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CAPInv. 347: synetheis

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Aegean Islands
ii. Region	Delos
iii. Site	Delos

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	συνήθεις (SEG 13:425)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>synetheis</i>

III. DATE

i. Date(s)	e. i BC
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IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii. Name elements	Other:	<i>synetheis</i> : the term can be used to denote the friends of a deceased. It is also used in relation to the gymnasium (BE 1955: no. 168; 1958: no. 475). It can also stand for occupational associations (Poland 1909: 52).
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V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	SEG 13: 425 (ca. 88 BC)
Note	The inscription is dated after the priest of Artemis Soteira, Antiochos Paconius Artemisius, probably a freedman of L. Paconius.
Online Resources	SEG 13: 425
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)

i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Dedication by Dionysios Paconius Neoterus Gnaiou to Hermes and <i>synetheis</i> in Greek.
i.c. Physical format(s)	Rectangular marble base. H. 24 x W. 36.5 x Th. 33.5 cm. Cutting (16 x 14 cm) on top for the insertion of a Herm, whose archaizing head was found in the eastern niche in Room L (Marcadé 1953: 500-10; Hermary 1996: 160-1).
ii. Source(s) provenance	House of Hermes. The base was found in the eastern niche of the south wall of room L.

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

i. Archaeological remains	The House of Hermes (Maison de l'Hermès) was built sometime after 167/166 BC. It is located in the Quartier de l'Inopos (GD no. 89). The base was found in Room L on the third story. The south wall of Room L is provided with two niches. From the eastern niche comes the inscribed base and the head of the archaizing Hermes. The shaft of the Herm is missing.
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VII. ORGANIZATION

iv. Officials	ἱερεὺς, <i>hiereus</i> (l. 5)
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IX. MEMBERSHIP

iv. Status	Slaves or freedmen of the Italian gens Paconia. The priest of Artemis Soteira, Antiochos Pakonios Artemisius, and the dedicator, Dionysios Pakonios neoterus, son of Gnaios, were slaves or freedmen of L. Paconius, the latter attested among the Competaliastai (IDelos 1761). Hasenohr (2008: 36) put forward that the slaves/ freedmen were of Greek origin.
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X. ACTIVITIES

iii. Worship	The dedication is addressed to Hermes and <i>synetheis</i> . Hermes was the patron deity of the Italian community (Bruneau 1970: 204-5). The dedication is dated after the priest of Artemis Soteira (the priesthood of Artemis Soteira is otherwise unattested in Delos and we might be dealing with a domestic cult - note that a statuette of Artemis, identified as Artemis Soteira, was found in the House of Hermes [Marcadé 1953: 512-28]).
Deities worshipped	Hermes Artemis Soteira

XII. NOTES

i. Comments	<p>According to Hasenohr (2008: 35-36), Dionysios and the synetheis, were all slaves of the Italian gens Paconia. They formed a domestic <i>collegium</i> that operated within the confines of the house. They venerated Hermes, a popular god of the Italian community, Artemis Soteira, and maybe other gods. Before the publication of Hasenohr's article the following suggestions were put forward in relation to the inscription under discussion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Siebert (1966) postulated a koinon of Soteriastai on account of the date of the dedication after the priesthood of Artemis Soteira. 2. Flambard (1982) was inclined to relate the <i>syneitheis</i> to the Competaliastai. <p>The Paconii are well attested in Delos (Hatzfeld 1912: 62-4).</p>
iii. Bibliography	<p>Bruneau, Ph. (1970): <i>Recherches sur les cultes de Délos à l'époque hellénistique et à l'époque impériale</i>. (BEFAR 217). Paris.</p> <p>Flambard, J.-M. (1982): 'Observations sur la nature des magistri italiens de Délos', in F. Coarelli et al. (edd.), <i>Delo e l'Italia</i>. (Opuscula Instituti Romani Finlandiae. II). Rome: 67-77.</p> <p>Hasenohr, C. (2008): 'Mercure à Délos', in A. Bouet (ed.), <i>D'Orient et d'Occident. Mélanges offerts à Pierre Aupert</i>. Bordeaux: 27-38.</p> <p>Hatzfeld, J. (1912): 'Les Italiens résidant à Délos', <i>BCH</i> 36: 5-218.</p> <p>Hermay, A., Queyrel, F., Jockey, Ph., Collet, Ph. & Marcadé, J. (1996): <i>Sculptures déliennes, Sites et monuments 17</i>. Athènes-Paris.</p> <p>Marcadé, J. (1953): 'Les trouvailles de la maison dite de l'Hermès, à Délos', <i>BCH</i> 77: 497-615.</p> <p>Siebert, G. (1966): 'Artémis Sôteira à Délos', <i>BCH</i> 90: 447-59.</p>

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Probable
Note	<p>The <i>syneitheis</i> are the recipients of a dedication, something that underlines their collective identity. A sort of internal organization is indicated by the presence of a priest, after whom the inscription is dated. The priest and the dedicator belonged to the same clan (Paconia).</p>