetic Diversity Group of i3S – Institute for Research and Innovation in Health of University of Porto.

Dr Pedro used different biological markers (mitochondrial genomes and oral microbiota) to propose hypotheses for the initial settlement and subsequent dispersals into Sahul, and addresses the role played by the oral microbiota in the adaptation of human populations in Papua New Guinea.



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**Ms Mathilde André** graduated with a PhD in Gene Technology on the 12th of September 2023 at the University of Tartu (Estonia). Dr André PhD is entitled “[New Guinea, a hotspot for Human evolution: settlement history and adaptation in northern Sahul](#)”.

Dr André graduated from the Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Tartu, Estonia. During her PhD, Ms André was hosted by the Institute of Genomics, University of Tartu, Estonia.

Dr André analysed the genetic and phenotypic diversity of Papua New Guinean populations through new whole genome sequences and phenotypic measurements to explore the initial settlement of New Guinea and human adaptation to new environments (e.g. altitude environment).

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OpenEdition suggests that you cite this post as follows:

Papuan Past Project Editors (December 12, 2023). Three doctoral theses completed in 2023 in collaboration with the Papuan Past Project. *Papuan Past Project*. Retrieved October 16, 2024 from <https://doi.org/10.58079/snwb>