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**The potters' perspectives: A vibrant chronology of ceramic manufacturing practices in the valley of Juigalpa, Chontales, Nicaragua (cal 300 CE - present)**

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## Curriculum Vitae

Natalia Ruth Donner (Rosario, August 27th, 1981) is an Argentinian-Mexican archaeologist who has worked in Mexico, Panama, Nicaragua, and Argentina for over 15 years. Before completing her PhD at Leiden University, Donner obtained a BA in Archaeology (2006) at Universidad Veracruzana (Mexico) and then a Masters in Mesoamerican Studies (2015) at UNAM, Mexico. Since 2003, she participated in several archaeological projects, particularly in the Mexican Gulf Coast; and between 2008 and 2011 she directed Proyecto Arqueológico El Carrizal, in South-Central Veracruz. Through that project, she made contributions to the regional ceramic sequence, settlement patterns history, as well as implemented a public archaeology program. In addition, her team excavated and conserved the earliest ball court in Veracruz, dated to the end of the Proto-Classic (100 BCE – 100 CE) and the beginning of the Early Classic (100 – 300 CE). Later, she collaborated with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama, and then joined the Education Department at Frank Gehry's Biodiversity Museum, also in Panama City, where she engaged in the teacher-training program and focused on developing school materials related to archaeology.

Her work interweaves archaeological theory, methods, and practice, questioning the epistemological and colonial foundations of the discipline as well as stressing its deep anthropological roots. She has explored the contributions of philosophers such as Bachelard, Foucault, and Agamben to analyze the construction of discourses in archaeology. She also studies materiality, seen as the embodiment of socially learnt practices and power relationships, and how these gestural traces, especially incorporated in fired clay, can aid in the construction of chronological narratives. She has written on the subject of radiocarbon dating, the ancient Mexican practice of the ballgame, ceramic technologies in South-Central Veracruz and Central Nicaragua, landscape

archaeology, conservation of archaeological sites in Mexican urban contexts, among other topics. Since 2014, she has actively collaborated with the Proyecto Arqueológico Centro de Nicaragua (PACEN), directed by Alexander Geurds (Leiden University). The main results of her work with PACEN are culminated within this book. Currently she is lecturer at the Faculty of Humanities, Leiden University and co-director of the multidisciplinary project Darien Profundo, which explores the deep history of human-environmental entanglements at the land bridge of the Americas, the Isthmus of Panama.