Title: Ravioli, Ravioli, Give Me the Ice Bridge-oli **Presenter:** Rhiannon King, MiraCosta College

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In 2017, the archaeology world was shocked when the findings from the Cerutti Mastodon site were published. These incredible findings flew in the face of everything anthropologists previously knew about human migration and settlement. Fossilized bones of several animals, in particular a juvenile male mastodon, which bore spiralized fractures (a commonly accepted sign of intentional breakage) along with cobbles and stone anvils that bore marks of use-wear similar to the Olduvai Gorge site (Holen et al., 2017). The picture painted by researchers was that the Cerutti Mastodon site, dated at 130,000 years Before Present (BP), was used as a boneprocessing site by ancient human ancestors, whether Homo sapiens or another homonim species (Holen et al., 2017). Current scientific consensus holds that the Americas were first populated by H. sapiens traveling through Beringia during the Last Glacial Maximum, and that 130,000 years ago, H. sapiens had not yet entered Europe and might not have entered Asia. The current scientific consensus is that seafaring was invented by the people who would go on to populate Australia 60,000 years BP. However, the findings from the team that analyzed the Cerutti Mastodon site are highly contested. The site was discovered during construction, calling into question the quality of the findings. Furthermore, there is a complete and total lack of corroborating evidence is why the site cannot be incorporated into mainstream academic knowledge.

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