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book of abstracts

English

Teaching Ancient Egypt in Museums: Pedagogies in Practice Children's Museum, Cairo

Ossama ABDEL MEGUID (Children's Center for Civilization and Creativity, Cairo)

This paper highlights the experience of the Children's Center for Civilization and Creativity 'Children's Museum' in teaching children about Ancient Egypt. The museum is providing children with an integrated framework of knowledge about Ancient Egypt's contribution to art and science, to inspire children for a better future for themselves and their country by creating a state of interaction between the child and the elements of the Ancient Egyptian cultural and natural heritage throughout the ages through an educational park and garden.

The Children's Museum aims to provide a rich historical experience for children through various educational means in a simplified manner, to create a state of connection between them and their history and introduce them to the greatness of the Ancient Egyptian civilization through various educational means and based on the idea of direct interaction between children and artifacts.

The models include a model of the Rosetta Stone, statues of King Tutankhamun, military shields, statues of individuals in the Old and Middle Kingdom, and an indication of the nature of Egyptian society and the most important professions and jobs at that time, the mummy of King Tutankhamun, ancient Egyptian games, and statues of kings and queens from the New Kingdom, especially the Amarna period.

Creating the Child Tut Learning Experience

The new learning materials offered by the Child Tut Learning Experience are divided into three main toolkits covering several scientific disciplines: chemistry, physics, biology, astronomy and engineering.

Keywords: King Tut; Ancient Egypt; Museums; Pedagogies

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Reisner's Forgotten Excavation at Messaid and Naga el-Hai

Sherif ABDEL MONIEM (Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

Messaid was excavated in 1910-1913 under the aegis of the MFA in Boston, which subsequently received thousands of artifacts from the site. We rediscovered this collection during our work in the basement of the Cairo Egyptian Museum, and my proposed research is to publish the rediscovered collection of Naga el-Hai and Messaid. Messaid is an archaeological site in Egypt that was excavated over a century ago.

Messaid was excavated not by Reisner, but by one of his students named Louis Caulton West. In 1912-13, during Reisner's excavations at Giza, He sent his student Louis Coulton West to make minor excavations at 'Naga-el-Hai', 'Sheikh Farag', and 'Messaid'. According to Reisner, the main purpose of Reisner's expedition has always been historical research. The objects found, although necessary for the continuation of subscriptions, have always been regarded by the expedition as a by-product of historical research.

During our work in the basement of the Egyptian Museum, we found many hidden treasures, 'forgotten objects' that have been stored in the basement of the museum for more than 110 year. One of the most interesting collections that we found during our work is ten boxes containing around 450 ceramic vessels. All the boxes are labelled 'Reisner Messaid' in black ink. We conducted a tentative research on this collection in the international museums and as we expected we found some of this material in the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, e.g., some objects from Messaid. The main goal for now is publishing this material, which stayed forgotten for more than 110 years.

Keywords: Pottery; Middle Kingdom; Reisner; Naga-el-Hai; Egyptian Museum; Excavation



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Legitimizing El Ḥurma as an Egyptian Mode of Affective Relation to Antiquity

Pansee ABOU ELATTA (Carleton University)

In claiming the obelisk that now sits in Paris, Verniac de Saint-Mair finds that France “acquired the rights thanks to learned Europe, to which all the monuments of antiquity belong, because only she knows how to appreciate them.” (Saint-Maur 1835, 37-38)

He was far from the first or the last to stake a Western claim to Egyptian antiquities on this narrow, Eurocentric conception of ‘appreciation’. This perceived Egyptian incapacity for ‘appreciation’ continuously rationalizes the seizure of Egyptian cultural patrimony: Earlier by Vivant Denon, and later by scholars arguing against repatriation such as Stephen Urice.

Yet against this oft-repeated refrain, an indigenous mode of affective relation to antiquity emerges: That of El Ḥurma, a term encompassing concepts of autonomy, inviolability, taboo, sanctity, physical integrity, privacy, protection, and honour, protecting the bodies of the living and the deceased from various kinds of (material or epistemic) violation. 13th century accounts speak of a man who “breaks into the pyramid, is killed inside, and then appears to his company as a spectre warning them in ‘hieratic language’ (al-kalam al-kahini) never to violate the dignity (ḥurma) of the old kings” (Haarmann 1996, 607). It remains prevalent in Egypt until today, such as in popular debates around whether the 2021 Pharaohs’ Golden Parade — in which the collection of royal mummies was ostentatiously transported from the Cairo Museum to the new Museum of Egyptian Civilization — violated ḥurmat al-mawtah (the Ḥurma of the dead).

Using Egyptian case studies, this paper argues for the legitimacy of El Ḥurma as a counter-colonial, affective mode of relation to pharaonic antiquity, one which offers an understanding of the past that resists its objectification and consumption.

Keywords: Egyptology; Museology; Value; Decolonization; Appreciation



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The Builders of the First Dynasty Royal Projects at Abydos

Yaser ABOUZID (Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt/University of Pisa)

The royal tombs and enclosure walls at Abydos provide essential information on royal architecture and funerary goods. This information gave us a good idea of how the early dynasty kings thought about their afterlife and what kind of objects and tombs they made for their eternal life. On the other hand, there is limited information about the builders of the royal projects: Where are their tombs? Are they buried at Abydos or somewhere else? Where is their settlement? Is it still to be discovered, or has it disappeared under the cultivation as most of the settlements from this period?

Before 2007 none of the Early Dynastic private tombs were discovered. Most known and published tombs are subsidiary graves built around the royal tombs at Umm-el-Qa'ab or around the enclosure walls.

There are clusters of tombs, called by their excavator the 'Tombs of the Courtiers'. These groups of tombs probably contained the body of workmen who participated in one of the royal projects from the 1st dynasty, as they are most likely dated to the same period. But if this is the case, one can propose that the local cemetery, which was discovered to the southwest of the Seti I temple between 2007 and 2018, probably belonged to high officials or local elite who led and supervised the workmen buried in the north of Abydos. These workmen probably served in one of the 1st dynasty royal projects. So presumably the owners of these tombs themselves somehow were leaders and supervisors of the building of one of the royal projects.

Keywords: First dynasty; Abydos; Archaeological sites; Umm el-Qa'ab; Early kings; Worship



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Teaching, Research and Public Access at the University Museums of Archaeology in Egypt

Sayed ABUELFADL (National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, Cairo)

The University Museum is an educational museum owned and managed by universities for the purpose of research, teaching, learning and public access. It is connected to the scientist sections in Archaeology at the universities and research centres, assisting students of Archaeology in the practical implementation of what they study theoretically, using the displaying collections in these museums.

The Egyptian University Museums of Archaeology are still unknown to the community and specialist alike. In order to change the situation, we will introduce these museums for everyone and we will focus on the roles of these museums in teaching, research and public access.

The purpose of this research is to contribute to our knowledge of university museums of Archaeology and its collections in Egypt – where they come from – where we are now and what their contemporary significance is. And also, the roles of the Egyptian University Museums of Archaeology in Teaching, Research and Public Access.

Actually, the only and most important Archeology museums that related to universities are the Faculty of Archaeology Museum, Cairo University, the Faculty of Arts Museums, Alex University, and Zagazig University.

Finally, the paper introduces some recommendations that help and support these museums to achieve its goals and increase community awareness of the importance of the University Museums.

Keywords: University; University Museums; Teaching; Research; Archaeology; Public; Access; Education



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Branding of Creatures in the Afterlife

Inji ADHAM MOHAMED SELIM (Ain Shams University)

Branding is commonly practised on cattle to indicate the ownership of a livestock. Meanwhile, some societies brand criminals as a sign of humiliation. Indeed, it was practised also in the Afterlife, raising several questions: Did the brand have the same shape or function of daily life ones? Was it practised against a specific entity or entities? Who uses the brand? Therefore, this research compares its occurrence in different contexts and scenes. It highlights a less known purpose of the practice, to fill a gap in the Ancient Egyptian religion. The branding tool was defined in the Afterlife texts by the terms: *ꜣb.t*, *bsw* and *wbh.t*. Indeed, their determinatives of a brazier or blazing metal allude to the function of the heated tool. The branding tool is frequently employed by the deceased, god Re, gate keepers and judgement gods. It is used against an enemy or the deceased. Its main purpose is to defend a certain god or to prevent the access to specific Afterlife places. The consequence of the practice concerned is destruction as well as pain. So, the deceased avoids its danger by declaring his attachment to a divinity as Osiris. It is noted that branding is either a means of defence when destroying the enemy or a torture tool against the deceased.

Keywords: Defence; Destruction; Enemy; God; Heat; Pain



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Moving Royal Statues in Ancient Egyptian Temples according to Necessity of Religious Rituals

Nour AHMED (Ain Shams University)

Egyptian temples were built for the official worship of the deities and for commemoration of the kings. Temples were seen as houses for the gods or kings to whom they were dedicated. Within them, the Egyptians performed a variety of rites related to the kings and the gods.

The presence of statues of kings in temples is very important, and it is clear that most of them were fixed in their place, but it seems that a few of them preferred to be moving according to rituals.

My purpose in this paper to present new information about the idea of how the priests moved the royal statues in the temples according to the necessity of the religious rituals.

For example, there is the scene of the throne of King Nyuserre (Berlin) with below it a group of rollers on which the statue was moved according to the rituals of worship. The movement of the statues and changing their positions is evidenced by the intentional use of wooden statues, such as the statues of King Senusret I, which were hidden in the tomb of its priest in Lisht, or this wooden structure contains freestanding ka statue of King Hor I, which can move easily on the shoulders of the priests. And the research, of course, will not forget the participation of the statues of kings in the Beautiful Feast of the Valley in the New Kingdom. Among other examples, I will look for its role in the worship inside the temple, and what is the best place for them, while trying to find the answer to the question of whether they were stored after the rituals? The research will study the evidence, the reasons, and all the ideas that revolve here, and thereby resolve some of the controversy that surrounds this issue.

Keywords: Temples; Moving statues; Rituals; Egyptology



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An Approximation to the Acoustics of the North Saqqara Plateau

Sergio ALARCÓN ROBLEDO (Harvard University)

Drawing from information of the archives of C.M. Firth and W.B. Emery, this paper attempts to analyse the acoustic experience of the users of the Early Dynastic cemetery of the North Saqqara plateau. This project uses a 3-dimensional model of a reconstructed portion of the cemetery as the basis for the analysis. Various hypothetical ritual scenarios are then considered to test how the changing architectural typologies affected the audibility of the site. Where these cemeteries places of retreat and quietness? How was the sound of mourning transmitted through the site? Instead of looking at the tombs as isolated objects, they are brought back to their context in order to consider how they shaped a larger landscape—and soundscape.

Keywords: North Saqqara; Acoustics; Phenomenology; Architecture; Early Dynastic Period

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pOSL Profiling at the Tombs of Meret-Neith and Djer, Umm el-Qa'ab, Abydos

Helena ALEXANDERSON (Lund University)

In the context of new archaeological work at the Early Dynastic royal cemetery of Abydos/Umm el-Qaab, the German Archaeological Institute and University of Vienna, in cooperation with Lund University, have been exploring new avenues of applying archaeological science to excavations in Egypt. This poster will introduce and examine the application of pOSL (portable Optically Stimulated Luminescence profiling) to the current excavations at the tomb of the First Dynasty Queen Meret-Neith at Umm el Qa'ab, Abydos, and to revisiting architectural features at the Tomb of King Djer at the same site. This poster will demonstrate how this technique can be used as a relative profiling technique that informs on: a) a relative sequence of construction of the tombs, b) a variety of depositional events at the tombs, both contemporary to their construction, the original burial event and their subsequent use-history, c) chronological information recorded in sediments, mudbricks and pottery at the site, d) properties of the samples which can assist in provenancing. At Abydos we have thus begun to use pOSL as an objective, scientifically derived, relative dating tool that offers another opportunity to detangle chronological events in archaeological contexts. Through this we also seek to better understand the complex depositional history of these tombs.

Keywords: pOSL profiling; Abydos; Royal Tombs; First dynasty

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Urban Landscapes in Roman and Late Antique Egypt: Tracing the City History of Antinoopolis from Papyrological and Archaeological Datasets

Stefania ALFARANO (University of Basel) & François GERARDIN (University of Basel)

The city of Antinoopolis was founded by Hadrian during his imperial tour of Egypt in 130. The new settlement on the eastern bank of the Nile was built at the site of Antinous' death with the function of a worship centre dedicated to the memory of the newly declared hero-god. The city's location, however, had many advantages: A harbour; a nearby alabaster quarry; a route connection with the Red Sea; a temple of Ramses II, and, most likely, a native inhabited area. Although the debate on the identification of the pharaonic city is still open, and the archaeological evidence on the extent of the pre-Roman settlement remains fragmentary, Antinoopolis cannot be considered a real ex-novo foundation. Hadrian planned the city by incorporating previous settlements within a distinctive urban layout characterized by a Hippodamian grid pattern and marked by monumental structures. Greek models are evident in urban layout and political and social life, but the so-called city of the 'new Hellenes' also displays the architectural magnificence, social and political mobility, and adherence to the imperial house that characterized all the greatest Roman cities of the era.

Excavation led by the Istituto Vitelli (Florence) has advanced our knowledge of the site, yet many questions beg further investigation. How do the textual sources and the archaeological assemblages published so far allow to reconstruct urban layout in the *longue durée*? The aim of the paper is to outline the development of the Antinoopolitan urban landscape by integrating text and context through a relational database combined with topographical places analysis. This interdisciplinary approach could bring new light on the city life processes and re-write the building phases of the Hadrianic (re)foundation.

Keywords: Urban landscapes; Roman cities in Egypt; Texts and contexts



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Egyptology in Its Third Century

James ALLEN (Brown University)

Two hundred years ago, Egyptology began as a science with Champollion's work on the Rosetta Stone. In its first hundred years of existence, Egyptology was dominated by Biblical and Semitic studies, looking for Egyptian references to events recorded in the Hebrew Bible and by the belief that Egyptian was a Semitic language, like Hebrew. In the last century, Egyptology was dominated linguistically by the structural approach of Polotsky and his disciples. Egyptologists now attempt to interpret Ancient Egyptian history and archaeology objectively, and the same trend began in Egyptian language studies some three decades ago. This paper will provide a brief historical look at the science of Egyptology and suggest where it might be headed in the next hundred years of research.

Keywords: Egyptology as a science; Grammar; Bible; History; Archaeology



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The Power of Violence in New Kingdom Elite Art (1550-1070 BC)

Niv ALLON (Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York)

War and violence are common themes in the art of the New Kingdom, from temple walls to scarabs. The king is featured as a victorious conqueror through text and art, trampling and smiting Egypt's enemies. Many of these representations belong to the royal sphere; this paper, however, will explore elite tomb art and other objects to consider the image of the violent king among the elite and their concepts of violence.

In contrast to the wealth of references to the violent king in royal art, elite men rarely depict the king smiting in their tombs. His violent imagery only appears in this corpus as an element within images of the royal throne and similar objects. In addition, Ancient Egyptian texts describe military campaigns and royal victories. Still, these are most prominently mentioned in the context of captured enemies and looted goods arriving in Egypt and its temples.

Other objects like game pieces and scarabs depict the smiting king or captured enemies more directly. At the same time, their violent images are often schematic or repeating an accepted icon, possibly reducing the impact of the scene. A similar effect might already be present in the image of the nine bows, which stand for the defeated enemies and their bodies. However, the nine bows rarely appear in elite minor arts.

This paper will explore the distancing effect of these images, its histories, and possible implications. The funerary context of many of these images is of importance. Still, it hardly explains all features of this phenomenon, in which many depictions of the violent king act as images within images or as images of images. This paper will suggest that this preference for mediated experiences of violence is indicative of elite attitudes to art and war and violence itself.

Keywords: New Kingdom; Art; Violence



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Hieroglyphs as Memory: Who Could Read the Old Kingdom Royal Decrees?

M. Victoria ALMANSA-VILLATORO (Harvard University)

This paper unveils hidden literacies by exploring knowledge that was transmitted or restricted through hieroglyphs' pictoriality in Old Kingdom royal decrees. Beginning in the 4th dynasty, Egyptian kings started to publicly display epigraphic messages of tax exemption, cult inauguration, or concession. These documents, known as royal decrees, have not received enough attention as channels of ideology and authority in the highly complex scenario of royal-private power struggle between the Old Kingdom and First Intermediate Period. The decrees showcase a very curated political discourse that emphasizes service, social solidarity, and the king's distinct position in the community. However, what was the purpose of placing these ideological messages in very trafficked areas if they could not be understood by a majority of illiterate Egyptians? This paper proposes that selected messages were semiotically understood by illiterate audiences by means of different mnemonic strategies, such as the use of ideograms instead of phonograms, the presence of explicitly iconic determinatives, or the recurrence of abnormal spellings. This research, conducted through an in-person examination of the royal decrees, challenges a binary understanding of Egyptian literacy that restricts the audience of epigraphic texts to a small percentage of educated population. It also reveals bureaucratic efforts to inform and involve Egyptians in their country's events. Finally, this paper draws attention to the specific words that are made accessible, namely those related with the monarchy and the state. Hieroglyphs could thus be working multifunctionally, and strategically, to concomitantly reveal and preclude access to knowledge.

Keywords: Hieroglyphs; Semograms; Literacy; Knowledge; Memory; Old Kingdom; Royal decrees



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Discovery of Thutmosis III's Shrine Remains under the Ptolemaic Gate of Khonsu Temple at Karnak

Mostafa ALSAGHIR (Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

On the 21st of December 2020 during the excavation undertaken to clear the pavement of the Ptolemaic gate of the Khonsu temple and the avenue of sphinxes, some huge granite blocks of the gate's threshold have been unearthed. After reaching the foundation level of the threshold in which some of the blocks were tilted due to the loosening of the soil, we found out that the lower sides of these blocks were inscribed with well made sunk reliefs and texts of Thutmosis III and a decorated frieze of Egyptian cornice. Other blocks were decorated with stars and parts of wings as remains of a ceiling, in addition to a block with the representation of a shrine, most certainly the shrine housing the statue of the god on the portable bark of Amun. The excavation revealed 16 different blocks belonging to a shrine of Thutmosis III. The study of the texts inscribed on these blocks showed that they are connected to other blocks which are stored on mastabas north of the Khonsu temple and also to a block reused as a threshold at the Opet temple.

It seems that this shrine was established during the reign of Thutmosis III to be the main bark shrine at the same place as Philip Arrhidaeus's shrine which stands at the centre of the temple of Amun-Re at Karnak. During the era of Akhenaton, figures and inscriptions related to Amun on these blocks have been defaced. They were restored later on.

After the demolition of the shrine of Thutmosis III under the reign of Philip Arrhidaeus at the latest, Ptolemais III Euergetes reused its blocks as elements of the threshold of his gate in front of the Khonsu Temple.

These remains give an important explanation to the history of reusing blocks in Karnak as well as a new evidence on the earlier barque shrine of Amun-Re in his great temple of Karnak.

Keywords: Amun-Re; Thutmosis III; Shrine; Threshold; Karnak; Gate; Khonsu; Temple



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Restoration – Documentation – Interpretation: A New Holistic Approach to the Barque Sanctuary of the Horus Temple at Edfu

Victoria ALTMANN-WENDLING (Julius Maximilian University of Würzburg)

Edfu temple still offers great research potential (see the lecture by M. Stadler). At its center, both theologically and architecturally, is the barque sanctuary. It once housed the barque of the god used for processions, but the wall reliefs also show the so-called Daily Ritual, which relates to the divine statue permanently present in the temple. The room located axially behind this room, the 'Mesenit', also once contained a shrine with a statue of Horus, as described by texts in the temple. Moreover, within Egyptian architectural history, the sanctuary lies traditionally in a rear, secluded area, sometimes even laterally offset from the axis. A project at the University of Würzburg has therefore now set itself the goal of examining the relationship between these two spaces in detail for the first time.

In addition, parts of the former polychrome painting still survived on the walls, hidden under layers of dirt and dust. The polychromy of Egyptian temples has only been insufficiently investigated so far, but represented an integral part of the original wall decoration. It offers a wide field of investigation, as a pilot study demonstrated. Thus, details or entire elements of the decoration were revealed that were not present in the relief; furthermore, demotic dipinti were discovered for the first time. Questions e.g. about the colour symbolism of hieroglyphs, the use and accessibility of the sanctuary as well as the emic impression of the sanctuary follow. The analysis of the paint provides insights into the chaîne opératoire, individual (groups of) craftsmen, and on temple economy. To this end, the walls are to be restored and the pigments examined. The interdisciplinary project aims to uncover the entire history of use of this important room in a holistic approach.

Keywords: Edfu; Horus temple; Barque sanctuary; Daily ritual; Restoration; Polychromy



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The Eastern Door of Heaven is Open to You. Nut has Embraced you. She whose Hair is Long, and whose Breasts Hang Down: The Embracing Arms and the Heaven's Doors

Mennah ALY (Egyptian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

In the Ancient Egyptian religious texts since the Old Kingdom the sun god and the deceased are mentioned to have been embraced by mother goddesses to guarantee their rebirth after death. This idea appears in the concluding tableaux of the New Kingdom Netherworld Books that show the solar deity elevated from the netherworld into the morning sky by a pair of arms, whereas the tomb scenes and Third Intermediate Period funerary papyri and coffins portray the sun disk embraced by two pairs of arms at its rising and setting. Despite of being attributed to deities such as Nut, Shu, Nun and Tatenen, the owner of the embracing arms is kept anonymous in most of the attestations. In fact, these depictions associate the embracing arms with the Perpetuum Mobile of the sun god, and thus to the gates of the celestial sphere through which he passes during his diurnal and nocturnal voyages. Since the Old Kingdom the religious texts refer to the Doors of Heaven that open to the sun god and his followers to access the eastern and the western horizons of the sky. Given their protective and secretive nature, these doors were almost concealed rather than appearing as mere portals, while their existence was denoted in various themes, among which the embracing arms.

The research shows how the embracing arms are not only associated with the opening of the Doors of Heaven, but also substitute them in their role of separating between the different realms of the universe. Furthermore, the paper investigates the identity of the owners of these embracing arms, either deities or gatekeepers, and how through embracing the solar deity, they evoke the primeval moment of creation that entails his emergence from the Unified Darkness; a course repeated with every solar rising.

Keywords: Doors of Heaven; Embracing; Unified Darkness; Solar Perpetuum Mobile; Religion



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The Significance of Myrrh in Ancient Egyptian and Graeco-Roman Medicine: A Comparative Approach

Electra APOSTOLA (University of the Aegean) & Dimitra MAKRI (University of Ioannina)

Knowledge about the properties and use of plants in Ancient Egyptian medicine can be advanced today only through an interdisciplinary approach based on comparative analysis of written sources, palaeopathological evidence, pharmacognosy and archaeobotanical and ethnobotanical data. Furthermore, investigation of a particular plant species both in the Ancient Egyptian and Graeco-Roman periods can be used as a case study to shed light on the difference between Ancient Egyptian and Greek medicine and pharmacy and its aspects of interaction. This paper aims to use multiple data to investigate the diachronic medicinal use of myrrh from the Middle Kingdom to the Graeco-Roman period. In Ancient Egyptian medical papyri (e.g. Kahun, Ebers, Hearst, Edwin Smith, Brooklyn, etc) myrrh is attested in prescriptions for the treatment of vascular diseases, skin infections, wounds, snakebites, and eye disorders. Plinius and Dioscorides mention that it is mainly used to treat ophthalmological, gynaecological, dermatological, and gastrointestinal diseases. The study is based on the collection and digitalization of evidence from Egyptian and Greek papyri, ostraca, inscriptions, Greek and Latin literary sources along with data from current pharmacological studies. Specifically, it examines the role of myrrh as a basic substance in different medical products, its forms (e.g. resin lumps, fresh or dried resin), its interaction with other substances (e.g., minerals, animal products), methods of application (e.g., internal, or external, fumigation) and the time of treatment involved.

Keywords: Egyptology; Papyrology; Medicine; Pharmacy; Diseases; Treatment; Plant; Resin



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The Shabti Boxes from the Lot III from Bab el-Gasus (Istanbul Archaeology Museums)

Hülya ATAŞCIOĞLU AYKUL (Istanbul University)

The collection of the Istanbul Archaeology Museums includes three shabti boxes that belong to Lot III given to Turkey on the occasion of the coronation feast of the last Khedive of Egypt, Abbas Helmy II, in 1892. These objects are kept in the Museum of the Ancient Orient, Istanbul, and they have not been published so far.

The objects are:

- 10837 Ankhefenkhonsu (*ꜥnh.f-n-hnsw*)
- 10880 Amenhotep (*imn-htp*)
- 10881 uninscribed

In this poster we will describe the objects, show the texts and their translations, and a map of the location of the shabti owners and shabti boxes in Bab el-Gasus. Some of the shabti boxes decorated with funerary text feature flat or domed box lids. The uninscribed shabti boxes have never been published before. We can confirm that shabti box 10881 is in Istanbul and shabti box NMNH 154957 is in Washington. Both are categorized as type VIc according to Aston's typology: undecorated with two lids.

Keywords: Shabti; Shabti boxes; Bab el-Gasus; Istanbul Archaeology Museums

Co-author: Miguel Ángel ESCOBAR-CLARÓS



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The Copper Alloy Vessels from the Tomb of Kha (TT 8) in Turin: Studying Materiality and Manufacture

Johannes AUENMÜLLER (Egyptian Museum, Turin)

The copper alloy vessels and ring stands from the tomb of Kha and Merit (TT 8) in the Museo Egizio, Turin, constitute one of the most important assemblages of New Kingdom bronze objects. In the context of the ongoing 'TT8 Project', which aims at comprehensively studying the various grave goods from this unique mid-18th dynasty funerary context by means of dedicated object studies and archaeometrical analyses, the copper alloy vessels and ring stands were subject to a fresh investigation. Whereas typology and functionality of the forms are well explored, many questions in terms of the material(ity) and especially the manufacturing methods – hammering and/or casting as well as rivetting – remain. The present paper will provide an overview of the bronze vessels and stands in tandem with a discussion of recently acquired archaeometrical data (XRF, XRD, Neutron Radiography). This data will be contextualized with visually examined intriguing features of the objects under study and with comparative pieces to better understand the different manufacturing approaches and individual technological characteristics of those high-quality copper alloy artefacts.

Keywords: New Kingdom; TT 8; Copper alloy vessels; Archaeometry; Production techniques



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Sociolinguistics in Analysing Social Hierarchies: Case Studies from Late Middle Kingdom El-Lahun

Kaisa AUTERE (University of Helsinki)

The Lahun papyri collection (1850–1750 BC) from a state-founded and -organised settlement and temple site is the largest corpus of textual sources from late Middle Kingdom Egypt. Due to the delayed publication of some of the papyri and a lack of contextual information for most of the archaeological finds, the potential of the collection for socio-historical studies is still underused. Especially the closed contextual setting of the material (i.e. the papyri being obtained from a single site with limited chronological distribution in the dates of the texts) is so far unique for Middle Kingdom Egypt. In this paper, I show how a more precise sociolinguistic analysis of the language of the letters can offer new information of the superior/subordinate relationships and provide methodological insights for future research on the social history of the Middle Kingdom. Sociolinguistics is at its core interdisciplinary working on the interface between Egyptological linguistics and socio-cultural research. Interestingly, the Lahun papyri include letters that combine linguistic features of the subordinates and a set of addressing manners that one would rather expect from their superiors. Through analysis of these case studies, the presentation sheds light on what has been described as the middle stratum of society in el-Lahun.

Keywords: Middle Kingdom; Sociolinguistics; Lahun; Towns; Temple; Interdisciplinarity



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An Androgynous Goddess?

Mariam AYAD (American University in Cairo)

Neith is one of only a handful of goddesses who formed syncretic deities with (male) gods. Like the goddess Mut, her name occasionally appears with the phallic symbol (Gardiner sign list # D52). These factors – possibly compounded by representations of Neith showing her holding a spear or bow and arrows – may have been the reason previous scholars felt comfortable calling Neith ‘androgynous’. This paper interrogates some of the deeply-rooted views on ‘proper’ or ‘normal’ gender roles that have permeated previous scholarship as it examines how those beliefs were projected on the Egyptian evidence, especially as it pertains to Neith.

Keywords: Egyptian religion; Goddesses; Neith; Mut; Gender roles



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Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access: How Local Communities and Public Education Can Serve Egyptology, and Vice-Versa

Jennifer BABCOCK (Fashion Institute of Technology, State University of New York)

The Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) is part of a system of public colleges, community colleges, and universities in New York. Enrolled students pursue an Associate's degree, and some choose to continue their studies to achieve a Bachelor's degree at FIT or a different four-year programme elsewhere. Most students come from local New York City communities and take advantage of the school's affordable tuition. Over half of the student population belong to groups that are not of white/non-Hispanic origin. In short, FIT's population is largely underrepresented in the field of Egyptology. I am developing courses and educational programming at FIT, to decolonize Egyptology and make it more accessible. One course, 'Repositioning Ancient Egypt and Rethinking Egyptology' invites students to think critically about how the field has developed, and how Ancient Egyptian culture is presented in scholarship, popular media, and exhibition spaces. This course was a direct result of a discussion panel I co-organized at FIT where scholars discussed the history of Egyptology and its current role at universities considering the recent Black Lives Matter protests in the U.S.A.

In this talk, I will explain the role public education has in moving Egyptology beyond its colonialist origins. Additionally, I will share my pedagogical experiences and efforts in creating a space where high-quality ancient world studies are available and given relevance within the community college/public school setting. The programmes of study and events developed at FIT serve as a model for other instructors and institutions who are interested in ensuring diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in a field that is traditionally beyond reach for many.

Keywords: Decolonization; Inclusion; Access; Diversity; Equity; Pedagogy; Historiography



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Interpreting Material Residues of Ordinary Life Derived from a Secondary (Waste) Deposit at Elephantine

Bettina BADER (Austrian Archaeological Institute of the Austrian Academy of Sciences)

Recovery and recording of high density accumulations of discarded materials, probably domestic waste deposits, provide vital information about the lives of people and their societies, modern and ancient. While still rare in Egyptian archaeology, the domestic sphere holds information about people, their households and cultural processes, such as socio-economic circumstances, subsistence, production, use of manufacturing technologies, procurement and recycling procedures, and waste management.

The rescue excavation of a part of the town wall on Elephantine (Area B 36) by the Swiss Institute in co-operation with the DAI in 2011-12 unearthed several building phases and depositions on the exterior and the interior (Von Pilgrim, *MDAIK* 72 [2016], 207-12). These stratified layers were either laid down in order to strengthen the wall or represent refuse. The period spans the (late) Middle Kingdom to the early New Kingdom (c. 1800-1550 BC). The finds include pottery, objects (stone tools, net sinkers, etc.) and limestone chippings. While the broken and disused nature of the objects indicates a (secondary) rubbish deposition, in-depth qualitative and quantitative analysis of the finds will provide evidence for an informed judgement of the deposit type and possible identification criteria.

These stratified assemblages of the Second Intermediate Period are valuable for the aims of the project Beyond Politics: Material Culture in Second Intermediate Period Egypt and Nubia (START, Y754-G19, FWF) which looks at regional developments in Egypt and Nubia. Analysis of material culture provides data from Egypt's southernmost region, enabling inferences on the use of raw materials, their acquisition, the chaînes opératoires of the objects and regional developments of certain object classes.

Keywords: Settlement; Second Intermediate Period; Material culture; Waste management



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Social Protocol among Elites and Their Subordinates during the Ancient Egyptian New Kingdom

Sally BAHGAT (University of Cologne)

The objective of this paper is to examine the civil protocol and the rules of appropriate behaviour among elites during the New Kingdom (ca. 1550 to 1070 BC).

This study does not focus on the protocol between the king and his high-ranking officials. It examines the protocol between dignitaries, high-ranking officials and their subordinates, as well as the middle and the low-class people. It aims also at understanding the potential tokens for a process of social imitation of the king by the elite.

For this research sources are textual and iconographical. As for textual sources, administrative and literary texts describe mores referring to practices of social protocol. For example, the Instruction of Ani gives a principle of what should be done in the presence of a high-ranking character; it says: "Do not sit when another is standing, one is older than you, one is greater than you in his rank."

In the tomb of Rekhmire (TT 100), the text of The Duties of the Vizier begins with a description of the etiquette of the meetings at which the civil servants appear before the vizier. Whether because he had summoned them, or because they were compelled to periodically report to him on their management.

The iconographical sources are found in the private tombs of the New Kingdom. Thus, a clear example is in the first hall of the tomb of Panehesy. The scene illustrates the rewarding of this dignitary by King Akhenaten and his wife. The upper part of the scene shows the interaction between the king and his officials, whilst the lower part illustrates the interaction between Panehesy and his servants. The narrative depicts him as he has passed through the gates of the palace and is received by his servants, some of them raising their hands in joy, and others kissing the earth before him.

Keywords: Protocol; Gestures; Postures; Behaviour; Social classes



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Land of the Town: the Use of *s3tꜣw* from the Late Middle Kingdom to Early New Kingdom

Kathryn BANDY (University of Chicago)

The Tell Edfu Project has excavated more than two hundred hieratic ostraca since 2010. The majority are name-lists and payment accounts dating to the late Second Intermediate Period and early New Kingdom. Found among them is a single text documenting at least three plots of *s3tꜣw*-land associated with houses.

Tell Edfu Ostrakon 122 is not the only local reference to personal holdings of such land dated to this period. Two private stelae of the late Middle Kingdom–Second Intermediate Period, Cairo JE 52456 and Hildesheim 4589, recount personal land acquisitions and building upon it. Together, the ostrakon and stelae present the relatively uncommon combination of complementary, contemporary documentary and monumental sources at a single site.

Elsewhere in Upper Egypt, such land is also encountered in contemporary royal inscriptions (including Sobekhotep IV, Kamose, and Ahmose), as well as the Duties of the Vizier, in association with ‘towns’, extending its use beyond personal holdings. Sobekhotep IV’s Karnak stela identifies a large granary on the *s3tꜣw* of the town and the Donation Stela of Ahmose-Nefertari references officials of the town’s *s3tꜣw*.

This paper analyzes the Edfu material and contextualizes it with other contemporary sources, assessing earlier scholarly views whether such land is to be understood as generic ‘ground’ or a more specific association with settlements. Finally, it briefly considers sizes of Edfu’s personal holdings vis-à-vis the late Middle Kingdom–Second Intermediate Period archaeological record.

Keywords: Edfu; Administration; Middle Kingdom; Second Intermediate Period; Hieratic



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Medamud: The First Blue Painted Ware Production Centre Found in Egypt? New Findings and Economic Considerations on Blue Painted Ceramics

Zulema BARAHONA MENDIETA (Autonomous University of Barcelona)

Since 2017, archaeological excavations on the behalf of the French mission of Medamud (IFAO/MEAE/Sorbonne) have been underway at the site of Medamud with the aim of understanding the urban development of this Upper Egyptian city and its relationship with the temple of Montu. But another of its objectives is the study of ceramic production at the site, which is one of the most important in Egypt, with the production in marl clay documented from at least the Second Intermediate Period and up to the Byzantine period. During these excavations, at least six pottery kilns dating from the 18th to the 25th dynasty was discovered in a test pit to the southwest of the temple. Next to the 18th dynasty kiln, a large floor has been documented, which is composed of thousands of ceramic fragments from the kiln's production waste. All of them are made of Marl A4 and Marl A2 fabrics and all of them are homogeneously dated to around the end of the 18th dynasty. Among them are several fragments decorated in blue from the same production.

The aim of this paper is to present new data that allow us to propose Medamud as one of the first sites where the production of such a sophisticated type of pottery can be documented, and to offer some reflections on its production and distribution throughout Egypt.

Keywords: Medamud; Archaeology; New Kingdom; Ceramic production; Blue painted pottery



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Emperors as Pharaohs: Tradition and Innovation in the Royal Statuary of the Roman Period

Nicola BARBAGLI (Italian Institute for Historical Studies, Naples)

The statues of the pharaohs, either in soft or hard stones, are one of the most impressive and enduring expressions of Egyptian art. Most of those who ruled Egypt have been represented through the medium of statuary, from kings of the Old Kingdom to the foreign monarchs of the Graeco-Roman period. Among the latter, the statues of the Ptolemies have received most of the scholarly attention, leaving the study of imperial statuary confined to a few publications, sometimes marred by the lack of up-to-date methodology, especially in terms of portrait typology and contextual analysis.

This paper aims to address the subject of royal statuary during the Roman period by examining the evidence from Augustus to Caracalla, including statues, portraits, and statue bases, and by placing it in its historical and archaeological context. Because such an endeavour stands between disciplines (Classical Archaeology, Egyptology, Epigraphy), the material will be discussed taking into account the different methods and issues proper to each field. In this way, it will be possible to offer a new overview of royal statue production in the Egyptian mode of representation and to contribute to current understanding of the changing visual environment of Roman Egypt and the role of the Roman emperor in the local society.

Keywords: Roman Egypt; Royal statuary; Egyptian kingship; Emperors



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A New Way for Archaeological Dissemination: KV62 and Virtual Reality

Pasquale BARILE (University of Bologna)

Until recently, watching a high-quality 3D movie was considered a futuristic experience, but the extreme passivity of the experience soon proved to be a significant limitation. We then moved on to greater interaction with the 360° vision, where the viewer, wearing special glasses, could choose what to look at on each side. However, the limit of being unable to interact with the surrounding environment remained a constant. Virtual Reality eliminates these obstacles, allowing the user to 'physically' enter the reconstructed environments. Several archaeological sites, although significant, are inconspicuous to the general public. Numerous places cannot be visited for conservation, restoration, or logistical reasons. Virtual Reality allows us to break down these invisible barriers, and the KV62 is a case in point. The impossibility of seeing the tomb with the funerary items inside is a significant limitation for visitors. A limit that Virtual Reality has managed to erase. Thanks to 3D modelling software and an in-depth study of Carter's archive, we have created a reconstruction of the tomb of Tutankhamun as it appeared at the time of its discovery. The interactive environment offers visitors a wealth of information on the funerary objects and the tomb. All these features are a significant step forward in scientific popularization. The reconstructions in Virtual Reality make it possible to facilitate the usability of archaeological sites, using simple and impactful language. Furthermore, since it is a binary code, Virtual Reality has the considerable advantage of speaking the language of the new generations, stimulating curiosity about the past.

Keywords: Virtual reality; Tutankhamun; KV62; 3D modelling



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The Tomb of Paser at Sakkara: Royal Envoy to all Foreign Lands and Chief Archivist of the Army

Stefan BAUMANN (University of Trier) & Ola EL-AGUIZY (Cairo University)

The New Kingdom necropolis south of the causeway of the Unas Pyramid is well known as the final resting place of the contemporary military elite. Since 1984, excavations conducted by the Faculty of Archaeology at Cairo University in the northern part of this necropolis have uncovered several so-called temple tombs. One of the best-preserved examples is the tomb of Paser, who pursued his career in the military administration under Ramses II. Unlike most tomb superstructures in this area, which were built with mudbrick and orthostates, his was constructed entirely out of limestone. Moreover, as it was not discovered and dismantled in the 19th century, it is in a comparatively good state of preservation. A large portion of the superstructure is preserved to a height of more than two meters, so that even the top of the wall decoration can be studied in situ.

This presentation will discuss the architecture and decorative programme of Paser's tomb. Of special interest are excerpts from the Book of the Dead and – from a historical perspective – the labelled representations of 26 family members, citing their religious and administrative titles. The analysis of the scenes and inscriptions reveals different phases of decoration and further allows us to trace the career of Paser as an elite officer of Ramses' vast army.

Keywords: Sakkara; Military officer; Temple tomb; Book of the Dead; Prosopography



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Papyrus BM EA 10313: An Early Form of an Oracular Amuletic Decree?

Susanne BECK (Institute for Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Eberhard Karl University of Tübingen)

The papyrus BM EA 10313.1–2 was originally part of Salt's collection and came into the British Museum, London, in 1836. At first glance, the papyrus—both pieces measure ca. 6,5 × 51,2 cm—looks exactly like an oracular amuletic decree (OAD). There is only an inscription on the verso side written in the same hand in late Ramesside hieratic with transition to abnormal hieratic. The amulet contains phrases to protect the owner, Wermaakheru, who Tanedjem has born. The broken off edges imply that the papyrus was once rolled. However, both pieces don't have a join to each other and the content is protective but does not pick up on the well-known formula of the other oracular amuletic decrees. In fact, most of the given epithets and phrases are entirely new and otherwise unattested. The talk presents pBM EA 10313.1-2 and shows the similarities and differences to the so far known oracular amuletic decrees as an early or preform of this rare amulet category.

Keywords: Amulet; Oracular amuletic decree; Protective magic; Maga; Sobek; Mut; Wedjat-eye



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From Style to Function: Wooden Statues and Their Ritual Entanglements

Tina BECK (Free University of Berlin)

This talk is based on my ongoing PhD thesis “Private Wooden Tomb Statues from Middle Egypt (Akhmim–Beni Hasan) from the First Intermediate Period and the Middle Kingdom”. In this research I understand wooden statues as funerary images that fulfil (ritual) functions and are in that order entangled with things and humans. These functions and entanglements cannot only change over time but are dependent on the appearance and affordance of a wooden statue and its context. To study the wooden statues and their entanglements, art historical methods in combination with a contextual analysis of the archaeological context is used as far as possible. This presentation will focus on the wooden statues from Asyut. This case study is not chosen at random, but most wooden statues come from this site, and some were even published and/or documented by their excavators in the early 20th century. The burials of Nakhti, Wepwawetemhat and Anchef, excavated and published by É. Chassinat and C. Palanque show that the appearance of a wooden statue, the combination of size, posture, type of coiffure and dress, depends on whether it was erected in the superstructure or the burial chamber. A statue’s place and thus its appearance has a direct impact on its role during the funerary rituals but also for the ongoing mortuary cult. Well known is the role of the statues during the Opening of the Mouth ritual and their daily provision. Another, yet unknown ritual can be reconstructed from hidden depictions of deities in the shoulder joints and beneath the feet of especially large-scale wooden statues. These different rituals that do not exclude one another, cause changing entanglements for the wooden statues which will be presented during this talk.

Keywords: Statuary; Wood; First Intermediate Period; Middle Kingdom; Asyut; Entanglements



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Wikidata and Wikimedia Commons as Linked Data Hubs: Dissemination of KU Leuven Libraries' Digitised Egyptological Collections through the Wiki Environment

Luna BEERDEN (Leiden University)

Digitisation and the use of digital methodologies have become increasingly important themes within Egyptology, showcasing potential for data preservation, analysis, and dissemination. Such digital techniques, however, can also be applied to aid decolonisation of the research field by making accessible that which was previously hidden. Further, bringing data outside of an institution's own repository provides opportunities for scholars worldwide to perform research in new, collaborative ways. Following the principles of FAIR data, data dissemination combats gatekeeping of information by making knowledge available to all, while putting in place a protocol for data production and sharing that will keep steady with changes in research trends. Further, the digital environment can provide solutions for unequal accessibility to sources by the creation of an online centralised knowledge repository where all Egyptologists alike can share their data, regardless of their affiliation, financial situation, and digital skillset. As repositories for Egyptology have so far been limited to the OEB, which repository should be used? In this poster, the Wiki Environment is proposed as a viable candidate by highlighting its potential as linked open data hub through the case study of a collection of Egyptological glass diapositives held at KU Leuven Libraries (Belgium). Main advantages of the platform are shown to go beyond the centralisation of knowledge, use of controlled vocabulary, research potential (such as simultaneous querying of collections worldwide), and low learning curve, by standing out in its language independency – actively combatting academic exclusivity in Egyptology.

Keywords: Digital Egyptology; Linked data; Data dissemination; Wiki environment



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Coptic Figures that Influenced Egyptian Heritage: ‘Tadros Shenouda Al-Manqabadi’

Hadeer BELAL (Egyptian Museum, Cairo)

In this study, the researcher sheds light on a personality that influenced Egyptian cultural life in the period between 1859-1932. It deals with this character’s life, work, and many achievements on the social, cultural, heritage, political, and economic levels.

Tadros Shenouh Al-Manqabadi is one of the Coptic Egyptians on whom the researcher tries to shed light because of his vision and message, as he was one of the first people who tried to create a newspaper that conveys and presents Egyptian society, especially Coptic society, in its various aspects in an important period of the history of modern Egypt. He was one of the founding members that worked on the establishment of the Coptic Museum with a group of Coptic Egyptians, and he participated in his efforts and relations in accomplishing a lot for Egyptian society at that time. Al- Manqabadi’s political and economic contributions did not stop there, he had an important role in social life, and this is evident in his interest in reviving the celebration of Nowruz or the Coptic New Year.

In the year 1899 AD, Tadros Shenouda Al-Manqabadi issued a religious, literary, and news magazine called “Al-Nour.” The issues of this magazine are in the library of the Institute of Coptic Studies in Abbasiya, which is the library gifted by Kamel Mikhael Abdel-Sayed. The researcher was able to identify 15 issues of the magazine, which were issued on Saturday of every week.

The work of Tadros Shenouda Al-Manqabadi did not stop there, but rather he translated the book “History of the Coptic Nation” by Ms. A.L. Becher in 1900 AD, in which she talked about Coptic history since Christianity entered Egypt, as well as discussing the Coptic Church. Al-Manqabadi printed the book at his expense, as well as the translation.

Al-Manqabadi loved his Coptic identity and was a proud Egyptian. He was successful in his professional life and reached high positions in the Egyptian government. He never hesitated to serve his country and preserve its cultural heritage.

It was the role of the researcher to shed light once again and erase the dust on such an important figure and showcase how influential he was in Egyptian life.

Keywords: Coptic heritage; Coptic Museum; History of the Coptic Church; Coptic nation; Museums



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Dating Amarna, Astronomy versus Radiocarbon: Two Archaeometries in Conflict?

Juan Antonio BELMONTE (Institute of Astrophysics of the Canary Islands, Santa Cruz de Tenerife)

As shown in Belmonte and Lull (2022), the resulting chronological studies for either period of Egyptian history are seldom contradictory. This paper will deal with the relationship between two apparently conflicting archaeometries: The often discussed evidence related to astronomy and the controversial but most interesting C14 models.

Astronomical evidence catalogues into three different classes. The first kind of evidence is Sothic dating. The second has to do with the moon and the synodic month and the relationship established in Egypt between the civil calendar and lunar feasts or temple services. Finally, the third involves the sun. In this case, we can deal with two kinds of events: Eclipses or sunrises (rarely sunsets) at special moments of the year. The latter has to do with the wandering nature of the civil calendar. Dating Amarna includes these three kinds of evidence.

Carbon 14 dating is one of the most widespread and reliable systems of dating ancient remains. However, in Egypt, C14 specialists have encountered numerous problems. One of these controversial issues is dating Amarna. This was first dated in two different time intervals: 1368-1360 BC and 1336-1320 BC, depending on the type of material considered. Last decade research has demonstrated that short-lived remains of living beings are the best objectives for the analysis. A debatable offset of 19 ± 5 years has entered the debate.

These controversies have not been much help in solving the problem. However, as we shall discuss, astronomy has proven to be a serious auxiliary science to ancient chronology and C14 dating has also stood out as a premier league player in this extremely sophisticated game.

Keywords: Interdisciplinarity; Astronomy; Radiocarbon; Amarna; Chronology

Co-author: José LULL (Institute of Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Autonomous University of Barcelona)



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The Engraved Stela of Shorkaror and its Local Context at Jebel Qeili, in the Heart of the Ancient Island of Meroe in Sudan

Monique BERNARD FERREOL (Paul Valéry University Montpellier 3)

This study was motivated by the singularity of the motif depicted on the Jebel Qeili stela, as well as by the virtual absence of excavations on the site and of in-depth study, since the prospection of 1958 led by Fr. Hintze for the Humboldt University of Berlin*.

The Kingdom of Meroe, in the first century of our era, was under the co-regency of Natakamani and Amanitore. This reign is characterized by a significant revival of arts, particularly through an imposing architectural program. However, one of the princes, Shorkaror, probably Amanitore's son, is attested only by the victorious rock stela which depicts him in detail at Jebel Qeili. It is located in the heart of Butana in Sudan, in the so-called Island of Meroe. The scene is large in size, it is facing the Jebel Qeili and not the wadi, although it is supposed to address the men who passed there.

This paradox has made it possible, during our latest research in situ, to suspect a link between the mountain and the stela, possibly a sanctuary place. Thus, we seek to know if this link can be established with the propaganda message of the stela. In the rock shelter that faces it, we rediscovered in 2019 a cave painting of adoration to Amun, whose date we do not know. It is currently the subject of our study, which should allow us to better understand the character of Shorkaror. The question is to know if this prince, in royal attire on the stela, actually reigned over the Kingdom of Meroe. In addition, the foreign influence (for instance, the sun god on the stela), as well as the image of the offering to Amun in the cave, open a perspective towards a new light on the Kingdom of Meroe.

*Fr. HINTZE, « Preliminary Report of the Butana Expedition, 1958 » published in *Kush*, VII, NCAM, Khartoum, 1959, p.171-196.

Keywords: Amanitore; Gebel Qeili; God Amun; Meroe; Meroitic; Natakamani; Rock shelters; Shorkaror; Stela; Sudan; Victory scene



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Story-telling Biographies of Single Objects as an Engagement Strategy for Museum Visitors

Elizabeth BETTLES (Netherlands Institute for the Near East, Leiden/Leiden University)

Huge objects associated with royalty can inspire a sense of awe in the museum visitor. Small objects displayed in large clusters can be aesthetically attractive. But can the museum visitor also be offered the chance to engage with single, small items which might seem to them otherwise as lacking in particular significance? Is the strategy of story-telling in relation to object biographies a method which could be of benefit here, especially with regard to children? Biographies of museum objects usually cover aspects of connoisseurship, provenance and scientific and technical analyses. Yet with Egyptian objects there is also the possibility that their biographies can offer a connection with actual people of the ancient past and engage the visitor with a view into them and their lives.

As an example of the potential for this story-telling strategy, I discuss what may be feasible with a shabti-box from Deir el-Medina, which is now in storage in the Louvre. Much is already known about individuals who lived in this artisans' community. Over the centuries objects from the site have become scattered to museums around the world, each with the possibility of being linked to actual inhabitants of this settlement, as can this shabti-box. I examine the potential of using a story-telling strategy for this item and offer a demonstration of what it could entail.

Keywords: Museum visitor; Object biography; Story-telling; Shabti-box; Deir el-Medina



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Cutting Hands of Foes by the Hyksos: New Archaeological and Scientific Evidence

Manfred BIETAK (Austrian Academy of Sciences/University of Vienna)

In front of a Hyksos palace at Tell el-Dab'a pits with cut right hands have been found in 2011 and published in preliminary reports. It is the first time physical evidence of this grim practice has been found in an unexpected early context. Several authors have commented on these finds since, but it is the first time that an in depth study with osteological, archaeological, and textual investigations has been done in a wider Near Eastern framework. This study produced unexpected results and clarified earlier interpretations.

Keywords: Cut hands; Hyksos palace; Gold of valour; Warfare trophy; Punishment; Negative magic

Co-author: Julia GRESKY (German Archaeological Institute, Berlin)



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Dressed for Eternity: The Collection of Mummy Bandages with the Book of the Dead at Uppsala University

Nils BILLING (Uppsala University)

Museum Gustavianum (formerly the Victoria Museum) in Uppsala, Sweden, holds a comprehensive collection of mummy bandages inscribed with texts and vignettes from the Egyptian Book of the Dead. They can principally be dated from the Ptolemaic period or slightly earlier (i.e. ca 400-100 BC) and was used in the wrapping of the dead at mummification. The collection was purchased in Egypt in the 1890s by Karl Piehl, at the time professor of Egyptology at the university. It comprises c. 250 specimens of various forms, types and size. Apart from texts, most of the bandages also contain the traditional vignettes.

In the 1930s, Ernst Akmar Andersson made a preliminary inventory and identified a number of specimens belonging to the same sets and their owners. His publication, *Les bandelettes de momie du Musée Victoria de Upsala* (1932-9), contains eight sets of bandages, i.e. from eight individual mummies, with photographs (in all 73 pieces of linen). The photographs, as could be expected, do not meet the demands and standards in contemporary research. Still, Akmar's publication of parts of the Uppsala collection is to this day one of the most comprehensive publications of a collection of mummy bandages, a situation that answers to the great scholarly interest it continues to attract. However, apart from the 73 linen pieces found in Akmar's publication, another c. 150 specimens are left unpublished.

The talk will present the recent results from my project named 'Dressed for Eternity' that aims to publish a large part of the collection, including transcription, transliteration and text-critical apparatus. A selected number of specimens from the different individual sets will be shown to illustrate differences in the hieratic writing, duplications, omissions, and other variations.

Keywords: Palaeography; Individual sets of bandages; Transcription; Vignettes



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How to Destroy a Statue in Ptolemaic Egypt: Multivariate Statistical Analyses on the Cachette of Karnak

Ralph BIRK (Free University of Berlin)

In the Cachette of Karnak, over 750 stone statues and 17,000 bronzes, along with various other types of objects, were found in the courtyard of the 7th Pylon of Karnak by G. Legrain in the years 1903-1907. The stone statues reflect in their diachrony the activity of kings, officials and priests in the temples of Karnak over a period of more than two millennia. However, the cachette itself, created during the 1st century BC, shows signs of planned, structured practices that altered the material integrity of statues before recontextualizing them underground. This poster asks whether these destructions of private, royal and divine statues were systematic, and if – how. Therefore 500 statues that were securely found in the Cachette were studied by using an annotation system that differentiates the different modes of destruction, from chipping to complete disintegration. A mixed-method approach, integrating qualitative and quantitative methods, such as multivariate statistical analyses, is applied to study these correlations between destruction patterns and other properties, such as statue types. These correlations can point to coherent practices that preceded the statues' burial in the court of the 7th pylon. Together with qualitative approaches that highlight the secondary, subterranean constellations of stone statues, new light can be shed on the religious interpretations of the Cachette of Karnak as a whole. This poster is the result of collaborative and interdisciplinary research project between Egyptology and Mathematics at the Excellence Cluster Math+ (FU Berlin, Zuse-Institut Berlin).

Keywords: Karnak; Thebes; Statuary; Ptolemaic Egypt; Quantitative methods; DH

Co-authors: Marcus WEBER & Alexia RAHARINIRINA



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Three Egyptologists Walk into a Bar: Disseminating Egyptological Scholarship in Portuguese

Guilherme BORGES PIRES (Centre for the Humanities, Nova University Lisbon), Inês TORRES (Centre for the Humanities, Nova University Lisbon) & Luiza OSORIO G. SILVA (University of Chicago)

The first podcast about Ancient Egypt in Portuguese—Três Egíptólogos Entram Num Bar, or Three Egyptologists Walk into a Bar—was started in 2022. Our original goals in starting this podcast were to communicate Egyptological research to a broader audience, and to do it in an unpretentious way that might convince those not otherwise interested in the ancient world to listen. Now, with hundreds of listeners and a growing audience, the importance of that goal—and the potential for projects such as these to disseminate scholarship—has become clear. Egyptology in lusophone countries, primarily Brazil and Portugal, has for a long time been considered peripheral. The interest this project continues to generate, as well as the growing body of innovative scholarship by Portuguese-speaking Egyptologists, demonstrates that there is both interest in the discipline and the ability to pursue that interest in these countries. What is often lacking are the resources and infrastructure needed to support those who wish to pursue an Egyptological career. The downward trend of the humanities seen in the United States and Europe is even more prominent in countries where such disciplines were not well supported in the first place, and the need to demonstrate the relevance of our studies—of not only Ancient Egypt, but of the ancient world as a whole—continues to grow. This paper will discuss the challenges but also the great pleasure involved in communicating scholarship to the general public, as well as argue for the absolute necessity of doing so.

Keywords: Egyptology; Scientific outreach; Podcast; Lusophone countries



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Hairstyles from the South Tombs Cemetery at Tell el-Amarna

Jolanda Bos (Leiden University)

From a large non-elite burial ground near the South Tombs at Tell el-Amarna (ancient Akhet-Aton), the South Tombs Cemetery (excavated between 2005 and 2013 by the Amarna Project), numerous remains of human hair have been uncovered. This dataset is unique in terms of completeness and periodization, and the hair samples have shown that human hair and hair treatment is important for understanding the way in which the Ancient Egyptians cared for the body. Hair remains from the South Tombs Cemetery also denote social stature and identity, ritual practices and funerary beliefs in New Kingdom Egypt and Akhet-Aton in particular.

This paper presents the study of human hair from the South Tombs Cemetery and the role this dataset plays in the understanding of hairstyles from the other non-elite cemeteries at Tell el-Amarna (the North Tombs Cemetery, the North Desert Cemetery and the North Cliffs Cemetery). The paper also addresses the fact that hair (and hairstyling) is understudied in Egyptian archaeology and can be of particular interest to archaeologists. Hair and the way in which it is worn is a generic physical feature that appears frequently in the (Egyptian) archaeological record, both in non-elite and in elite burial contexts. Understanding the treatment of hair and hairstyles can facilitate a fundamental level of comparison between individuals and different parts of Ancient Egyptian civilization.

Keywords: Hair; Hairstyle; Tell el-Amarna; Social status; Burial rites; Mortuary practice



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From Dig to Digital: The Future of Scarab Documentation

Vanessa BOSCHLOOS (Ghent University)

Scarabs are small in size, complex in shape and details, and they are omnipresent. Yet, the documentation and publication of scarabs remain a low priority for many excavation teams working in Egypt unless scarabs come in large numbers or are of particular importance for understanding the excavated contexts or for chronology. Similarly, museum collections online disclose basic information, at best accompanied by a limited number of photographs of varying quality. As a result, many finds remain unknown, inaccessible to researchers or are published summarily; scarabs excavated in Egypt remain underrepresented in scarab studies.

On the other hand, recent developments in scarab studies, putting more focus on intricate details and holistic research questions, require access to thorough documentation of scarabs, of which the ones coming from known archaeological contexts are the most valuable. Scarab research is moving beyond the purely iconographical, chronological and typological approaches to explore the materiality of scarabs, imitative styles, and groups of scarabs sharing common diagnostic traits.

This poster addresses best practices and the dangers of losing a wealth of information without proper documentation of these small finds before they end up in a storage magazine. It also gauges the interest of the Egyptological community for the creation of an open digital platform for excavated scarabs from Egypt and the Sudan. The authors raise the question: Do you know what to do with your scarab finds and do you exploit their full potential?

Keywords: Scarabs; Documentation; Database; Archaeology; Collections

Co-author: Alexander ILIN-TOMICH (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz)



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Report on the Online Egyptological Bibliography

Francisco BOSCH-PUCHE (Griffith Institute, University of Oxford)

This paper will outline progress on the Online Egyptological Bibliography (OEB) since the Cairo congress in November 2019, present enhancements under development, and discuss prospects and challenges. The OEB is a core project of the International Association of Egyptologists, published by the Griffith Institute, University of Oxford in partnership with Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München.

The OEB has grown to 167,000 (October 2022) searchable online records. Material is added as soon as it is identified. Since the last ICE, a feature linking records, termed “relationships”, has been released. The most frequent relationship is between a review, which is a separate record in OEB, and the item reviewed; other relationships include translations, reprints, earlier and later editions, comments, corrections, and additions. OEB has also developed a new style of display for languages that do not use the Latin alphabet. This presents the original script, in Unicode, and a transliteration/transcription according to a standard system, rendering items in non-Roman scripts more accessible for users. This style has been implemented for Cyrillic (mostly Russian and Ukrainian) and Chinese records, as well as tested for Greek and Japanese, and is planned to be used in the near future for Arabic.

The paper will also include brief updates on the other main projects of the Griffith Institute: The Topographical Bibliography and the Archive. For the former, progress on implementing a new digital interface and developing case-studies will be discussed. For the latter, significant recent accessions of manuscripts will be presented, as well as work – both completed projects and ongoing – on the online catalogue.

Keywords: Online Egyptological Bibliography; Topographical Bibliography; Archive



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The Results of Experimental Imaging Techniques Applied in Mummy and Artifact Studies

Kamila BRAULINSKA (University of Warsaw)

The animal mummies in Poland had been an understudied topic until the recent investigations conducted within a new scientific project that has revealed their history, contents and enabled their detailed analysis. In general, animal mummies are examined radiologically with classical methods. The results of these are, however, not always satisfactory for the smallest specimens or in the imaging of the small structures in the larger mummies. Therefore, these particularly require a slightly different approach than the human mummies. Methods like micro CT or synchrotron are not always available and particularly the latter seems to be highly destructive for the DNA.

As a result of this, alternative and new digital non-invasive radiological methods have been tested within the project, in order to enable the high-resolution studies of the tiny structures. Several were particularly innovative. The results of i.a. multi-slice computed tomography (MSCT), cone beam computed tomography (CBCT), digital radiography (DR), mammography (MG), mammography – tomosynthesis were then compared to the results of the classical examinations. The new solutions may be helpful not only in the case of animal mummies, but also in the small structures of the human ones. They have also revealed a great potential in examining other Egyptological artifacts.

Keywords: Animal mummies; Polish Animal Mummy Project; Digital Egyptology; Mummy studies

Co-author: Łukasz KOWNACKI (European Health Center Otwock)



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Recent Archaeological Survey and Documentation within the Tomb of Thutmose IV (KV 43): A Preliminary Report

Nicholas (Nick) BROWN (University of California, Los Angeles)

In 1903, Howard Carter discovered the tomb of Thutmose IV (KV 43) while working on behalf of Theodore Davis in the Valley of the Kings. As Carter and his team explored and cleared the tomb, what they found was an unfinished tomb for the king that was heavily looted in antiquity. Though all the chambers were fully carved out and their walls levelled off, only two rooms in the tomb are partially decorated with painted scenes. Yet, in this unfinished state, the tomb and the burial of Thutmose IV provides Egyptologists with the opportunity to better understand the funerary preparations for a king during the 18th dynasty and the creation of his eternal resting place.

Throughout the tomb, evidence remains of the Deir el-Medina crew's work to create the monument. The author will present recent survey data from the tomb and how the remaining evidence informs us on the ways in which this tomb was quarried, stocked, used, and eventually restored in the late 18th dynasty for the burial of Thutmose IV. Some of the findings presented include: A proposal for the sequence of events to carve the burial chamber, the crew's methods for bringing in the king's sarcophagus, a discussion of the unique techniques employed to carve KV 43, a proposal for the stocking and storage of funerary items within the tomb ahead of the king's burial, and a discussion of the newly documented graffito from side chamber Jd.

Keywords: Valley of the Kings; Thutmose IV; Deir el-Medina; Funeral preparations



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The Story of Hori's Statue: A Case Study of Statuary Recontextualisation in Deir el-Medina

David BRÜGGER (University of Manchester)

The approach of Ancient Egyptian statuary is too often limited to the discussion of the artefacts themselves, be it from an iconographic or epigraphical perspective. At best, art historical questions are considered, but further contextual analysis is generally missing, admittedly hindered by the lack of evidence inherent to portable antiquities extracted from their original environment. However, in the case of Deir el-Medina, the statuary comes with arguably one of the richest evidence contexts there is, and yet its globally spread corpus has surprisingly not been consolidated, let alone analysed. Which new insights could be gained about the intention, production, and function of statues by regrouping and recontextualising artefacts with the exceptional wealth of data provided by this unique, but by no means representative, village?

This paper will present the latest case study from the ongoing research project, currently focussing on the private statuary. A relatively unknown and unpublished statue of the Ramesside vizier Hori, found in Deir el-Medina and currently hidden in a store on Luxor's West Bank, will be examined not so much for its iconographical, stylistic, and technical characteristics, but with textual, visual, and prosopographical data from its ancient context as well as evidence from its modern archaeological history. A possibly unique conjunction of sketch, text, object, and findspot will reveal a multifaceted story and give Hori's statue a whole new life.

This case study should open a critical dialogue to refine the applied approach—bridging traditional Egyptology silos—before it is deployed on the broader corpus, in particular on the significant portion of pieces still in Deir el-Medina, to pursue in fine a complete publication.

Keywords: New Kingdom; Deir el-Medina; *šrt*; Statuary; Self-presentation



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Linking Thebes and Abydos: New Data Based on the Pottery from Newly Discovered 25th Dynasty Tombs in the South Asasif Necropolis

Julia BUDKA (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

The South Asasif Conservation Project has focussed since 2006 on the architecture and decoration of monumental Late Period tombs, most prominently the Kushite tombs of Karakhamun and Karabasken. Since 2020, several previously unknown non-monumental tombs from the 25th dynasty have been unearthed by the international team led by Elena Pischikova. These tombs with mudbrick superstructures find close parallels in the northern Asasif and attest to a complex use-life which is comparable to the monumental tombs. The most recent excavations testify that the South Asasif necropolis was much larger than previously thought and densely used for several hundreds of years.

This presentation will give the first report on the ceramics found in these newly discovered tombs, studied in 2021 and 2022. The dating, function, parallels, and differences to the ceramics from the monumental tombs will be discussed. A special focus will be on ceramics with a presumed ritual function. One ritual deposit found in the open courtyard of the new tomb SACP 3 is of particular importance. This deposit associated with brooms, goat dung and some organics, comprises mostly 25th dynasty pottery, most remarkable several so-called qaab-dishes, well-known from Umm el-Qaab at Abydos as votive offerings for Osiris. This, together with findings in other tombs of the South Asasif necropolis, allows a renewed discussion of the relationships and cultic connections between Thebes and Abydos during the Kushite era.

Keywords: Asasif; Kushite; 25th dynasty; Thebes; Abydos; Funerary ritual; Osiris



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When the Desert Came to the River: An Increasing Role of Desert Resources in the Late Old Kingdom?

John BURN (Macquarie University)

My studies have investigated the ecological changes that may have occurred at the end of the Old Kingdom. Lower-than-usual flood levels and uncharacteristic rainfall events affected the environmental properties of the river. Consequently, the nutrient balance within the river changed, changing the characteristics of the food webs associated with it. Less reliable irrigation appeared to have rendered cultivation less reliable. As cultivation diminished, marshland resources such as fish and waterfowl became more important, and cattle became a significant factor in the resource bases.

At the same time, desert animals became more habituated to human contact, and representations of them became an increasingly important part of offering procession scenes at this time. The presentation will present a summary of these findings and, provide an ecological underpinning of why this may have occurred. Hopefully, it will expand upon the role that desert-based resources played in late Old Kingdom society.

Keywords: Climate change; Societal transformation; Resilience; Adaptation



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A Social Topography: The Funerary Landscape of Zawyet Sultan in the Old Kingdom

Richard BUSSMANN (University of Cologne)

The paper presents results of the recent excavation of a non-elite Old Kingdom cemetery at Zawyet Sultan and compares the evidence to other cemeteries in provincial Egypt. It discusses how the social organisation of communities are reflected in the spatial arrangement of cemeteries in the landscape.

Keywords: Zawyet Sultan; Social archaeology; Landscape; Old Kingdom; Funerary culture



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WebGlyph: A Free Web Version of GLYPH

Jan BUURMAN (Digital Egyptology)

In summer 2021 a new version of the hieroglyphic text processor GLYPH was launched: See *GM* 264 (2021), 207-212. It is entirely web-based and will be freely available to all users.

The program has evolved over the years: 1969: University mainframe, 1986: IBM-PC, 1990s: WinGlyph, MS-Windows.

Unfortunately, WinGlyph does not run on today's platforms (e.g. Windows 10).

After consulting with Hans van den Berg, we decided to create from scratch a new web-version to enable any end-user platform, including Apple and Linux.

The web version supports all features described in the Manuel de Codage, accepted in 1988 by the International Association of Egyptologists.

The coding follows Gardiner's Sign List, allowing phonetic codes to be used where possible. All signs from the Extended Library are included as well as some additional signs, among others, for the transcription of hieratic as defined by Gardiner.

Some new features have been added:

- Variable stroke widths
- Text preview
- Flexible line spacing, interspacing of groups of signs
- Tabulation jumps for publication purposes
- Digitizer (to add new hieroglyphs)
- Group-editor

Signs created with digitizer or group-editor may be made accessible to others.

The system is compatible with WinGlyph-extensions.

The web-site is: <http://71.174.62.16/Demo/WebGlyph2>; username: guest, password: guest.

The program generates hieroglyphs in SVG-format (Scalable Vector Graphics). The resulting graphics can be used in other documents.

Keywords: GLYPH; WebGlyph



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The Reception of Julius Caesar's Portrait in Roman Egypt

Giorgia CAFICI (University of Verona)

The present paper aims to present preliminary results of my on-going research focussed on the analysis of Late Ptolemaic and Roman sculpture as part of the multidisciplinary project 'RESP-The Roman Emperor seen from the Provinces. Imaging Roman Power in the Cities of the Empire from Augustus to the Tetrarchs, 31 BC-AD 297'.

The RESP project is an ERC-funded research (GA: 101002763) aiming to provide a comprehensive study of the visual and material representation of Roman emperors in the imperial provinces from a new thematically bottom-up perspective, which takes provincial culture and art as the point of departure to look back at Rome. Among the Roman provinces, Egypt holds a unique place, exceptional for its exchange of languages, cultural habits, and religious traditions, and for how they impacted visual and material culture. The RESP methodological approach to the study of imperial portraits will compare coins minted in Alexandria and in the Eastern provinces with sculpture, both in Classical and Egyptian style, to trace the particularly Egyptian perspective and set it within a wider provincial context.

This paper presents the case study of the portrait of Julius Caesar and its Egyptian reception. It traces the portrait through certain Egyptian private Late Ptolemaic/Early Roman sculptures (for example Cairo Egyptian Museum inv. CG 697 and Museo Barracco inv. 31) and considers the evidence of how Caesar's image spread in Egypt on small-format objects, such as Egyptian seals (for example Allard Pierson Museum inv. 2679), in order to discuss its reception in different contexts and on different media.

Keywords: Ptolemaic Egypt; Roman Egypt; Egyptian sculpture; Egyptian portraiture



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Small Finds in Domestic Contexts on the Egyptian Northeastern Frontier during the Third Intermediate Period and Early Saite Period (10th-7th centuries BC)

Eva Amanda CALOMINO (University of Granada)

This paper seeks to study the set of small finds found in domestic contexts for the eastern Delta area (Egypt), dating from the middle of the Third Intermediate Period to the Early Saite Period. This will include a review and characterization of the special finds from domestic contexts of the urban settlement of Tell el-Ghaba (North Sinai). Tell el-Ghaba was an urban Egyptian frontier post occupied during the 10th to 7th centuries BC, located on the eastern border of the Nile Delta. The settlement was connected to Egypt through the Pelusiac branch of the Nile and to southern Palestine through the coastal plain that stretches between the Suez Canal and the Gaza strip. The evidence suggests that at least by the beginning of the 9th century BC, the site had already some degree of interaction with the Eastern Mediterranean trade network. In this frontier context, both people and goods were in movement and interaction, therefore the predominance of small finds of local origin is striking, including wdjat, figurines, amulets, scarabs, earrings, rings, beads, platelets, seals, and game pieces. These objects were recovered in well-defined contexts in the systematic excavations carried out by the Argentine Archaeological Mission since 1995. This portable assemblage is being studied from a novel theoretical-methodological perspective and classified into categories without referring to the functional question as the primary level of object classification. The study of the small finds found in the domestic structures contributes to understanding the daily activities carried out by its inhabitants as well as their characteristics and beliefs.

Keywords: Small finds; Domestic contexts; Eastern Delta; 10th-7th centuries BC; Tell el-Ghaba



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Everyday Wear and Tear in the Origins: The Evolution of Social Inequalities in Predynastic Egypt and the Kingdom of Kerma through Osteoarthritis and Vertebral Pathology

Jared CARBALLO PÉREZ (University of La Laguna)

The use and degeneration of the joint areas of the human body allow us to shed some light on the evolution of the daily life of those individuals whose stories have been silenced. In this contribution we have carried out the osteoarchaeological analysis of the bodies of 259 individuals from nine Egyptian cemeteries from between the Badarian Neolithic and the Old Kingdom (el-Badari, el-Ballas, Naqada, and Hu), and two Nubian cemeteries from the Kerma (Northern Dongola Reach). From the changes observed in their bones, we will approach issues such as the different daily patterns of activity between Nubians and Egyptians, the evolution of subsistence patterns during the formation of the Nilotic states, the incorporation of gender inequalities, or the social status of age.

Keywords: Predynastic; Kerma; Badarian; Old Kingdom; Embodiment; Physical activity



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I Have Not Been Deaf to Words of Truth: Metaphors Regarding ‘Deafness’ in Ancient Egyptian Textual Corpora

Ilaria CARIDDI (G. Vitelli Papyrological Institute, University of Florence)

The paper aims to assess the scope and significance of the ample body of figurative uses of ‘deafness’ in literature, biographies, miscellanies, and several other genres, employing the tools of conceptual metaphor theory. As Teachings describe Ancient Egyptian society as grounded on active hearing, portraying the ideal of an ‘homo auditor’ (J. Assmann), topoi based on deficiencies in hearing and comprehending are particularly vivid.

They include images of obduracy, as with idle scribes deemed ‘deaf’ to education and reproaches, or the pavid army of Ramses II; but positive aspects, such as ‘acting deaf’ towards provocations and verbal violence, are also attested. Eulogies portray the performative ability of the pharaoh to “teach the mute to speak, he opens the ears of the deaf”, while temporary (non-literal?) loss of hearing and incapacity to process discourse are described in literature. Metaphors regarding hearing impairments also concur to paint the dire setting of incommunicability and indifference of the Discourses – from the world of ‘moral deafness’ detailed by Neferti, to the accusations of the Eloquent Peasant towards the authority: “His face is blind to what he sees, deaf to what he hears”.

The study also considers the diachronic processes of innovation and re-semantisation in lexicon and phrases, and an analysis of quantity and clusters of metaphors, especially in the domain of ‘cultural texts’.

Keywords: Deaf; Deafness; Literature; Teachings; Wisdom; Ethics; Metaphors; Biographies



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New Kingdom Anthropoid Clay Coffins: The Ugly Duckling of Coffins. Rescuing and Repositioning a Forgotten and Overlooked Egyptian Funerary Object

Paola CARTAGENA PIANA (Independent Researcher)

Early explorers name in their finds many New Kingdom anthropoid clay coffins at various sites in Egypt. They were identified as foreign or lower-class burials, and were not properly published, studied, or restored, because they were not considered to be of interest. Their archaeological context has been lost, most were abandoned on site, and very few coffins or only their faceplates made it to museums.

To broaden our understanding of this object and consider its importance within Egyptian material culture, I focussed my research on Gurob anthropoid clay coffins from Dynasties 18 and 19, made a catalogue with their funerary goods and a comparative analysis with parallels from other sites in Egypt, Nubia, and the Levant. From the evidence available, I concluded that these coffins were not an unusual funerary object; there is nothing that suggests or confirms that they belonged to foreigners or lower classes burials, rather, their owners could have been high-ranking Egyptian administrative or military officials.

In the second stage of my ongoing research, I broaden my scope to the Delta and the Fayum. Based on the analysis of better documented specimens, I want to know if anthropoid clay coffins were a northern funerary custom due to the higher concentration of these type of coffins on these sites. What does the iconography in its decorations mean? What did its occupants seek in their afterlife? Why did they choose this material for their burials?

My research relates to the central theme of the congress since Egyptology will remain relevant through the reevaluation of objects interpreted under the biased criteria of those who decided which objects were worthy of in-depth studies; and with Egyptologists from around the world contributing to the discipline by accessing information virtually.

Keywords: Anthropoid clay coffins; Delta; Gurob; Fayum; Material; Afterlife; New Kingdom



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A Digital Glossary of Ancient Zodiacal Terms

Christian CASEY (Free University of Berlin)

As part of the ERC-funded project: ZODIAC – Ancient Astral Science in Transformation, we are preparing an online glossary of zodiacal terms in several ancient languages, including Egyptian. While providing a useful tool for our ongoing study of the development and spread of astral science in the ancient Mediterranean, the Zodiac Glossary website will also be available to all scholars and the general public as a free resource. My paper provides an introduction to the Glossary in an effort to make this resource as accessible as possible.

In the process of introducing academic audiences to the Glossary itself, I will also briefly describe the challenges of building a computational tool for the study of multiple ancient languages. Perhaps unsurprisingly, Egyptian Demotic presents an especially difficult obstacle to any attempt to digitize ancient textual data. Our solution to these problems may offer a way forward for other Egyptologists who face similar challenges.

Keywords: Digital Egyptology; Interdisciplinary Egyptology; Egyptian language; Demotic



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Archaeo-anthropological Study of Tomb 45 in Oxyrhynchos

Núria CASTELLANO (Institute of Ancient Near East Studies, University of Barcelona/Open University of Catalonia) & Bibiana AGUSTÍ (Institute of Ancient Near East Studies, University of Barcelona/Autonomous University of Barcelona)

The city of Oxyrhynchos is known for its necropolis, which remained in use from the Saite period to the Arab conquest. Although the most relevant tombs are Saite, since 2019 several tombs of the Late Period have been excavated. The most important feature is a polygonal ceiling, but we now present a new typology, with a flat ceiling.

Tomb 45 was built following some of the characteristics of tombs at the Upper Necropolis of Oxyrhynchos and new elements. Inside were the remains of a mummified individual who was studied in the laboratory of the Mission.

Due to the successive occupation of the necropolis, Coptic funerary structures were built on top of ancient Roman stone tombs. And in most cases, the Roman tombs imitate nearby Saite tombs. During the 2020 archaeological season we excavated Roman tomb 40 and under the mummified remains of an individual on the pavement we noticed a small rectangular-shaped stone structure. What at first sight looked like the entrance shaft of a tomb, turned out to be the back of a Late Period tomb. The looting of the funerary structure was evidenced not only by the destruction of the roof but also by the poor state of the mummy. The contents of the tomb were sieved to recover part of the grave goods and the human remains were taken to a laboratory for further study. The anthropological analyses allowed us to know the state of health of the deceased and to delve into some of the practices of mummification during the Late Period. Despite the poor state of preservation and the lack of basic grave goods, the mummification carried out suggests that the buried individual was upper class.

With this new tomb, we will proceed to review some of the existing funerary structures to look for a parallel of this new typology.

Keywords: Oxyrhynchos; Late Period tomb; Funerary archaeology; Anthropological study



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The Ushabti Project in the Egyptian Museum of Florence

Giacomo CAVILLIER (Cairo University/Egyptology and Coptic Civilization Study Centre 'J.F. Champollion' of Genoa-Cairo)

The ushabti project started in 2008, and is now in its third publication of the Florence Egyptian Museum catalogues. The study of the Third Intermediate Period artifacts in the Florentine collection has enabled the author to establish useful comparisons with other foreign collections and to understand the possible diffusion and dispersal following the Franco-Tuscan expedition to Egypt in 1828-1829 led by Champollion. In fact, the main core of the Florentine collection consists of the expedition's artifacts, the Nizzoli collection and the Ricci collection, to which are added other minor but no less important items, among them, the lot of ushabtis from the royal cachette at Deir el-Bahari. The comparative analysis of the latter coherent set of finds with others in various museum collections enabled the author to establish the possible typological variants of the period ascribed to the high priests of Amun and their relatives.

Keywords: Ushabti; Florence; Champollion; Nizzoli; Ricci; Franco-Tuscan expedition



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Lexical Semantics Applied to Ancient Egyptian: Interactional Scenarios between Metaphor and Classifiers in the Lexicon

Gaelle CHANTRAIN (University of Liège)

Figurative language is a constant element in the expression of abstract concepts across cultures and languages and plays an important role in lexical semantic evolution. Indeed, metaphor- and metonymy-based trans-field extensions constitute a major trigger for polysemy and semantic shift. However, figurative language and the related lexical evolution dynamics are notoriously difficult to study for dead languages because of the absence of native speakers. In Egyptian though, the writing system, especially the classifiers, can help circumventing the problem.

This paper shows how methodological tools from semantics and cognitive linguistics can be applied to the study of Ancient Egyptian. The advantages of such study are multiple: 1) It helps providing a better description and understanding of the Egyptian lexicon and of its evolution in diachrony; 2) a better elucidation of the Egyptian data allows for their inclusion in cross-linguistic studies and thus its comparison with other languages.

Following a brief introduction to the corpus, the first section presents the theoretical frame of the study and details the variables that define the interactional scenarios between metaphor and classifiers in the lexicon. This section also presents a new assessment and description of the classification strategies that can be observed in Late Egyptian hieratic.

The last section provides concrete illustrations of the various scenarios through case studies from two test domains: COGNITION and (INTER)PERSONAL BEHAVIOUR (here meant as an umbrella term for emotion, personality and social interaction). These two domains were chosen because they are ideal candidates for being the seat of metaphor-induced polysemy due to their high level of abstraction.

Keywords: Lexical semantics; Classifiers; Metaphor



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Reconsidering Temple Decorative Programmes during the 18th Dynasty: Interconnections between Theban Royal Tombs and Temples

Linda CHAPON (Paul Valéry University Montpellier 3)

Specific constructions designated as ‘temples of millions of years’, often called in Egyptological literature ‘funerary temples’, spread from the beginning of the New Kingdom in Western and Eastern Thebes, as well as in other areas of Egypt. An ongoing project carried out at the University Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3 aims to reconsider the decorative programmes of these temples in connection with royal ideology.

This paper focusses on reassessing the interactions between the tombs, temples of millions of years and other temples in regard to iconographic and textual material. In the 18th dynasty, the royal tomb clearly dissociates itself from the ‘funerary’ temples of the Old and Middle Kingdoms. The temples of millions of years were surely heirs of these former royal constructions, without being specifically funerary. Scholars agree that these so-called temples of millions of years were intended for the cult of the king associated with the main deity of Thebes, Amon, and with the eternal regeneration on earth and in the hereafter of royal power. What is noteworthy is that more than one temple of millions of years was constructed during the reign of some kings. It seems clear that those situated in Western Thebes may have responded to a particular funerary, ritual and ideological landscape. We may then ask how the king’s cult in life and after death in the temples of millions of years, particularly those situated in Western Thebes, interact with that performed in other temples. The use of complementary iconographic and textual elements in tombs and temples had to respond, as for the Old and Middle Kingdom complexes, to a specific discourse which reflected the theological needs of the reign and the monument and thus had to be carefully chosen.

Keywords: New Kingdom; Thebes; Royalty; Temples of millions of years; Tombs; Iconography



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The Mut Temple Project: Insight into the City of Thebes

Violaine CHAUVET (University of Liverpool)

Since 2018, the University of Liverpool, in collaboration with the Johns Hopkins University, has been working in the southern part of the temple of Mut in Luxor, initiating a new phase in the exploration of the site focussing on the emerging evidence of New Kingdom settlement.

The excavation area is located outside the known limits of the New Kingdom precinct, where Late Period buildings have been documented laying directly on top of New Kingdom occupation layers. This stratigraphic sequence has given access to elements of domestic mud-brick architecture belonging to an elite house of the New Kingdom: Painted walls, columns and cultic niches reminiscent of domestic installations at Amarna and Deir el-Medina. This paper will report on the results of the latest, 2022 excavation season, and discuss the different patterns of occupations emerging to the south of the Mut temple precinct, and initiate a discussion on the nature of the city of Thebes in the New Kingdom.

Keywords: Settlement archaeology; New Kingdom Thebes; Domestic architecture



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Cataloguing Ancient Egypt: Jean Capart the Documentalist

Wouter CLAES (Royal Museums of Art and History, Brussels)

Jean Capart was a versatile and ambitious man, all too well known as the founding father of Belgian Egyptology. As a museum curator, he was instrumental in the development of the Egyptian collection of the Royal Museums of Art and History in Brussels (RMAH), as a university professor he occupied the first chair of Egyptology at a Belgian university, and as an Egyptologist he initiated the first Belgian excavations in Egypt while at the same time publishing numerous books and papers. A real public figure, Capart was also keen on disseminating the latest research to the public and deftly navigated in various higher circles, whether royal, diplomatic or financial, to achieve his ambition to put Brussels at the very heart of international Egyptological research.

Less known is the great importance Capart attached to the availability of scientific documentation as he fostered an unshakeable belief in the emancipatory power of knowledge. This paper explores how Capart as a documentalist created an encompassing research infrastructure for Egyptology at the RMAH, consisting of one of the best Egyptological libraries, a vast photographic archive as well as a collection of plaster casts meant to constitute a sort of global museum of Egyptian art. He also issued the fiches bibliographiques, which can be considered the forerunner of the AEB/OEB, and started the compilation of a comprehensive Encyclopédie de l'Égypte ancienne. It will be argued that Capart's documentary and encyclopaedic approach found inspiration in the philosophy of the Mundaneum, created by Paul Otlet and Henri Lafontaine. Also housed on the same premises as the RMAH in the Cinquanteenaire Parc, it was famous for its ambition to gather and structure all available knowledge as a universal body of documentation.

Keywords: History of Egyptology; Egyptological research infrastructure; Jean Capart; Egypt

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The Necropolis of Akhmîm and its Inhabitants (800 BC – 200 AD): A Digital Project on the Ancient and Modern History of the Site

Marion CLAUDE (French Institute for Oriental Archaeology, Cairo)

During the late 19th century, the discovery and excavations of the Akhmîm necropolis by Gaston Maspero and his raïs Khalil Sakkar led to the dispersion of the funerary material from the tombs throughout the world. The laws of the time indeed split the results of excavations half for the Bulaq museum and half for the local excavators, who then sold it to various museums and tourists. Due to this, the history of the necropolis of Akhmîm is little known and has not received as much attention as deserved.

Through the creation of an XML database project for this funerary material, including both the excavation history of the object and the prosopographical, textual and artistic data I aim at reconstructing the recent history of the exploration of the necropolis and the antiquities networks in the late 19th and early 20th century, as well as studying the relationships between the different objects from the necropolis: Giving back, virtually, their integrity to funerary ensembles dispersed in various museums; reconstructing families and professional networks; examining the design of the objects in order to shed light on the presence of ateliers and artists; refining the chronology of the city.

This project, that I will be developing during the next four years at least, will therefore be of interest for the understanding of the social environment of the inhabitants of Akhmîm in the Late to Roman period but also for the knowledge of excavation practices and the circulation of artefacts from site to museums and collections during the last 150 years and an occasion to reflect on these practices.

Keywords: Akhmim; Digital Egyptology; Historiography; Prosopography



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Presenting the Getty Book of the Dead Online and In-Gallery

Sara COLE (J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles)

The Getty Villa Museum in Los Angeles, California holds within its collection a little-known group of nineteen hieratic Book of the Dead manuscripts, ranging in date from the early New Kingdom to the late Ptolemaic period. Seven of these manuscripts are written on papyrus, while the remaining twelve are written on strips of linen mummy wrappings. The manuscripts were owned by collector Sir Thomas Phillipps (1792-1872), and donated to the Getty in 1983. Since that time, they have remained in storage and have never been publicly displayed or fully published.

In 2018, Getty antiquities curator Sara E. Cole, together with visiting scholars, began reexamining these manuscripts in earnest, resulting in a number of projects. Dr. Cole developed a small digital exhibit of the material for the platform Google Arts & Culture in 2020. Egyptologist Foy Scalf (The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago) is now preparing a digital, open access publication of the corpus for Getty Publications' Quire platform in 2024. This volume will set a precedent for future digital publications of ancient papyri, and making it available at no cost will allow for much wider accessibility than traditional print publications. Dr. Cole, in consultation with Dr. Scalf, is developing an in-gallery exhibition of the manuscripts at the Getty Villa, scheduled to open November 1, 2023. These endeavours provide a case study for fruitful collaboration between Egyptologists and museum curators, the use of digital platforms like GA&C and digital publications, and in-gallery presentations that make Egyptological material more accessible and engaging both for scholars and the wider public. Such collaborative efforts will be vital to the future of Egyptology and its relevance to broader audiences.

Keywords: Museology; Book of the Dead; Exhibition; Digital



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Who Publishes the Past? An Analysis of Authorial Bias within Prestigious Egyptological Journals

Jake COLLOFF (Harvard University)

Research on gender bias in archaeology distinguishes between two modes of critique. Content critiques seek to correct interpretations of the past that have overlooked the role of marginalized groups. Equity critiques, however, interrogate the demographics of knowledge production and dissemination, aiming to understand how such biases affect scholarly literature. To date, most equity critiques in Egyptology have focussed predominantly on showing the significant historical impact of women and native Egyptian scholars in the development of the field, and are thus typically found within the sub-discipline of 'history of Egyptology'. This presentation in contrast, investigates the persistent biases in publishing trends within prestigious Egyptological journals. This study analyses 1,536 articles published across the journals *BIFAO*, *JEA* and *ZÄS* over a 32-year period (1990-2021), using names and online research to collect data on the gender and nationality of all authors who contributed to each article. These data are then analysed, revealing a persisting intersectional bias in Egyptological literature towards non-Egyptian (mostly Western) and male scholars. It argues that, as these journals are some of the most highly regarded periodicals in the discipline, the lack of diversity within the authorship reflects a lingering Western-male bias in the production of influential Egyptological scholarship. Overall, this preliminary study argues that diversity in authorship is a persisting problem within Egyptology. While the study itself does not offer any solutions to this problem, it demonstrates a baseline and concludes by offering suggestions for further research that will bring more clarity on this subject, and facilitate developing solutions to resolve this issue.

Keywords: Authorial bias; Gender; Nationality; Intersectionality; Research dissemination



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Objects from el-Hibe at the ‘Egyptian Museum’ of Florence: A Revaluation of the Assemblage Starting from the Pottery

Anna CONSONNI (Ministry of Culture, Italy/National Archaeological Museum, Florence)

The Italian mission of the Società italiana per la ricerca dei papiri greci e latini in Egitto, directed by Evaristo Breccia, undertook extensive excavations at el-Hibe in 1934 and 1935, uncovering structures and burials dating from the Third Intermediate Period to Roman times. As known, part of the finds from these excavations were donated to the ‘Egyptian Museum’ of Florence, a major section of the National Archaeological Museum, where they arrived in 1937 along with some documents now preserved in the Archive. So far, the about 1400 objects are only partly published and exposed.

With this contribution we would like to resume the study of the materials preserved in Florence, presenting for the first time an overview of the pottery: About one hundred vases dating between the Third Intermediate Period and the Roman period. The functional and typological study of the pottery, linked with the already known information on other categories of objects, may contribute to a better understanding of their original context and of the nature and the use-life of the structures uncovered during the Italian excavation. It will be also a starting point for the revaluation of the assemblage in view of future projects of study and valorisation.

Keywords: Egyptian Museum of Florence; El-Hibe; Pottery



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Elites Relying on Cultural Memory for Regime Building

Kathlyn COONEY (University of California Los Angeles)

Theban elites of the late 20th and 21st dynasties relied on veneration of 17th and 18th dynasty kings to support their regimes ideologically. The cults of Ahmose-Nefertari and Amenhotep I were vibrant in the west Theban region especially, and their oracles were essential to solving the many disputes of the time. Herihor connected his own militarily-achieved kingship to his position in the Karnak priesthood using the ancestor kings as touchstones. 21st dynasty Theban elites began to name their children after 18th dynasty monarchs; Theban High Priest and king Panedjem named a daughter Maatkare, ostensibly after Hatshepsut of the 18th dynasty, and a son Menkheperre after Thutmose III. Examination of the 20th and 21st dynasty interventions of the royal mummies from Dra Abu el Naga and the Valley of the Kings indicates these royal corpses were used as sacred effigies of a sort, rewrapped and placed into regilded containers even after they had been stripped of their treasures and golden embellishments.

Men like Herihor and Panedjem, one of them at least of Meshwesh origins, worked within an Upper Egyptian cultural system that put its temple communities of practice before its military, veiling their politics with pious rituals and oracular pronouncements. Such elites negotiated their identities and power grabs through the cultural memory of the region's royal ancestors.

Keywords: Cultural memory; Power; Identity; Royal ancestor cults



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Defining Ethnicity through Iconography: BD Spell 151 and the Funerary Motifs on Ptolemaic and Roman Mummy Masks and Cases

Lorelei CORCORAN (University of Memphis)

Recent research on the population of Egypt under Ptolemaic, and then Roman rule, struggles with defining the ethnicity of the inhabitants of Egypt during these periods of multi-cultural influence. What are the criteria that should be applied to define the ethnicity of the patrons of Egyptian-influenced funerary equipment in the Ptolemaic and Roman periods? This poster will address evidence from quantifiable categories such as cost, literacy, ownership of luxury goods, and the afterlife beliefs and motifs represented on masks and coffins that demonstrate the continuity of ideas from earlier periods, based on their conformance to spells in the Book of the Dead, that may help to establish a consensus for the nomenclature that references the ethnicity of these individuals and acknowledges the regional specific i.e. Egyptian nature of their cultural identities.

Keywords: Ethnicity; Greek; Roman; Egyptian; Book of the Dead; Iconography



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Traces of Piccinini, an Italian in 19th Century Thebes: Digging in the Archives

Eva CORNELISSE (Leiden University)

His name is barely known, even among Egyptologists, and only little information is available about the Italian Piccinini (fl. 1819-1829) who excavated in western Thebes in the 1820's. The Napoleonic campaign in Egypt and the consolidation of power by Muḥamed Ali had not only increased interest in Ancient Egypt but also made it possible to visit the land more safely. An ever-growing stream of Egyptian objects reached Europe, many of them from Thebes, laying the foundations for today's Egyptological collections in European museums. Consuls such as Bernardino Drovetti for France and Henry Salt for Great Britain got involved in this rush for antiquities and rivalry was fierce. Piccinini was one of the agents put on the spot. Living amidst all these developments in a tomb in Dra Abu 'n-Naga, he was engaged in collecting antiquities for the Swedish consul-general Giovanni d'Anastasi. He was there at the time of Belzoni and was still there at the arrival of the Franco-Tuscan expedition: He must have seen it all. Obviously, he is frequently mentioned by early travellers. This paper will explore Piccinini's life and activities in early 19th century Thebes and his significance for the field of Egyptology. Archival research in the manuscripts of early Egyptologists such as Hay, Burton and Wilkinson, in the diaries and letters of Rosellini and other members of the expedition, as well as in d'Anastasi's diplomatic correspondence, has yielded a wealth of new material that will be presented here. He was involved in the discovery of many Theban tombs and his name can be linked to a surprising number of objects currently in European museums. Emerging from the shadows, Piccinini's traces turn out to be clear.

Keywords: History of Egyptology; Archival research; New material



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Arsinoë Rediscovered: New Results from the Study of the Site and Its Terracotta Masterpieces

Alessio CORSI (UR 4030 HLLI, University of the Littoral Opal Coast)

In December 1964 the Italian archaeological mission of the Florence Papyrological Institute, directed by Prof. Sergio Bosticco, set foot in Arsinoë in search for papyri. He did not know that this would be the Institute's only campaign in Arsinoë, and that the excavated area with its important archaeological remains would have been lost with the expansion of the city of Medinet el-Fayyum.

Some 450 fragmentary terracotta statuettes were granted to the Florence Papyrological Institute by the Supreme Council of Antiquities and then brought to Florence, but they were never entirely and rigorously examined until recently.

Thanks to cutting-edge digital technologies, what was thought to be perpetually lost has now rediscovered a new future.

This talk presents the results of an innovative approach to the study of the scarce documentation from the site of Arsinoë in a collaboration between the Institute and the Department of Civil Engineering of the University of Pavia.

Moreover, it introduces the preliminary outputs in the study of the terracotta statuettes, revealing some unpublished masterpieces that shed light on the people and on popular cults of the capital of the Arsinoites nome in Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt, which is now almost completely lost.

Keywords: Arsinoë; Digital reconstruction; 3D; Terracotta; Statuettes; Ptolemaic; Roman



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Playing Ancient Egypt: Board Games as Reception, Public History, and Education

Jennifer CROMWELL (Manchester Metropolitan University)

The 21st century has witnessed the rise in the study of the modern reception of Ancient Egypt, with recent conferences and volumes examining Ancient Egypt in science fiction, heavy metal music, Victorian literature, architecture, and videogames, among other topics. One area that has not received attention is board games, and it is also notable that, unlike video games, board games have also been overlooked within volumes on public history. Board games have several affordances that other forms of popular culture do not have, including their materiality, collaborative – as well as competitive – play, and the ability for players to (re)interpret and modify the rules. As such, they present exciting opportunities to engage players with different aspects of Egyptian history and culture. This paper will present the preliminary results of the project 'Playing Ancient Egypt', which explores how these games can be used within an education setting (from primary to tertiary) to support both teaching and learning. Particular focus will be on 'Cleopatra and the Society of Architects' (2020), 'Imhotep: Builder of Egypt' (2016), 'Egizia: Shifting Sands' (2019), and 'Nefertiti' (2008). In so doing, the paper will also highlight key features of Egypt's reception within these games, including common tropes and themes.

Keywords: Reception; Board games; Education; Play



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El Darazya: A Graeco-Roman Settlement on the Mediterranean Coast of Egypt

Rafał CZERNER (Wrocław University of Science and Technology/Jagiellonian University)
& Grażyna BĄKOWSKA-CZERNER (Jagiellonian University)

After a short inaugural season in 2021, the joined Polish-Egyptian Conservation Mission El Darazya/Marina el-Alamein began work and research in May 2022. The site, today at the heart of the modern tourist resort of Marina, is located on Egypt's north coast on ancient trade routes 100 km west of Alexandria, the Ptolemaic capital.

Egyptian archaeologists preserved the ancient ruins during the construction of the tourist settlement. However, they were already known to travellers in the first half of the 19th and 20th centuries. It also remains a matter of study whether they should be identified with Derrhis mentioned in descriptions of the coast made by ancient geographers.

The present site probably covers the southern areas of the ancient town. It includes numerous remains of residential buildings, of which the relics of three houses, the subject of the first studies, are partially revealed. The building layouts and technology on the basis of analogies, primarily to the nearby ancient town at the Marina el-Alamein site, point to a Ptolemaic-Roman dating of the settlement. Archaeological objects and relics of architectural decoration also provide confirmation. Of particular importance are two huge underground water cisterns. Their considerable size indicates the scale of the ancient settlement.

The conclusions presented here are the result of the authors' own studies and the mission of which they are members.

Keywords: El Darazya; Graeco-Roman Egypt; Ancient town; Architecture; Houses; Cisterns



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Nuancing Spatial Models of New Kingdom Housing

Matthew DALTON (University of Western Australia)

New Kingdom pharaonic houses have been subject to a vast array of spatial models that seek to reveal the social and economic factors underpinning the arrangement and use of these buildings. Drawing upon equivalences in room types and architectural grammar between the handful of extensively-excavated settlement sites in the Nile Valley, these models often propose all-encompassing interpretations of New Kingdom household life.

Due to the nature of available records, existing models overwhelmingly draw upon domestic architecture and larger fixtures. They are thus prone to presenting a normative, static and functionalist view of houses, overstating the importance of certain activities and underplaying the potential for household or settlement-level variations in how residences were arranged, used and conceptualised.

One path forward is to nuance these models by integrating detailed archaeological evidence for how houses and their constituent spaces were actually used and experienced. At the New Kingdom site of Amara West in Upper Nubia (c. 1300-1070 BCE), interdisciplinary geoarchaeological analyses have allowed for the identification of fine-scale traces of daily life and the provision of specific floor treatments over time, revealing clear patterning in the location of comfortable living spaces, domestic cult, craftworking, storage and food preparation in houses of all scales across the site.

The paper uses these data to challenge existing models of New Kingdom housing, especially by demonstrating the potential for household agencies and individual site histories to shape and modify the use and conception of space. It concludes by asking whether overarching spatial models of New Kingdom domestic life are helpful or even possible to achieve.

Keywords: Architecture; Household; Domestic life; New Kingdom; Nubia



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Spatial Relationships between the Tombs of the Theban Necropolis during the 18th Dynasty under the Lens of a Prosopographical Study of Their Owners

Margarita DANILOVA (Paul Valéry University Montpellier 3)

While there is no shortage of case studies that deal with the Theban tombs (TT), important global questions concerning this necropolis are still to be addressed. One of these gaps regards the spatial relationships between the TT. Furthermore, even if some occasional studies have already touched on this issue, most of them stayed limited to the links between the tomb's orientation and the processional roads or mortuary temples of the kings.

This study will propose to turn towards the prosopographical analyses, to which very little attention has been paid so far. Taking a closer look at the neighbours, families, and careers of several tomb owners will provide important insights into the way the necropolis was organized. Indeed, at least some of the tombs were clearly arranged in different groups. They could be distinguished as belonging to members of the same family, holders of the same title or staff attached to the same administrative area, the individuals who seem to have a particular relation with the power, some palace members or even pharaoh himself.

Moreover, comparing the plan and the decorative programme of these tombs could also give us a clue for a better understanding of the arrangement of this area.

Keywords: Theban tombs; Prosopographical study; 18th dynasty



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From the Leiden Child Mummy to the Body of Tutankhamun: The Challenges and Pitfalls in the Interpretation of Forensic Evidence both Virtually and Macroscopically

Janet DAVEY (Monash University)

In modern forensic pathology practice, when a body is admitted to the VIFM mortuary it is CT scanned and extensive records are compiled, before autopsy. These include possible identification, sex, state of the body and visible injuries which may include cause of death. A team of forensic experts is required to produce accurate reports on all aspects of the body. In modern mummy research some of this information is available through macroscopic investigation and from the interpretation of CT scan data.

The problems arise when the mummified bodies show injuries that may be ante-mortem, peri-mortem or post-mortem, particularly when they may have occurred during the mummification process, in rough handling in the removal of the body from burial equipment, accidental damage during transport to or within museum storage. Where records, both photographic and written are available, this should be one of the starting points for any mummy research.

This presentation will discuss how evidence has been interpreted in the study of child and adult mummies, and how continuing speculation and hypotheses about injuries and cause of death in the body of Tutankhamun would benefit from observing standard protocols in modern forensic mortuary practices.

Keywords: Child and adult mummies; Forensic investigation; Reinterpreting evidence



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Social and Spatial Constructions of Late Scribal Expertise

Katherine DAVIS (University of Michigan)

The nature of scribal expertise and the related social status of scribes is a frequent topic within Egyptian texts. In the New Kingdom, scribes formed a discrete stratum of the sub-elite within Egyptian society and produced texts like the Late Egyptian Miscellanies that explicated their scribal identity. But by the Ptolemaic period, the social spheres of writing had become more diverse, ranging from the linguistically Greek arenas of the Ptolemaic court and administrative apparatus to the Egyptian domains of demotic documentary material and priestly texts that could exploit the entire range of indigenous writing possibilities.

For late native scribes, the temple provided a staging ground for identity in this increasingly multicultural, multilingual and multigraphic environment. This paper analyzes how descriptions of the figurative and physical space of the temple worked in tandem with expressions of scholarly expertise. In biographies and appeals to the living, access to locations within the temple and knowledge of written material function as a social marker for priestly ranks. In religious tracts like the Book of Thoth, the acquisition of scribal knowledge and the ritual process of gaining entrance into the House of Life are expressed literally and metaphorically in spatial terms. Initiation into the temple can be construed as physical access but also intellectual access into the real, as well as imagined, space of scholarship. This paper will consider how this access was conceptualized and leveraged as a marker of social status and social identity against the broader social and political backdrop.

Keywords: Scribes; Temple; Writing; Hieroglyphs; Priests



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Looting Middle Egypt

Ana Sofia DE CARVALHO GOMES (Free University of Berlin)

Middle Egypt is the stepchild of Egyptology. Middle Egypt – the region extending between the cities of Beni Suef and Qus – is widely known. Numerous well-known archaeological sites as Beni Hasan or Dendera are located there. And yet, partly because of the difficult political situation in the country, the region receives little scientific attention. Only a few scientists take on the arduous work in the region, that has a lot to offer. Its rich history covers all periods from the Stone Ages to Late Antiquity and Islamic Times, leaving behind a plethora of cemeteries as well as some settlements. As seen in the results of the Asyut Project the region is a perfect place to do *longue-durée*-studies.

All of Egypt is affected by a wave of looting. Every day, archaeological sites are irretrievably destroyed in search of saleable artifacts. Especially in Middle Egypt, this destruction often takes place undetected and unnoticed. Since the focus on this region is threatened by this continuous and unremarked destruction advantaged by the missing scientific involvement and lack of touristic development, I would like to give an insight into the daily destruction at some of the few Middle Egyptian excavation sites to show how sustainable and unnoticed by the public this devastation takes place.

As a member of the Asyut project I had the opportunity to gain first-hand insight into the situation that has been developing in the last decade at the Gebel Asyut al-gharbi, the necropolis of the ancient city Siut and had developed a special interest in the region. Let us take a look at the development of recent years and the exploitation that has taken place, the circumstances that fuel this precarious situation and finally, the role of Western countries.

Keywords: Cultural heritage; Looting; Postcolonialism; Cultural and antique law



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Embalming Deposits during the Middle Kingdom: New Evidence from Dayr al-Barsha

Marleen DE MEYER (KU Leuven/Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo)

In 1897 Georges Daressy excavated a pit on the north hill of Dayr al-Barsha near two Middle Kingdom tomb shafts that lay in fair isolation of the nucleus of the governors' tombs. The finds that he describes in this location are intriguing and strongly suggest that he found an embalming deposit. While such deposits are well-known from the New Kingdom onwards, they are far more rare in the archaeological record before that time. Apart from the recently rediscovered embalming deposit of Ipi at Dayr al-Bahri, the evidence for the Middle Kingdom is scarce indeed. Given this situation, and the fact that none of the objects discovered and described by Daressy have entered the Egyptian Museum in Cairo except for one flint knife, Daressy's pit was re-excavated in 2022-2023. The objective was to verify its location and ascertain whether traces remained of any of the finds he describes, which consisted mainly of pottery, mud jar stoppers, textile, natron, wooden sticks, and mud bricks. The first results of this work are presented and evaluated in the light of other Middle Kingdom evidence for similar ritual deposits.

Keywords: Archaeology; Middle Kingdom; Funerary culture



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Sehaqeq and Pazuzu, Malevolent and Benevolent Demons: A Comparative, Structural Approach to Headache, Medical and Magical Treatments in Egypt and the Ancient Near East

Marco DE PIETRI (University of Pavia)

This contribution faces the challenge, always demanding but often very fruitful, of comparing (in the spirit of an interdisciplinary, structural approach) a common feature of two distinct cultures. Both in Egypt and the Ancient Near East, headache, migraine, and other diseases affecting the head were common: Many Egyptian and Ancient Near Eastern texts tell us about the aetiology, the diagnosis, the symptoms of these affections, and the double therapeutical treatment, consisting of both medical cures and magical spells. Furthermore, in both the two cultures, this disturb is associated with two specific demonic entities: The Egyptian malevolent demon Sehaqeq, who represents the cause of the disease and must be therefore excreted, and Pazuzu who, on the contrary, is regarded as a benevolent entity able to help the patient. Moreover, for both these demons, figurative representations are attested, namely an ostrakon for Sehaqeq, and some apotropaia portraying Pazuzu; but, while for the former the text accompanying the representation is a spell against the demon (who is hence to be considered as malevolent), for the latter the spell is not addressed against him, but is instead an invocation to obtain Pazuzu's protection against a disease which is not caused by him, but by another female entity (called Lamaštu).

The present contribution aims at structurally comparing these two Egyptian and Near Eastern demons, underlying differences between the two cultures (as for instance the role, malevolent vs. benevolent, of the two entities), but even pinpointing some interesting common features (e.g., for both the demons, the names of their parents, or at least of one of them, are explicitly indicated).

Keywords: Medicine; Magic; Egypt; Ancient Near East; Headache; Demons



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Reconstructing the Lay-out of the Christian Town of Jeme

Renate DEKKER (University of Amsterdam)

In late antiquity, the mortuary temple of Ramesses III at Medinet Habu became the location of the town of Jeme, which developed within and on top of its enclosure walls (the castrum of Jeme) and extended to the east and north of the temple complex as well. Judging from the available documentary sources, it was inhabited from the late sixth century until the late eighth century, when it was abandoned under unclear circumstances, perhaps because the Christian inhabitants could no longer meet the tax burden imposed by the Abbasid government.

During the clearing of the temple at the end of the nineteenth century and the well-documented excavation by the Chicago Oriental Institute under the direction of Uvo Hölscher in 1927-1933, the Christian buildings were removed, which makes the reconstruction of a plan of the town difficult. Fortunately, however, a large number of eight-century Coptic deeds on papyrus record the sale of houses, or parts of houses, and provide fairly precise information with regard to their location and the inhabitants of neighboring houses. So far, this information has not been connected to specific buildings that Hölscher indicated on his map of the Christian town, except for the house of the female moneylender Koloje in house 34. The poster will display the first attempt to reconstruct the lay-out of Jeme by identifying the names of its multiple churches, and by locating its quarters, narrow streets and alleys, as well as some well-attested inhabitants.

Keywords: Coptic; Western Thebes; Medinet Habu; Late antiquity; Streets; Churches



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Researching an Emic Perspective for the Study of Old Kingdom Royal Portraiture

Alessio DELLI CASTELLI (University of Liège)

In the framework of a PhD research carried out at the Liège and Milan Universities, a reversal of the perspective which assesses Egyptian portraiture through our understanding of Western portraiture aims at presenting an emic art history of Old Kingdom Royal Portraiture.

A review of the methods and ideas used to analyse and define Egyptian portraiture reveals the almost exclusive employment of an etic perspective. Even when emic concepts are included, they are mostly used to underline the alterity between us and them.

The main etic concepts applied to portraiture are mimesis—art as the representation of perceived reality and portraiture as the objective rendition of a person's traits, from which historical, physiological and psychological notions derive—and those pertaining to aesthetics—art as objects devoid of use which arouse disinterested pleasure.

If these Western and time-bound concepts are removed, there remains a concept of art as cognitive tool, i.e., a culture's formal and synthetic expression of the universal and individual levels of its understanding of the world.

In order to describe portraiture as a speculative tool, a methodology entrenched in the Egyptian concepts of images, the individual and their sociological and anthropological position is necessary to avoid the traps laid by an etic perspective.

The advantage of the emic reversal is double. Rather than judging or projecting our expectations onto Egyptian portraiture, we would be able to understand it through Egyptian eyes. It also redresses the age-old mentality which seeks and needs to justify Egyptian art before its western counterpart and leads to the opposite result, an understanding of Egyptian portraiture that can implement and change our understanding of portraiture as an artistic phenomenon.

Keywords: Emic; Portraiture; Old Kingdom; Kingship



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Early Career Workshop:

On the ‘Interdisciplinarity’ of Egyptology: Are We Really a Discipline?

Chair: Lonneke DELPEUT (University of Vienna), Association for Students of Egyptology

Panelists: Art history – Frederik ROGNER (University of Geneva); Heritage – Katharina ZINN (University of Wales Trinity Saint David); Museum Studies – Campbell Price (Manchester Museum); Language – Dina Sarova (Humboldt Universität Berlin); Archaeology – Luiza OSORIO G. SILVA (University of Chicago)

Egyptology always markets itself as an ‘umbrella’ discipline, where students learn a little bit of everything: some language, some material culture, museum studies, art history, social history, etc. This panel will discuss how these disciplines contribute to the field and how relevant they are. Are some disciplines more important than others? And if so, why? How do we make sure that Egyptologists have a basic understanding in all these sub-disciplines and how do we help people find their specialty? How does the history of the field influence how we look at sub-disciplines? If we expect students to know a little bit of everything, is Egyptology really a discipline? Or more an area studies?

Programme

- Introduction of the Association for Students of Egyptology: Lonneke Delpeut / Shannon Farnon (15 minutes)
- Introduction: Lonneke Delpeut (5 mins)
- Question for all panelists: What does your discipline contribute to Egyptology? (2 minutes each, 10 minutes total)
- Discussion (60 minutes)

Questions up for discussion

- Are some disciplines more important than others? If so, why?
- How does the history of the field influence how we look at these disciplines?
- Do we need a basic understanding of all disciplines to be a good Egyptologist? What is this “basic command”?
- How can we make Egyptology relevant in the disciplines whose methodology we use? We are taking over a lot of approaches of other disciplines into our field; can we also produce relevant impulses going back into those disciplines?
- How do we make sure that Egyptologists have a basic understanding in all these sub-disciplines?
- How do we help students choose their specialisation?
- Is Egyptology really a discipline? Or more an area studies?
- Do you have anything else to add?



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Tomb Images as a Mode of Communication: The Role of the Artisan as Mediator

Lonneke DELPEUT (University of Vienna)

Ancient Egyptian tombs are richly decorated with the main goal of keeping the deceased alive in the current world as well as the hereafter. This is done by showing all kinds of different themes, from scenes with a strong focus on religion to others that focus on the tomb owner's life. In order to convey the intended messages, artisans were responsible for moderating the discourse between the tomb owners and their target audience by carefully and deliberately choosing the elements to be displayed. This means the artisan had to be aware of the cultural codes that were responsible for recognising the depicted subjects. The representational qualities of an image having to do with conveying information consist of generic features, which are features that are necessary for the initial recognition of the culturally defined category, and specific features. These latter are responsible for creating sub-categories which the depicted subject falls into. Examples of specific features are posture, colour, behaviour, personal attributes, clothing, sexual identity markers, context size and setting. These features can tell us about the Ancient Egyptian's profession, their sex, their status, their actions, interpersonal behaviours, age, health, etc., which in turn tells us all kind of things about Ancient Egyptian society. It was the artisans' responsibility to convey whatever the tomb owner wanted to convey as efficiently and effectively as possible. This presentation will show a part of my dissertation project, which focusses on the image as a mode of communication, focussing on the role of the artisan as moderator between the tomb owners and their target audience.

Keywords: Images; Communication; Image composition; Artists; Craftsmen; Artisans; Tombs



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Scented Pictorial Varnishes Used in Private Theban Tomb-Chapels: Towards Multisensory Painting

Alexis DEN DONCKER (University of Basel)

In 2017, an investigation in the tomb of Tjanuny in the Theban necropolis (TT 74) led to detecting residues of scented pictorial varnish over the wig and complexions of the tomb owner's figures. So far, conforming to its use in other artistic cultures, and generally bringing forward a system of chromatic distribution, scholars have interpreted the function of this painterly technique as a solution to enhance the brilliance and hue of the pigments. The scented nature of these varnishes has never been signalled.

In order to characterize the nature of the scent and consider its possible meaning or function, Hugues Tavier (University of Liège, chief conservator of the Belgian Archaeological Mission in the Theban Necropolis) developed an experimental method as a way to test the applicability of scented resins from varnish recipes used on other material. As a result, it appears that only pistacia, frankincense and Aleppo pine resins could have been technically applicable onto painted coating—optionally melt with beeswax.

In parallel, a first examination at the iconographic units concerned by this practice reveals interesting matches between the composition of the varnishes and the scenes in question, especially when the use of varnish was limited. As it happens, these scenes and motifs often have an olfactory dimension. It seems therefore that a material and conceptual link existed in these painters' mind between the varnished motifs and the depicted realities, as though the materialization of scents over the paint layer was a way to represent the immaterial nature of scents. Furthermore, it can be suggested that the scent associated to these resin-made varnishes was meaningful and perhaps functional, regardless of their aesthetic function operating merely on visual level.

Keywords: Theban tomb painting; Scented resin-made varnishes; Olfactory realities



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The Blind Harpist: An Exploration of the Masculine Hierarchy through Artistic Representation

Kelly-Anne DIAMOND (Villanova University)

This paper explores images of the blind harpist and how they might reveal information about the masculine hierarchy in Ancient Egypt. Specifically, I'm interested in what their blindness, real or symbolic, might signify. This line of research necessarily intertwines various areas of study, including Egyptology, Dress Theory, and Gender Studies. Gender Studies has established that there is no essential femaleness or maleness, but once gender is ascribed to an individual the social order holds that person to gendered norms. This was also true for Ancient Egypt where gender production was a part of daily life. Multiple masculinities were performed in Ancient Egypt, and although a gender status emerged through a sex category, it was not uniformly connected to it. Art was an opportunity for masculine display, so through it we see the cultural imagery of masculinity. The musical performances in which the blind harpist appears are displays of gendered interactions that can emphasize hierarchy. I argue first that the blind harpist was a trope—a trope that was rooted in the social norms of the elite. And I argue that images of the harpist exhibit multiple physical characteristics that associate him with submissiveness, subordination, immaturity, or effeminacy—if we consider femininity to be the binary opposite to masculinity (but perhaps it is better described as a symbolic blurring with femininity). Using images of the harpist and textual evidence, I suggest that blindness was a symbolic destruction of manhood.

Keywords: Blind harpist; Gender; Art; Blindness; Masculinity; Hierarchy



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The New Kingdom Scribes Project: Four Seasons of Fieldwork in the Burial Chambers of Weseramun (TT 61) and Nakhtmin (TT 87)

Lucía DÍAZ-IGLESIAS LLANOS (Spanish National Research Council, Madrid)

The New Kingdom Scribes Project draws on Material Philology to shed light on the intellectual and material processes that underlie the manufacture of inscribed artefacts and on the education and working conditions of the scribes who copied the funerary and cosmographic texts found in tombs. It also focusses on the analysis of scribal hands, writing habits and idiosyncrasies. The project centres on an underutilised source: The subterranean funerary chambers that belonged to members of the Theban court who lived during the reigns of Hatshepsut and Thutmose III.

Research on these chambers began with that of Djehuty (TT 11), as part of the Spanish Mission in Dra Abu el-Naga. In 2019, an interdisciplinary team composed of epigraphers, photographers, restorers, archaeologists and chemists started fieldwork in three burial chambers built in Sheikh Abd el-Qurna. They belong to the vizier Weseramun (TT 61), his steward Amenemhat (TT 82), and the overseer of the double granaries Nakhtmin (TT 87). All four burial chambers are decorated with extensive textual programmes, written in cursive hieroglyphs. The example of Nakhtmin is exceptional, since the intermediate model (in the form of disposable ostraca) and the final product (the chamber walls) have been preserved, offering a unique chance to track the work of scribes.

The presentation will centre on the results of the first four seasons of fieldwork (2019-2022) in TT 61 and 87: The application of digital technologies to document the decorative surfaces; the epigraphic and palaeographic study resulting in the identification of scribal hands and working procedures; the restoration and conservation measures adopted; the application of non-destructive techniques to analyse inks; the excavation of the passages leading to the chambers.

Keywords: Scribes; Written culture; New Kingdom; Epigraphy; TT 61; TT 87



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Steatite and Faïence Scarabs outside Egypt: Archaic and Punic Funerary Contexts in Sardinia (c. 9th-5th Centuries BCE)

Enrico DIRMINTI (Ministry of Culture, Italy)

Egyptian and Egyptianizing scarabs found in archaic and Punic contexts in Sardinia afford us a valuable insight into the diffusion of the Egyptian (and Ancient Near Eastern) iconographic and cultural motifs outside Egypt and the Levant. The presence of such artefacts in the Mediterranean basin is mainly due to the commercial and mercantile expansion of the Phoenicians.

Having established various colonies in the Western Mediterranean, with Carthage being the main settlement, the Phoenicians also facilitated the diffusion of Egyptian concepts across the Mediterranean basin as far as the Iberian Peninsula and the Maghreb.

Given the continuous relationships between Egypt and the Levantine area and the proximity with Mesopotamia, the Phoenician civilization is imbued with Egyptian concepts, and its material culture displays a highly refined mingling of Ancient Near Eastern iconographies in a broader sense. New syncretistic decorative motifs were created, which scholars refer to as 'Phoenician'. Research on scarab-shaped seals found in Sardinia has been, and is, heavily influenced mainly by the circumstances leading to the acquisition of these artefacts by museum collections between the late 19th and the early 20th century. However, the field has recently seen a renewed interest in the diffusion of scarabs as vectors of Egyptian, Egyptianizing, Ancient Near Eastern, and orientalizing iconographies in Sardinia. Based on previous research on the topic, a new approach to the study of these artefacts is proposed, which is aimed at categorising figurative patterns and identifying possible centres of production and diffusion.

Keywords: Scarab-shaped seals; Archaic and Punic Sardinia; Composite iconography



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(Don't) Mix up the Dates for the Valley Festival! A Case Study on Bridging Egyptology and Papyrology

Lauren DOGAER (University of Basel)

Graeco-Roman Egypt was ruled by foreigners with a diverse cultural background. However, longstanding religious traditions were still honoured and sometimes even expanded. This contradiction has somehow led to a separate approach regarding the study of this period. Traditional Egyptian practices, especially when it comes to religious affairs, are mainly studied by Egyptologists. On the other hand, economic and political matters are regularly being looked into by papyrologists. This has certainly to do with the nature of the sources, as information about Egyptian religion can more easily be deduced from funerary papyri or temple texts than from documentary sources. However, the latter can also instruct us about the performance and organisation of religious practices. One such occasion was the yearly celebrated Valley Festival, which crossed the Nile from Karnak to Deir el-Bahari. Various source-types, either papyrological or Egyptological, give a different view on what this festival in the Graeco-Roman period might have looked like. Especially the duration of this celebration is a much debated issue. Pharaonic sources usually indicate a short stay of the god Amun in the temple of Deir el-Bahari, but sources dating to the Ptolemaic and Roman periods suggest a longer duration. The bark chapel of Amun in the temple of Deir el-Bahari was restored as late as the reign of Ptolemy VIII, but how many nights Amun spent there remains unclear. This paper will discuss possible reconstructions of the duration of the Valley Festival by using an interdisciplinary approach. It will serve as a case study and theoretical basis for combining Egyptological and papyrological data and methods, a crucial approach when studying religious celebrations taking place in a multicultural society.

Keywords: Valley festival; Graeco-Roman period; Interdisciplinary approach



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Twelve Years of Research on Graffiti in Western Thebes: Hundreds of New Scratches, Changes in Recording, Future Perspectives and Challenges for Cultural Heritage Management

Andreas DORN (Uppsala University)

During the past twelve years continuous research was conducted in the entire Theban Necropolis covering the valley of the quarries until Wadi Bahria. The holistic approach including all kinds of man made surface treatment led to the discovery of several hundred new graffiti. They will be presented in a general overview and mainly discussed with a focus on what they contribute to our existing knowledge of graffiti writing in the area and to the understanding of the use of space in the past. Since the time of Spiegelberg, when he recorded the first 1000 graffiti in 1896 with casts, the documentation methods have completely changed. A critical reflection on the impact of time, money and new technologies on recording and publishing graffiti will be presented. Further, graffiti writing did not stop since antiquity and is still going on by using the same surfaces as in the past. This causes here and there damages to existing inscriptions and sometimes even their complete loss. Ideas will be presented how graffiti as part of the West Theben World Cultural Heritage can be preserved for future generations.

Keywords: Graffiti; Rock art; Western Thebes; Cultural heritage management



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Issues and Challenges of a Study on Poverty in Ancient Egypt: Introduction and Presentation of the First Results

Delphine DRIAUX (University of Vienna)

Poverty is a subject that remains largely unexplored and the poor have so far occupied only a limited place in the social history of Ancient Egypt. Egyptological literature bases a large part of its theories on the so-called elites of Egyptian society, particularly because of the abundance and quality of vestiges they left behind. Yet elites – those social categories that hold economic, politico-religious, cultural power or have close ties to it – represent only a small percentage of the population. What about those people who do not belong to the elites, those ordinary people (peasants, manual workers, etc.) who constitute a large part of the population and who may be considered poor because of their precarious social status, professional skills, material resources, but also their lack of power or influence? How can we write a social and economic history of Ancient Egypt if we do not take into consideration those who constitute the majority of society?

This subject, which is still largely unexplored in Egyptology – especially compared to the numerous studies on elites – is currently the focus of a new research programme carried out at the Institute of Egyptology of the University of Vienna. This paper will therefore provide a short overview of the study of poverty in ancient societies, and specifically, in Ancient Egypt. It will then focus on the presentation of the first results and, in particular, on what the texts tell us.

Keywords: Poverty; Social history; Material culture; Written sources



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Embodying Ancient Egypt: Images as Reflections of Changing Perceptions

Ulrike DUBIEL (Free University of Berlin/Museum August Kestner, Hannover)

The perception of Ancient Egypt in 19th century Europe found its objectification in various pictorial works. The European idea of what constitutes Ancient Egypt as a culture appears to be an amalgam of notions based on written sources like the classical authors and the bible combined with newly gathered insight thanks to the budding scientific discipline of Egyptology as well as experiences with the contemporary Ottoman Empire. We see the adaptation of Egyptian ornament in architecture, arts and crafts, an expression of several waves of Egyptomania that permeated not just the most privileged classes of society but also the bourgeoisie. Not only symbols and shapes entered the repertoire of European design, concepts of Ancient Egypt were translated into the fine arts and it is striking that these concepts are especially conflated with images of women.

Whereas depictions of (pseudo-)historical figures like Potiphar's wife or Cleopatra VII. establish a stereotype of 'the Egyptian Woman' that is distinctly negative in connotation, female personifications and allegories of Ancient Egypt convey a broader spectrum of messages and meanings. Against a historical backdrop of European imperialism, embodied Egypt is more than 'the subjugated' but comes forth as 'the mystique', 'the nurturer', 'the cradle of civilization and original source of knowledge'. This multi-faceted role attributed to Ancient Egypt shall be demonstrated using an eclectic group of visual representations created by European artists.

Keywords: Perception history; Orientalism; Colonialism; Egyptomania; Allegorical bodies



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The Offering Ritual in the Pyramid Texts

Anna Aleksandrovna DVORNICHENKO (Leiden Institute for Area Studies, Leiden University)

This paper examines the texts of the offering ritual in the Pyramid Texts, the features of its structure and the influence of the rites of passage on the structure of the offering ritual. These texts are an important written evidence of the existence of developed funeral rituals in Ancient Egypt, which gives me an opportunity to study the procedure for performing of the offering ritual in the pyramids of the kings of the 5th-6th dynasties.

The paper makes a number of conclusions about the offering ritual in the Pyramid Texts. Firstly, the functioning of the offering ritual in the Pyramid Texts was associated with the mythological interpretation of the Eye of Horus (all sacrifices were interpreted as the Eye of Horus), the absorption of which symbolizes the restoration of the integrity of the king, identified with Osiris. Secondly, the offering ritual was a part of the rite of passage, during which the deceased, thanks to the taste of the eye of Horus, separated from the world of the living and joined the world of the dead. Thirdly, the offering ritual in the tombs of the nobles and in the royal tombs has common features.

Keywords: Pyramid Texts; Offering ritual; Egyptian religious literature



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Towards an Encyclopedia of the Reception of Ancient Egypt: Philosophical Foundations and the Possibilities of Digital Humanities

Florian EBELING (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

The intellectual and material presence of Ancient Egypt is at the heart of many societies around the world from Antiquity to the present. Scarcely any other culture produced a repertoire of ideas, objects, forms, and styles that is so recognisable and that produced such a long afterlife.

After some hesitant beginnings, the study of the reception of Ancient Egypt has now become a fruitful perspective in Egyptology. It is no longer dismissed as a collection of misunderstandings but has been transformed through new orientations in cultural studies and is taking shape in numerous research projects. The historicist narrative of the emergence of scientific Egyptology from the abyss of Egyptomania is slowly replaced by an analysis of their overlap and interaction in terms of mnemohistory. It is against this background that an international group of scholars is currently designing an Encyclopedia of the Reception of Ancient Egypt.

For a long time, the concept of reception was associated with a supposedly sovereign subject who actively appropriates a passive past. Inspired by moderate constructivism, there has been a reassessment in recent years of the interaction between the imprint of history and the shaping of a concept of history. On this basis, the Encyclopedia makes use of the possibilities of the internet and hyperlinks to make the numerous interactions both between the various forms of reception and between history and the respective reference to history transparent. In this way, it avoids the danger of preferring certain reception phenomena as master narratives and emphasises the diversity of perspectives, media and cultural phenomena.

Keywords: Reception history; Historiography of Egyptology; Digital Humanities



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A Ramesside Treasury Scribe from El-Khokha (TT 400)

Barbara EGEDI (Hungarian Research Centre for Linguistics)

The talk aims to present the results of the works carried out in TT 400, focusing, on the one hand, on the methods of documentation and the structure of the original architectural layout, and, on the other hand, on the New Kingdom inscriptions and decoration programme.

The tomb was excavated between 2007 and 2022 by the South Khokha Project of the Hungarian Archaeological Mission in Thebes, and certain parts of this research have already been published (inter alia Schreiber 2014-2015, 2018, 2020). These publications were mainly concerned with the reuse of the structure during the New Kingdom, the Kushite, the Saite and the Graeco-Roman periods.

After providing a short overview of the history of research and a survey of the findings, this talk will concentrate on the original builder of the tomb. The surface of the inner walls is highly damaged, but the remaining inscriptions allow us to identify the owner, his wife, and their titles. Thanks to the digital epigraphic documentation, we are also able to integrate the traces of the decoration and to reconstruct a considerable part of the tomb's original decoration programme. The best preserved textual records include two solar hymns, one at the entrance wall and one on the façade, which will be presented and, at the same time, analyzed in the context of the contemporary funerary literature found in the Theban area.

Keywords: Digital; Epigraphy; Funerary literature; New Kingdom; Ramesside; Theban tomb

Co-author: Zsolt VASÁROS (Hungarian Archaeological Mission in Thebes, South Khokha Project)



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An Unpublished Unique Wooden Calf Figurine at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (SR.1091_A, Reg. No. 843)

Sawsan EISSA (Ain Shams University)

This paper will focus on the first-ever publication of a unique wooden recumbent calf figurine. This statuette is 32.4 cm in length. The calf's body was inscribed with a hieroglyphic strip containing the owner's name and title. The statuette is in good condition overall and has colour residue, but it has several cracks due to weathering factors. Because the statuette's provenance and dating are unknown, the paper will address several issues: Dating the artefact and attempting to determine its provenance, who was the owner according to his title? What is the calf's practical and symbolic role in this position and basin? What effect do climatic changes and weathering factors have on this statuette? What are the best methods for treating and preserving it?

Keywords: Calf; Statuette; Wood; Basin; Hieroglyphic inscription; Weathering factors



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10 Years of the Gebelein Archaeological Project

Wojciech EJSMOND (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures of the Polish Academy of Sciences)

The aim of the paper is to present the most important discoveries made by the archaeological mission working in Gebelein. The programme of archival and field surveys allowed to establish distribution, dating, and interpretation of archaeological sites in the area. A geophysical survey provided information on their structure, e.g. extent and plans of several tombs. Thus, in some cases, research and occupation histories were reconstructed despite limited documentation from previous fieldworks. The Northern Necropolis of Gebelein yielded the most extensive finds in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Available archival documentation and current field surveys allowed to locate several saff-tombs and mastabas that did not survive to nowadays. The Central Necropolis features two pyramid-shape rocks, that were the focus of attention in the local funerary landscape. This site also encompasses numerous shaft tombs of unknown date. The neighbouring town of Per-Hathor is more widely known as Pathyris due to several hundred Ptolemaic papyri sourced from its ruins. They provide a vivid image of a provincial centre. Current surveys allowed to better understand its topography. The works concerning the temple in the town brought to light much new information regarding its history and extent. It was part of a broader religious landscape, which is the subject of current studies. One of its key components is the rock-cut temple dedicated to Hathor Lady of Gebelein by Hatshepsut. This speos was subjected to an epigraphic survey and conservation programme. Also, a previously unknown late Old Kingdom and First Intermediate Period necropolis was discovered. Its rock-cut tomb shed new light on the significance of Gebelein in the 3rd millennium BCE.

Keywords: Survey; Archives; Old Kingdom; Predynastic period; Temple



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Coptic Tattoo: Heritage of Ancient Pharaohs (Analysis and Comparison)

Sherin Sadek EL GENDI (Ain Shams University)

The tattoo (Arabic *al-daqq* or *al-wašm*) is a permanent decorative, symbolic or pictorial drawing performed on the skin of a human being. Its practice is attested in the human society in the entire world from ancient times until the present day.

The tattoo is also an ancient custom that was practised in Ancient Egypt from the primitive times. In fact, the Ancient Egyptians have fascinated people all around the world for many centuries, and their culture continues to resonate with tattoo enthusiasts until today. Inherited by the Copts, this custom is, actually, frequent with diverse groups and strata in contemporary Egyptian society.

What is the origin of the tattoo? What is his history? How this custom developed through the different eras? Why and when was it practised? In the present study, we shall try to answer to all these questions by dealing, briefly, with the history of the tattoo, its etymology, definition or meaning, origin, reasons, significance, development and its importance in the life of the Copts through the long history of Egypt.

We shall also discuss the various motifs of the tattoo for men, women and children, its different methods and technics, the diverse raw materials used to execute it, the various methods of its obliteration, and its influences on the human body in addition to the actual rules of its practice. We shall treat also some artistic masterpieces currently preserved or displayed in many international museums and which still retain the traces of ancient tattoo.

Keywords: Tattoo; Drawing; Origin; Practice; Reasons; Symbolic; Importance; Obliteration



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New Observations on the Artistic Functions of the *hb* Sign

Ola ELABOUDY (Lecturer)

The Hieroglyphic sign was an essential component of the ancient Egyptian writing system. The *hb* sign represents an alabaster basin found in the names of numerous festivals from the Old Kingdom. It might be associated with celebrations because their rituals require purification. The use of this sign within the royal scenes began in the New Kingdom. It played an artistic role in conveying historical and political contexts. The author will examine the significance of this sign from the following perspectives: 1) Decorative: It adds visual interest in royal scenes associated with coronation and *hb-sd* festival. 2) Symbolic: It conveys an ideological function to a specific royal sequence. For example, it was depicted on the base of Merneptah statue JE35126, indicating that its actual use was associated with the Hb-sd celebrations. 3) Narrative: It creates a narrative sequence that conveys a political message, such as the scenes of Herihore at Khonso temple, where Herihore is seated above the sign announcing his celebrations. 4- Identity: It was associated only with the royal scenes and specific gods, who present the *hb* sign, which symbolizes the royal celebration to whom it was represented. The *hb* sign within the royal scene first appeared with Amenhotep III and continued until the Late Period. While its scenes were found at temples, could be proven on other royal monuments (statues, shields, ornaments), and could be associated with certain tombs. The *hb* sign within the royal scenes could refer to the renewal of the royal vision and authority. Moreover, it was modified due to the unique creative style used to mark the *hb-sd* celebration.

Keywords: *hb* sign; Royal scenes; Coronation; *hb-sd* festival; Ideological meaning; Renewal



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Reconstructing the Former Hydraulic Landscape and Settlement Development of the Fayum: A Remote Sensing Study

Raghda (Didi) EL-BEHAEDI (University of Chicago)

The gradual diminishment of water supply due to climate change is a pressing issue that is becoming all too frequent around the globe today. As water sources start to recede, there are devastating impacts that occur not only on an environmental level but also on a societal level, including mass migration, changing settlement patterns, and collapse in economic livelihood. However, decreasing water availability and human adaptation to and management of such changing water supply is not a new occurrence, but is a problem that transcends both time and space. Just as this issue affects modern peoples around the world today, so too did it affect ancient populations in the past. The present work attempts to understand how ancient humans responded to prolonged environmental stressors from the shrinking Fayum Lake (Lake Moeris) using cutting-edge satellite remote sensing data and machine-learning techniques. Through the utilization of synthetic aperture radar (SAR) imagery and radar topographic data, in combination with geophysical and shallow soil coring, previously unknown palaeo-shoreline segments buried beneath the desert sands were identified. Such a study of the ancient depletion of an integral waterbody over a period of 5,500 years (Neolithic to Graeco-Roman) will not only allow us to learn from past occurrences, but it will also arm us with the necessary knowledge to better predict and manage future water resource issues around the globe. Seeking to bring Egyptology into the digital age, this project applies innovative geospatial techniques, data types, and methodologies to answer an age-old mystery that has continuously plagued the Fayum region – how did the ancient inhabitants of the Fayum adjust to the constant fluctuations of Lake Moeris?

Keywords: Remote sensing; Machine learning; Climate change; Fayum; Lake Moeris



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What's New in the Tomb of Tutankhamun

Mamdouh ELDAMATY (former Minister of Tourism and Antiquities)

Tutankhamun's tomb is the most remarkable find, packed with more than 5000 different items. At the same time, the tomb is unusually small for a royal burial and may originally have been the tomb of a family member that had been reused for the burial of the young king after his untimely and sudden death.

It is possible that the tomb could contain hidden chambers and perhaps even the resting place of a lost king or queen. This is what led Egyptologist Nicholas Reeves to believe that the tomb was originally for Queen Nefertiti, and he presented in his publication of 2015 many indications that he relied on. I agree with him, like others, that the tomb is not originally for King Tutankhamun, but I do not think that it was necessarily for Queen Nefertiti (even though this would be wonderful!). It may have been originally made for one of the ladies of the royal family of Akhenaten and Tutankhamun.

This was the reason for conducting a large number of radar surveys inside and outside the tomb of Tutankhamun in 2015, 2016, 2018 and 2019. We used different devices of ground-penetrating radar (GPR) to scan the area immediately around Tutankhamun's tomb, and we identified a previously unknown corridor-like space a few meters from the burial chamber. This result clearly indicates the existence of something on the other side of the north wall of the burial chamber, but they are unclear anomalies till now. This lecture will present the scanning results and also outline the plans for re-examining the site of the tomb again, until we reach a final and accurate result.

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A Group of Wooden Stelae with Iconographic Links to Some Coffins of the 26th Dynasty

Hisham ELLEITHY (Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

This paper will deal with two stelae from Thebes from the second half of the 26th dynasty, the stela of *P3-di-3st* (Manchester Museum, UK, 10939) and that of *Hr-(m)-3h-bit* (Houston Museum, USA, 2013.2025.1). Both stelae are decorated on both sides in three registers. The main scene in both stelae is a paired scene in which the deceased is adorning the gods Ra-Hor-Akhty and Atum. The back side of both stelae has Isis and Nephtys adoring the djed-pillar. The text on both stelae is a hymn to Ra (BD 15 A5 & B4). The text on the stela of Manchester Museum 10939 continues on the back.

The author suggests that this type of stela with double-sided iconography—especially with the depiction of Isis and Nephtys adoring the djed-pillar—is closely related in concept to certain coffins of the same period which have the same motifs. It seems likely that the Ancient Egyptians considered that these stelae played a symbolic role similar to that of the coffin itself, which represented the whole universe in which the deceased would exist. The writer has discussed this idea with John Taylor who has agreed that it is a plausible hypothesis.

Keywords: Stelae; Atum; Ra-Hor-Akhty; Isis; Nephtys; Djed-pillar; BD 15; Coffin



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Reception of Ancient Egypt: An Online Exhibition

Ahmed ELMAKLIZI (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

The poster presents an online exhibition on the history and current relevance of the reception of Ancient Egypt organized by students of the LMU Munich. An interactive user interface includes music, videos and literature allowing the topic to be experienced in a multi-media and synesthetic way. We created a variety of linked websites in order to make the size and the connection of the whole topic visible and experienceable. Therefore also topics can be related that seem far apart from each other at first sight, for example, the connection between rock music and obelisks. May it be music, a movie, art, architecture or even a commercial for biscuits or cigarettes or may it be different views of the world from past centuries, Ancient Egypt can be found in many aspects of our daily lives. Even though this theme is so widely spread throughout our everyday life, the reception of Ancient Egypt and also how we perceive modern Egypt is hardly present in classes at universities. The history of the reception of Egypt still affects our modern perception of Egypt itself.

The goal of this project is to establish a certain awareness about the reception of Egypt in the field of Egyptology but also in the broader society. That is why we included both, topics that are deeply entangled with Egyptology and topics that are connected with our everyday life. This poster presentation is affiliated with the presentations Towards an Encyclopedia of the Reception of Ancient Egypt by Versluys, Heindl and Ebeling.

Keywords: Reception of Ancient Egypt; Online exhibition

Co-author: Laura ZINN (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)



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A Mendesian Notable from the Ptolemaic Period in Copenhagen

Åke ENGSHEDEN (Stockholm University)

A striding draped male statue from the latter half of the Ptolemaic period stands since many years in the Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek in Copenhagen (inv. nr. ÆIN 946). Although it has been illustrated in several catalogues, the inscription on the dorsal pillar has remained unpublished. From the readable parts, it appears that the owner was a 'king's brother' alias syngenes as well as a general. The statue owner expresses his devotion for Banebjed, the sacred ram of Mendes, which he demonstrated by extending the temple and constructing a rampart or wall. This information is important as it sheds light on the later phase of the temple area which is archaeologically little known.

Keywords: Ptolemaic statuary; Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek ÆIN 946; Syngenes; Mendes



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Ex-pats and Vassal Princes: Some Curious International Messengers in the Final Decades of the 13th Century BCE

Roland ENMARCH (University of Liverpool)

This paper considers the role that some of Egypt's vassals in the Levant in conveying Egyptian messages to the other 'great kings' in the last decades of the international diplomatic system of the Late Bronze Age Near East (the later 1200s BCE). Cuneiform sources from the Assyrian outpost at Tell Huwera in northern Syria, dating to this period, give details of the hospitality that was offered to foreign delegates en route to Assyria from the courts of Hatti, Amurru and Egypt. The messenger of Amurru appears to be primarily a merchant also charged with a diplomatic mission, but the messenger of Sidon (mounted on a chariot) is of higher status. It is unclear whether the Sidonian messenger was a loyal servant of his Egyptian overlord, or alternatively (as has recently been suggested) was undertaking an illicit intrigue with Assyria.

Light is cast on this question by a closely contemporary Egyptian-language source, P. Anastasi III. This document shows messengers with Semitic names (and some with Egyptian names who are sons of people with Semitic names) who are voyaging from Egypt with Egyptian messages and gifts, not just for Egyptian garrison commanders in the Levant, but also for Egyptian vassal rulers, including Baal-termeg Prince of Tyre. The close integration of West Semitic language speakers into the Egyptian Levantine communication network suggest that the Sidonian charioteer on his way to Assyria may perhaps have been doing the bidding of Egypt.

Keywords: Assyria; Sidon; Diplomacy; Messengers; International relations; Late Bronze Age



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Hidden Figures and Indecent Exposure: The Ways in Which Archival and Organisational Systems Obscure the Strange, the Other, and the Queer

Anouk EVERTS (University of Cologne/Leiden University/University College London)

In recent years, the topics of sexuality and gender within archaeological and Egyptological debates have started to gain more ground. As these themes become increasingly relevant in current societal conversations, so too does our understanding of constructs of gender and sexuality in the past.

This is hamstrung by a problematic history of the discipline; archaeological materials related to these themes have often been dismissed or obscured during the advent of Egyptology and we still depend heavily on old excavation reports and catalogues. Although many modern researchers seek to address these problems and work hard to diversify both the discipline and our understanding of the past, there is much work still to be done.

This paper seeks to examine the way in which tagging and archival systems, especially in online museum catalogues, unintentionally obscure the diversity of Ancient Egypt's material culture, and marginalise objects that could help us examine the full complexity of the past. Much important archaeological material relevant to the queering of Egyptology is hidden in catalogues both on- and offline; either behind provocative terms such as 'erotic', 'pornographic' or 'grotesque', or conversely labelled as 'fertility' or 'ritual'. Terms such as 'grotesque' mark depictions of certain body types as inherently other, and by designating objects that a modern audience reads as sexual as 'ritual' they are removed from the mundane sphere which we consider sex to belong to.

If we are to look at Egyptology through a more diverse lens, we need to engage with these types of objects. In order to do that, we must first be able to find them.

Keywords: Queering Egyptology; Sexuality; Gender; Catalogues; Terminology; Queer theory



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Le Lexique de la Langue Ancienne Egyptienne (Ahmed Kamal Pasha's Hieroglyphic Dictionary): Methodological Approach/Analysis

Azza EZZAT (Writing and Scripts Center, Bibliotheca Alexandrina)

Ahmed Kamal Pasha is considered as the founder of the Egyptian National School of Egyptology. He is the first Egyptian assistant curator of the Cairo Museum (1891- 1914). Kamal published various books in Arabic and French, yet his massive work is *Le lexique de la langue ancienne Egyptienne*. It contains 22 volumes of hieroglyphic words, and their counterparts in Arabic. Kamal used a solid scientific approach respecting the Arabic language and taking into account the phonological rules in his dictionary. His methodology was as follows. First, he listed the Ancient Egyptian words in its four scripts (Hieroglyphs, Hieratic, Demotic, and Coptic). Second, he listed the corresponding Arabic words without using transliteration (in Arabic). Third, he also included explanations of each word in French, highlighting the linguistic relation between the Ancient Egyptian and the Arabic languages.

This paper will focus on some unpublished documents of Ahmed Pasha Kamal. Moreover, the paper will shed light on his methodology in writing his dictionary which will include a deep analysis in using other languages such as Hebrew, Amharic, Aramaic, and Assyrian. Worth to mention is that, in 2020, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina received 18 volumes of the dictionary, for which the library made a concrete plan for it to be digitized, restored, and analysed. The Writing and Scripts Center will develop a visualization interface to allow for an efficient exploration and analysis of the hieroglyphs in Ahmed Pasha Kamal's dictionary.

Keywords: Ahmed Kamal Pasha; Dictionary; Digitization; Ancient Egyptian language

Co-author: Ahmed MANSOUR (Writing and Scripts Center, Bibliotheca Alexandrina)



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The Wooden Panels of the Mastaba of Hesyré: Towards an Integrative Approach of the Archaeometric Study and Green Intervention

Islam EZZAT (Ain Shams University/French Institute for Oriental Archaeology, Cairo)

The wooden panels of the mastaba of Hesyré acquired their exceptional value in Egyptian art because of their belonging to the mastaba of the high official Hesyré who exercised his functions as chief dentist during the reign of King Netjerikhet of the 3rd dynasty. The story of these panels begins with their discovery by Auguste Mariette in 1861, then by James Quibell in 1911, north of the Saqqara necropolis. The story continues with their transfer to the Boulaq Museum and then to the Egyptian Museum in 1902.

In January 2021, a joint project between the Egyptian Museum and the French Institute for Oriental Archaeology was launched to present new perspectives of the characterization, restoration, and redisplay according to their original context in the mastaba. On the methodological level, the archaeometric study includes two axes: The taxonomy of wood species as well as the diagnosis and analysis to better understand the characteristics and mechanism of wood alteration. Various authors have argued that the Hesyré panels are formed from the *Cedrus libani* sp. The adopted taxonomy technique, based on the diagnosis of epithelial cells of wood reports that the panels are formed from the *Acacia nilotica* sp. In addition, diagnosis using the digital microscope and elemental analysis using X-ray fluorescence revealed the presence of remains of pigments and layers of coatings in certain panels. Physio-mechanical examinations using ultrasonic micro-hardness give comprehensive indicators of wood compression averages. The whole made it possible to develop a green restoration protocol using natural extractives and essential oils like Basil oil in resisting the microbial infections. This protocol is specific to each panel, minimizing interventions.

Keywords: Hesyré; Panels; Niches; Green conservation; Archaeometry; Taxonomy



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Between Execution and Torture: Ropes in Egyptian Christian Art

Enjy FEKRY (Alexandria University) & Sara KITAT (Alexandria University)

By the first centuries in the Roman empire, the conversion to Christianity began in confidentiality as it was met by refusal and the severe persecution since the reign of Nero. The early Christians suffered from many difficulties in spreading their religion. A lot of them were martyred by order of Roman emperors. Eusebius of Caesarea described all kinds of torture and martyrdom in Egypt. In Christian art, ropes are represented in hanging, execution and torture scenes. Coptic art shows saints exposed to different kinds of torture and martyrdom. Some saints were depicted as preys to wild animals while their hands are often shown tied behind their backs. Other saints are depicted with ropes tied around their waists which were knotted from their backs and draped downwards. Coptic scenes reveal two positions of execution; kneeling on the ground or standing while their hands were tied behind their backs. Some manuscripts show Jesus Christ during his court with his hands tied behind his back, also they show hanging 'gallows' scenes. The present paper aims to trace the iconography of ropes in the context of Coptic torture and execution scenes, throwing light on the concept of using ropes according to its various contexts.

Keywords: Ropes; Execution; Torture; Saints; Hands



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Academic Egyptology and Popular Culture: A Multidisciplinary Project at the University of Lisbon

Abraham Ignacio FERNÁNDEZ PICHEL (Centre for History of the University of Lisbon)

The research project 'Ich mache mir die (ägyptische) Welt, wie sie mir gefällt' (transl. 'I make the (Egyptian) world how I like it') at the History Center of the University of Lisbon has been supported by funding from the Portuguese National Funding Agency for Science, Research, and Technology (FCT) since the end of 2022. This project, in which 13 universities, mostly from Europe and America, are participating, aims to identify, collect, and analyze the occurrence of Egyptological or Egyptianizing narratives and motifs in various media, including TV shows, movies, science-fiction and fantasy literature, comic books, urban art, advertisements or the Internet.

It is a research project that focusses on the representations of Ancient Egypt in modern popular culture within the context of cultural reception studies, with a particular interest in the last 75 years. To that purpose, the main outputs of the project are: 1) The configuration of a free online database that collects the visual and literary material previously mentioned, and 2) the construction of a multidisciplinary network of scholars from fields like Egyptology, literature, cinema analysis, art history, and experts in popular culture and cultural reception.

This lecture's major goal is to demonstrate how these virtual instruments related to the Digital Humanities may be used and applied in the work of researchers specializing in Egyptology and cultural reception. The project itself and the database are unique in this regard to the academic study of Egyptology.

Keywords: Popular culture; Reception studies; Egyptology; Digital Humanities



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The Statue Fragments of Radjedef in the State Museum of Egyptian Art, Munich: Digital Reconstruction and Virtual Presentation

Mélanie FLOSSMANN-SCHÜTZE (State Museum of Egyptian Art, Munich)

The furnishings of the pyramid complex built by the 4th dynasty king Radjedef at Abu Rawash included a royal statuary programme that is now dispersed over several museums and collections in the world. The royal sculptures were deliberately destroyed at an unknown time and deposited in a boat pit. Due to the excavations of E. Chassinat in 1901/02, numerous fragments found their way into the Louvre in Paris and the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. However, the most extensive part (over 1100 fragments) was brought to the IFAO in Cairo. The royal statues have been studied in detail, especially by M. Baud and A. Shukanian. Both succeeded in assembling fragments, although a complete reconstruction of one of the statues has not yet been possible. The Egyptian Museum in Munich also owns around 40 fragments, which are currently studied in a new project. The pieces were discovered by P. Lacau in Abu Rawash in 1912/13 and acquired a short time later by the traveller W. von Buerkel. In 1960 and 1965 respectively, they finally came into the possession of the museum. In cooperation with the University of Leuven and the Abu Rawash Project (Y. Tristan), the Munich Museum is planning to digitise all the available fragments using 3D scanning techniques and to reassemble them digitally. The project aims to a digital reconstruction of the different types of statues and to their visual presentation in their proper archaeological context. New colour analyses of the fragments in Munich will allow to show the antique colouring of the statues using photorealistic virtual models. The presentation will summarise the current status of the project and demonstrate the possibilities of digital documentation technologies for the scientific research on and virtual presentation of Egyptian monuments.

Keywords: Radjedef; Old Kingdom; Statuary programme; Digital documentation; Virtual model



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It is More than a Text in Context: Multi-pronged Approach to the Understanding of the Documents of Breathing

Cyprian H. W. FONG (University of Basel)

Editions and synopses have been made for funerary texts such as the Pyramid Texts and the Book of the Dead. Documents of Breathing, which gradually replaced the canonical Book of the Dead as the main funerary texts in the Theban region, are yet to be analysed in such a comprehensive manner. However, these compositions, unlike their predecessors, show various degrees of individualisation in the contents. As such, the traditional philological approach for text analysis and comparison, often employed for earlier funerary texts, is no longer sufficient for understanding the Documents of Breathing, in particular their transmission, production, and usage. In this paper, therefore, a multi-pronged approach will be used to contextualise and understand these increasingly personalised texts. A group of funerary texts will be presented as case studies. This exercise puts them into the general social, cultural and archaeological contexts, thus shedding light on the factors influencing the personalisation of funerary texts, such as personal piety, familial practices, biological and social statuses. The goal of this paper is to give some insights into the treatment of funerary texts as part of the culture and society, and highlight the importance of integrating philology, theology, and archaeology in the process of contextualisation. When contextualised, funerary texts, which are often deemed abstract and mundane, can in fact shed light on the actual human interactions in a lively manner.

Keywords: Graeco-Roman; Documents of Breathing; Interdisciplinary; Contextualisation



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Founding a Palace: Latest Results from Qantir-Piramesse

Henning FRANZMEIER (University of Bologna)

Based on the magnetic measurements of the years 1996-2012, a new area for excavations was chosen in 2016 where a monumental building was visible. After sondages in 2016 and 2017, large scale excavations since March 2022 have revealed the foundations of a palatial complex, the layout of which is reminiscent of the palace of Merenptah at Memphis.

While the profound destruction did not even leave the floors of the complex, some constructional details are exceptional such as sand-filled foundation trenches below the walls. The sand contained several important finds, including ceramic materials, most likely dating to the period of the construction of the building. A first inspection points towards the reign of Ramesses II. In addition, silex objects, partially predating the New Kingdom seem to have been brought in with the sand. Moreover, the remaining mudbricks on top of the sand foundations contain a most unusual tempering including lime or limestone, currently subject to an analysis.

The ongoing work at the site makes it possible for the first time to present the remains of a monumental building at the capital of Ramesside Egypt as revealed by a controlled excavation. Thus, it adds significantly to our knowledge of the reality of Pi-Ramesse, so often praised in hymns as a splendid city.

Keywords: Pi-Ramesse; Palace; Delta; New Kingdom; 19th dynasty; Architecture



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Identifying Faience Workshops: Amulet Production in the Nile Delta during the First Millennium BCE

Urška FURLAN (Swansea University)

As small figurative objects with apotropaic properties, amulets appeared in a variety of contexts and were used by practically all strata of people. Yet, despite their frequency, our knowledge on the faience amulet workshops during the first millennium BCE is scarce. The survey of the amulets in the Nile Delta has revealed that there are very few indicators for the faience fabrication and not a single example of the actual production quarters was identified, nor were kilns securely connected with it at any site. However, with the method of combining the archaeological evidence, such as waste debris and the presence of moulds, with the iconographic and stylistic analysis of amulets, it is nonetheless possible to recognise some workshops or identify the settlements where production took place.

This paper will present several newly proposed faience manufacturing sites. It will discuss how these faience workshops varied in modes and scales of production, what organisational structures existed within them, and observe the subsequent dissemination and circulation of amulets within society.

Keywords: Amulets; Faience; Workshop; Production; Nile Delta



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ResearchSpace(s): The New Online Infrastructures of Amara-West and Deir el-Medina

Kathrin GABLER (University of Copenhagen) & Manuela Lehmann (Eberhard Karl University of Tübingen)

The two sites of Amara-West and Deir el-Medina possess several parallels. Both comprise settlement areas, necropolises, and cult sites, the majority from the Ramesside period. They have prolonged (historical as well as current) excavation activities and resulted in extensive heterogeneous data, with the associated objects now dispersed worldwide among various museums and archives. Both factors make easy access, extensive processing and publishing difficult. In order to create integrated access and provide a tool for collection, research and publication according to modern standards for researchers and the general public, the open-access online platform ResearchSpace (<https://researchspace.org>) is eminently suitable, cf. the poster by D. Oldman. In addition to 'conventional' database applications, the system ResearchSpace also offers various online tools and can be adapted to the respective project-specific requirements and needs. The basic idea is to bundle all work steps from data acquisition and analysis to joint processing and recent publication, open-source, using semantic Web technologies. Our presentation shows examples of the already created version ResearchSpace Amara-West (<https://amara-west.researchspace.org>) and the ResearchSpace Deir el-Medina, which is currently under construction.

Keywords: Ramesside period; Deir el-Medina; Amara-West; Online working and publication platform



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The Tomb-chapels of Djehuty and Hery (TT 11-12): Latest Works and Considerations

Jose GALAN (Spanish National Research Council, Madrid)

The tomb-chapels of the Djehuty and Hery (TT 11-12), high officials at the beginning of the 18th dynasty, are scheduled to be opened to the public in February 2023. Epigraphic documentation and conservation may be considered finished. The musealization of the tombs includes the installation of solar panels to illuminate the inner part of the monuments. A description of these tasks will be followed by recent observations on the design, construction and decoration of the monuments.

The tomb-chapels are located in Dra Abu el-Naga North, near the tombs of Roy (TT 255) and Shuroy (TT 13), which are already opened. The site's excavated area, south-west of the open courtyard of TT 11 will also be accessible to the visitors, including four mud-brick offering chapels and twenty-six funerary shafts dating to the 17th/early 18th dynasty. The 12th dynasty grid garden discovered in 2017 was reburied after being excavated and its mud-brick and mud structure consolidated. It was covered by a metal structure and insulating panels. The visitor, however, will be able to see a replica of it, installed above the structure protecting the original garden. 'O you who shall pass by these tombs!' will have the rare chance to get an idea of what the necropolis was like and developed between 2000 and 1450 BCE.

Keywords: Tomb-chapels; Thebes; Dra Abu el-Naga; 18th dynasty; Site management



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Lives and Afterlives of Ancient Egyptian Coffins: Current Research Work of the Swiss Coffin Project

Manuela GANDER (Swiss Coffin Project) & Marc LOTH (Swiss Coffin Project)

Almost every canton of Switzerland has at least one museum owning Egyptian artefacts. There are over 30,000 objects housed in more than forty museums throughout the entire country. Although many collections include coffins, the majority of these items is largely unknown. That is why the Swiss Coffin Project was initiated in 2004 as an independent, privately funded research project with the objective of making Egyptian burial equipment in Swiss museums accessible to a wider public as well as to specialists.

In 2007, the volume *Unter dem Schutz der Himmelsgöttin* was published, presenting a selection of coffins (with their mummies) and mummy masks from sixteen Swiss public collections. The research work was continued in the following years; meanwhile, thirty museums are involved in the project, so that an expanded and updated edition of the above-mentioned volume is planned. In addition to intact coffins and mummy masks, this new edition will also feature coffin fragments as well as mummy coverings (bead-nets/cartonnages/shrouds) and portraits. The studied material dates from the Middle Kingdom to the Roman period.

The publication, scheduled to appear in 2024, is conceived as a scientific cross-media publication combining print and online resources. While the objects will be presented in a concise version in print, each item will be provided with a QR-code that allows access to its entire documentation. A special focus will be placed on the provenances and the acquisition histories.

The talk will give a summary of the Swiss Coffin Project addressing its objectives and approach as well as the current state of research. It will also present the preliminary results of the studies on some little-known and particularly interesting pieces.

Keywords: Coffins; Mummies; Museology; Documentation; Switzerland



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Digging into the Mind: New Perspectives on the Significance of the Penis in Ancient Egyptian Culture

Judit GARZÓN RODRÍGUEZ (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz)

Male genitalia, and more specifically the penis, appear in both art and writing from very early times in cultures around the world. Given that the penis is described as a necessary element in both the Heliopolitan cosmogony and the creation myth of Horus, both texts documented in the Old Kingdom, and that it is also depicted in different anthropomorphic figures already in the Predynastic period, it seems reasonable to expect a significant role of the penis in Ancient Egyptian culture. In this paper I will present some of the results of my PhD project which I am carrying out within the RTG 1876 of the Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz. I intend to underline the need to re-examine the significance of the penis in this specific culture, which, due to its connection to the taboo sphere, has been strongly affected in academic studies. Through the study of primary sources based on an interdisciplinary approach, I intend to reframe and to redefine the meaning of the penis, either as an isolated form or entity or as a non-isolated one related to a particular figure, in Ancient Egyptian society.

Keywords: Penis; Gender; Conceptual research; Material culture; Interdisciplinary approach



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Hypocephali, the Book of the Dead, and the Egyptian Temple

John GEE (Brigham Young University)

Commentary on hypocephali goes back to Champollion. Other Egyptologists, such as C. Leemans, Ph. de Horrack, J. Capart and L. Speleers furthered the study of these objects. More recently E. Varga, B. Vallée-Damien, A. Wütherich, L. Miatello have made contributions. Most recently T. Mekis has provided something of a synthesis of the subject while explicitly continuing the interpretive approach of Varga. Despite the progress, several open questions about hypocephali remain.

Hypocephali have long been associated with Book of the Dead 162. The association between the two texts is so well-known that the assumption has been that there are no other connections between hypocephali and other chapters in the Book of the Dead. This presentation will challenge that assumption by (1) identifying other chapters of the Book of the Dead that have connections with hypocephali, (2) discussing how these other chapters are used in the decoration of hypocephali. These other chapters complicate some of the standard interpretations of hypocephali. This presentation will also discuss how certain texts from contemporary temples interact with the Book of the Dead in the hypocephalus.

Keywords: Hypocephali; Book of the Dead; Temple



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A Taste of Home: Foreign Merchant Communities in Roman Berenike

Roderick GEERTS (Leiden University)

In the cosmopolitan port site of Berenike (Egypt) many foreign people converged. The port at Berenike catered to the Roman Empire's need for exotic goods and ingredients for food and cosmetics. For this reason many merchants, sailors and traders were at the site for longer periods of time. During their time at the port they traded but also waited for the right prevailing winds and season to make their journey home with their trade goods. During their journey and stay they packed their own cooking equipment to prepare food. This equipment, and specifically the ceramic cooking pots, carries with it a clear signature of the region of origin of these merchants, sailors and traders. Through these ceramic cooking pots it is possible to trace the origin of the traders on site. Ceramics have both intrinsic and cultural characteristics that allow the sourcing of the place of production. This analysis allows us to discern which merchants and traders ended up at the site; together with other evidence the cooking pots make for a strong case towards the actual stay of these merchants at the port. The presence of imported ceramic cooking vessels can be used to trace the eating habits and thereby identify the origins of these foreign traders.

Keywords: Trade; Ceramics; Pottery; Identity; Roman period; Port

Co-authors: Nicholas BARTOS (Stanford University) & Jerzy OLEKSIK (University of Warsaw)



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Ancient Egyptian Reception Studies: Questions, Methods, and the Case of The Teaching of Amenemhat

Margaret GEOGA (University of Pennsylvania)

'The Teaching of Amenemhat' is utterly unique among Ancient Egyptian literary texts: Not only does it describe the murder of a king, but it was also one of Ancient Egypt's most popular texts, with over 250 manuscripts surviving today. Much previous scholarship on the poem has focussed on the circumstances of its composition, with particular interest in the poem's relation to 12th dynasty politics. This paper, in contrast, seeks to reorient the study of this poem toward its readers and their receptions—with implications for both Egyptian philology and the burgeoning field of Egyptian reception studies. I present the investigation of The Teaching of Amenemhat as a case study that offers preliminary responses to critical questions Egyptology must consider, as interest in reception studies grows: What is (and isn't) Egyptian reception studies, and how does one do it? What can reception studies do? And how can we fully integrate reception studies into the discipline of Egyptology? I argue that Egyptian reception studies must include not only modern but also ancient receptions—just as later interpreters have imitated, adapted, and appropriated Ancient Egyptian culture, so too did the Ancient Egyptians do with their own past. Focussing on selected manuscripts, this paper aims to populate the history of 'Amenemhat' with the people who read and engaged with it: From a treasury scribe in the capital, to a student at the crumbling pyramid of the long-dead Senwosret I, to Kushite kings hundreds of miles away in Napata and Kawa. This case study, I argue, demonstrates that reception studies can not only illuminate the history of ideas that underlie popular and even scholarly conceptions about Ancient Egypt, but also identify new questions and modes of studying Ancient Egypt itself.

Keywords: Reception; Theory; Literature; Amenemhat; Manuscript; Scribe; Materiality



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Ancient Sciences Innovation Lab (ASIL): An Approach to Future-oriented Learning and Teaching in Egyptology

Simone GERHARDS (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz) & Monika ZÖLLER-ENGELHARDT (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz)

The poster will present our experiences after one year of implementation of the 'Ancient Sciences Innovation Lab' (ASIL) project. The project is dedicated to transforming a conventional seminar room and foyer at our department's location at the University of Mainz to better enable future-oriented, hybrid teaching and learning settings in the Ancient Studies. The Raumlabor initiative by the German Stifterverband and Dieter Schwarz Foundation enables selected projects to redesign an available room at the university as a laboratory with an innovative learning architecture concept. In addition to the room structure, the equipment is also being modernized and adapted to future-oriented needs. Furthermore, in combination with modern didactics and up-to-date technical equipment for hybrid settings we create a unique learning, teaching, research and meeting space. The redesign and transformation process is participatory including students, teaching personnel and researchers from the participating disciplines. The poster will present first results on ASIL's main goals:

- Establish student-centered innovative learning and teaching settings
- Prepare students of ancient studies better for the challenges of the VUCA world (world characterized by volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity), including future skills such as collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and communication
- Focus on digital education in Ancient Studies, including project- and research-oriented learning and teaching
- Develop innovative hybrid teaching and learning concepts

Keywords: Future of teaching; Teaching Egyptology; Digital Egyptology



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The Construction of the Sacred Geography's Discourse in Ancient Egypt

François GHIRINGHELLI (Eberhard Karl University of Tübingen)

The Sacred Geography's Discourse (from the French concept of 'géographie religieuse') consists of all the documents produced by the ancient Egyptians which describe an ideal state of the world. The information they provide is very useful for geographical and religious studies, and allows us to understand how the ancient Egyptians saw their own world. However, the great majority of these documents belongs to the Graeco-Roman period, even if the discourse is known from the Old Kingdom. Therefore, our understanding is mostly synchronic and its evolution is hardly taken into consideration. But this discourse and the data it provides can only be understood in the light of previous states. Thus, it is important to understand its diachronic construction, from the beginning to the end of pharaonic history.

The Sacred Geography's Discourse belongs to the field of sacred geography, which is to be distinguished from historical geography. Nevertheless, it presents data, mainly toponyms, also known in secular sources. These toponyms are a link between the two aspects of ancient Egyptian geography. But a profane toponym has to be reinterpreted to be used in a religious context. The analysis of this reinterpretation is the key to enlighten the construction's mechanisms of the Sacred Geography's Discourse.

The aim of this project, undertaken thanks to the support of the Swiss National Science Foundation and the University of Tübingen, is to study the Sacred Geography's Discourse as an object, to understand its construction and to analyse the contact points between sacred and historical geography. It requires to work in both aspects of ancient Egyptian geography and hence it is an interdisciplinary research in Egyptology.

Keywords: Discourse; Sacred geography; Historical geography; Diachrony



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The Discovery of the Ahramat Nile Branch: A Hidden Ancient Waterway of the Pyramid Chain of Egypt

Eman GHONEIM (University of North Carolina Wilmington)

The construction of the Ancient Egyptian pyramids along the Western Desert margin of the Nile floodplain indicates the prior existence of a major waterway that was used by the pharaonic builders of these iconic sites. Today, however, no major river exists in the immediate area, with the Nile being located several kilometers away from all the pyramid sites. Analysis of radar satellite data, supported by geophysical survey and soil coring, has led to the discovery of the Nile's ancient Ahramat Branch (meaning Pyramids Branch in Arabic) passing adjacent to the chain of pyramids between Faiyum south and Giza north (~ 38 Pyramid structures). The course of this branch, now concealed beneath the aeolian desert sand and the cultivated floodplain, is about 100 km long. Although invisible at ground-level, segments of the Ahramat Branch appear in radar imagery due to radar waves' ability to penetrate the Earth surface and reveal subsurface terrain. Furthermore, satellite data revealed numerous buried sandy tributaries, feeding into this branch. During the building era of the pyramids, these tributaries would likely have acted as lagoons that hosted harbours to dock and shelter boats away from the busy traffic of the main river course. The orientation of several pyramids' causeways, perpendicular to the Ahramat Branch and their termination at its bank, imply that this former branch and its tributaries were simultaneously active at the time of the pyramids' construction during the Old Kingdom and through the Middle Kingdom. This research has produced the first map of the ancient Nile branch in this region, which will enable us to piece together a comprehensive picture of Ancient Egypt's former waterscape and understand how change in the environment drove human activities in the region.

Keywords: Radar satellite data; Geophysical survey; Egypt's former waterscape; Causeways

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Site and Function of the Antinous Obelisk

Robyn GILLAM (York University)

The inscription on the Antinous obelisk, when looked at in conjunction with inscriptions from Antinoopolis and a fragmentary papyrus, clearly locate the monument within the middle Egyptian landscape and connect it firmly with Graeco-Roman funerary practices.

Keywords: Antinous; Middle Egypt; Graeco-Roman funerary practices



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The Emergence and Impact of the Study of Ancient Egypt in Scotland

Claire GILMOUR (University of Bristol)

This research examines the impact of the emergence and development of the study of Ancient Egypt in Scotland, from early times down to 1990, following the first 'blockbuster' international exhibition of Egyptian material to be shown at a Scottish venue. It assesses the establishment of the field of Egyptology in relation to Scotland, and the paths it took in different areas. Interdisciplinary research examines the formation and growth of public and private collections of Egyptian material in Scotland, and how discoveries made in Egypt were received by Scottish society. This involves consideration of how nationality, race, class and gender influenced archaeological work and collecting, and how presentation of this material by key individuals and institutions influenced the perception and understanding of ancient Egypt in Scotland. Patterns of collecting are examined to assess the impact of industry, travel, military activity, and academia, as well as major movements such as the Scottish Enlightenment. The establishment of museums and institutions, e.g. the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and the Glasgow Egypt Society, and involvement in UK and international archaeological bodies, are considered alongside literary and artistic circles. Events such as the International Exhibitions, Kelvingrove 1912 (Glasgow), and Gold of the Pharaohs (Paris/Edinburgh/Australia, 1987-89) exhibitions of loaned Egyptian material are used as case studies to analyse how Ancient Egypt has been presented and received in Scotland and the wider UK and Europe.

Keywords: Scotland; Reception; Collections; Museums; Antiquarianism; Exhibitions



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Women Archaeologists in Early 20th Century German Egyptology

Katja GOEBS (University of Toronto)

Women engaging in archaeological endeavors around the Mediterranean and the Middle East in the mid to late 19th and early 20th century normally entered the field at the side of their husbands or brothers, who brought them along to their own projects. Yet, these women often supplied essential new insights and materials that greatly enhanced the published results – although they were rarely acknowledged in them. By the late 1800s and early 1900s, women such as Margaret Murray (1863-1963) in the UK and Harriet Boyd Hawes (1871-1945) in the USA secured university posts or undertook their own archaeological work in Egypt and the Mediterranean. A comparable recognition of female competency in Germany would have to wait another 25 years and remained extremely uncommon well into the 1970s. Based primarily on the examples of Elise Baumgartel (1892-1975), Maria Junker (1878-1971), Herta Moor (1914-1945), and the Classical archaeologist Margarete Bieber (1879-1978), this paper seeks to elucidate the social, cultural, and political contexts in which German women with archaeological and Egyptological interests were socialized, educated, and struggled to succeed. Factors that shaped their roles included changes in women's education, the development of archaeology as a university discipline, as well as the societal changes brought about by the First World War and National Socialism.

Keywords: Historiography of Egyptology; Gender studies; Diversity in Egyptology



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Ancient Chinese and Ancient Egyptian Scripts: New Comparative Interdisciplinary Research

Orly GOLDWASSER (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) & Yanru XU (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Champollion's studies of the Ancient Chinese scripts were one of the factors that stood behind his groundbreaking decipherment. It was also suggested that he adopted the term 'determinatif' from Chinese studies.

Ancient China, and Ancient Egypt, are far removed from one another, both geographically and culturally. Yet, the scripts they used are remarkably similar in key aspects, despite their independent origins and differences in form. They use complex writing systems that share common semiotic qualities. The signs of the two scripts are used in different functions: As logograms [sound+meaning] for words and compounds, phonograms [sound only], phonetic classifiers [reiteration of sound only], and semantic classifiers [meaning but no sound].

The ArchaeoMind LAB at Hebrew University in Jerusalem develops since 2020 a comprehensive comparative research track for similar semiotic functions in both ancient scripts. The chosen Chinese corpus is that of the Guodian Bamboo texts dating from the mid-fourth century BC to the early third century BC and in Egyptian the Coffin Texts and Literary MK Texts, with a few administrative texts. The Chinese portal is led by Yanru Xu PhD candidate HU, CSC fellow and awardee of the Plaks Fellowship in the Traditional China field. It is supervised by Zev Handel, University of Washington. The Chinese texts are imported from The Intelligent Retrieval Network Database of Chinese Characters, built by the Center for the Study and Application of Chinese Characters (CSACC) in the East China Normal University (ECNU) in Shanghai.

Keywords: Interdisciplinary studies

Co-author: Zev HANDEL **(University of Washington)**



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Use and Re-use of a Middle Kingdom Rock-cut Tomb at Dra Abu el-Naga through the Analysis of the Pottery Found

María GONZÁLEZ RODRÍGUEZ (Autonomous University of Barcelona) & Zulema BARAHONA MENDIETA (Autonomous University of Barcelona)

A Spanish mission has been working at Dra Abu el-Naga North since 2002. To the southwest of the open courtyard of the tomb-chapel of Djehuty (TT 11), a Middle Kingdom rock-cut tomb was unearthed. The study of the pottery found attests the re-use of the funerary space for at least 1,400 years. The material resting on the lower layers of the filling of the tomb could be interpreted as the first use during the 12th dynasty. It is possible that a short phase of re-use was present in the late Middle Kingdom or early Second Intermediate Period. The next pottery phase recorded could be dated at the end of the Second Intermediate Period or the early 18th dynasty. This phase is represented by some red polished bottles, jars and bottles with thick incised wavy lines, and some big jars in Marl B fabric, which are common among the ritual and funerary pottery in Dra Abu el-Naga, during this time period. It is very likely that during the reign of Thutmose III the burial was re-used again, according to some fragments of the so-called simili jars and other jars with bichrome decoration, one of them painted with big lotus flowers. Finally, the most extensive phase of re-use was probably at the end of the Third Intermediate Period and the beginning of the Late Period. Large number of fragments of big storage jars showing a big white painted band on the surface and some vessels in Marl clays were found.

Keywords: Middle Kingdom; Dra Abu el-Naga; Pottery; Reuse



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Interpreting the Ancient Land- and Waterscapes of the Theban Region

Angus GRAHAM (Uppsala University)

Interdisciplinary geoarchaeological research carried out by the Theban Harbours and Waterscapes Survey (THaWS) since 2012 has greatly advanced our understanding of the ancient landscapes of both the East and West Bank floodplains around Luxor. By combining geological, geophysical, archaeological and topographic methods, including a 10km-wide transect of closely-spaced boreholes across the Nile Valley, both the landscapes themselves and their controlling geomorphic factors have been revealed.

On the West Bank, a minor branch of the Nile has been discovered directly in front of the Colossi of Memnon and the Ramesseum (Toonen et al., 2018; 2019). This finding enables the reinterpretation of Theban festival processions (e.g. the Beautiful Festival of the Valley); the logistics of delivering construction materials to the Temples of Millions of Years; and the potential location of the *mryt* 'marketplace', an integral part of the Deir el Medina community.

On the East Bank, the landscape history of the temple complex at Karnak is now fully understood. With this knowledge we can now more clearly understand the founding of the temple complex for Amun in the late third millennium BCE within the framework of Egyptian cosmogony and cosmology attested in the Pyramid Texts.

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Keywords: Amun; Karnak; *mryt* 'marketplace'; Geoarchaeology; Cosmogony; Processions; Nile

Co-authors: Benjamin PENNINGTON (University of Southampton), Jan PEETERS (University of Michigan), Willem TOONEN (Free University of Amsterdam), Aurelia MASSON-BERGHOF (British Museum, London), Marie MILLET (Louvre Museum, Paris), Tim WINKELS (Utrecht University), Virginia EMERY (U.S. National Park Service), Luke SOLLARS (Independent Researcher), Kristian STRUTT (University of Southampton) & Dominic BARKER (University of Southampton)



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Three-Dimensional Imaging Examination of Mummies from the Egyptian Collection of the National Archaeological Museum of Athens: The Results of the First Five Mummies Scanned

Argyro GRIGORAKI (National Archaeological Museum, Athens) & Alicia MARAVELIA (Hellenic Institute of Egyptology)

In the frame of Interdisciplinarity with high Scholarship standards and feedback between Egyptology and Medicine, the Hellenic Institute of Egyptology, in close collaboration with the National Archaeological Museum of Athens and the Athens Medical Centre, performed a joint Research Project (= ATHENS MUMMY PROJECT), an original and unique endeavour for Hellas. Five out of the ten Ptolemaic mummies from Panopolis, whose sarcophagi were studied earlier [MARAVELIA & CLADAKI-MANOLI 2004; MARAVELIA 2005] have been examined with non-invasive methods, using Computed Tomography (CT) with up-to-date techniques and scanners. Four more mummies will be scanned very soon, adding to our knowledge, in our quest for continuing the dialogue between Egyptology and Palaeopathology. The results of our study are not only encouraging [MARAVELIA, BONTZOGLIOU et al. 2019], but very interesting too, some of them being unique and unexpected [MICHAILIDIS, KYRIAZI, MARAVELIA et al. 2019; KALAMPOUKAS, KYRIAZI, MARAVELIA et al. 2020; PANTAZIS, TOURNA, MARAVELIA et al. 2020; BONTZOGLIOU, MARAVELIA et al. 2021]. In this poster, we shall present new interesting and striking results both from the initially scanned mummies and those to be scanned before the end of 2022.

Keywords: Egyptian mummies; Ptolemaic Panopolis; Embalming techniques; Death; CT scan

Co-authors: Nikolaos BONTZOGLIOU (CT & MRI Department, Athens Medical Centre), Panagiotis LAZARIS (National Archaeological Museum, Athens), Ioannis PANTAZIS (CT & MRI Department, Athens Medical Centre), Georgios MICHAILIDIS (CT & MRI Department, Athens Medical Centre), Kiriakos KALAMPOUKAS (CT & MRI Department, Athens Medical Centre), Constantinos COUVARIS (Athens Forensic Authority, Athens) & Stefanos GEROULANOS (University of Zurich/International Hippocratic Foundation)



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Digitizing Seth: Digital Studies of Sethian Hieroglyphs in the Coffin Texts

Jorke GROTENHUIS (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

In order to illustrate the benefits of digital research in Egyptology, this poster will present the results of a case study of Seth and Sethian animals used as classifiers in the Coffin Texts. The poster focusses on the occurrence rate of the classifier within the lemmas in which they occur. It additionally shows the diatopic and diachronic tendency in occurrence or absence of Sethian classifiers, and other additional strategies in classification. The research is done using Grotenhuis' project 'Classifying the Middle Kingdom afterlife: A window into the Ancient Egyptian mind', and the iClassifier digital research tool.

Secondly, the poster will present the results of a study of the classifiers of the lemma *sr* 'to foretell' in the cursive script of the Coffin Texts. The form of the usual classifier is, in cursive scripts, often more akin to a Sethian animal than to the giraffe – the sign commonly identified by scholars as the classifier of the verb *sr*. The forms of the animal sign are collected and sorted digitally, to show the underlying issues with interpretation, local traditions and scribal preferences in the cursive forms of the script.

Keywords: Classifier; Coffin Texts; Hieroglyphs; Seth; Digital humanities



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AKU-PAL: Recent Developments of the New Digital Palaeography for Hieratic

Svenja A. GÜLDEN (Academy of Sciences and Literature, Mainz/Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz/Technical University of Darmstadt)

The two main online presences of the Mainz Academy project 'Ancient Egyptian Cursive Scripts' (AKU), 'HieratischAKUell' (project blog) and 'Hieratic Studies Online' (publication series), have been joined by a new digital research tool for studies in hieratic writing: AKU-PAL. It is accessible open access for everyone interested in the hieratic script and cursive hieroglyphs. Since its first release on May 22, 2022, the AKU project will extend the knowledge graph with several features, e.g.:

- An IIIF server that allows photographic documentation of the processed texts,
- links to other (Egyptological) projects and databases according to the linked open data principle,
- and a new tagging system for extended search possibilities.

In the presentation, AKU-PAL will be introduced to the international community together with the latest enhancements and additional features.

The AKU team is looking forward to further cooperation with institutions, projects, and colleagues and provides cooperation partners with digital developments by the AKU project. For example, the AKU software 'LaTeX-Paleography' allows the automated creation of palaeographic lists of hieratic and cursive hieroglyphic signs.

Furthermore, the presentation gives insight views on the currently processed texts and digital analysis approaches.

Keywords: AKU-PAL; Hieratic; Cursive hieroglyph; Digital palaeography; Digital analysis



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The Nephthys Project

Hedvig GYÖRY (HEFS AEC)

Our project has Egyptian mummy remains from three collections: the Hungarian Natural History Museum (HNHM), the Aurél Török Collection (ATCollection) at the Eötvös Lóránd University, and the Semmelweis Medical History Museum (SMHM).

The material is in poor condition, fragmentary and incomplete. Most of the individuals have only skulls, others just postcranial bones. Although the majority of the specimens are skeletonized, several ones have mummified remains, and some are covered with mummification materials, viz. textile from the bandages. A few mummies have some 'skin'.

Our study is multidisciplinary, as we adopt new research methods, including the most modern non-invasive ones (osteological, (organic/)chemical analysis methods, physical, radiological diagnostic methods, paleopathological, CT and microscope investigations) to identify the origin of the mummies, state of health and mummification process.

Because of their confusing historical background, we do not have accurate preliminary information, so we are making chronological examinations, estimate the sex and age of the specimens (anthropological examination, C14, CT and X-ray). Concerning the mummification bitumen analysis is ongoing; we are looking for pollen, making textile analysis.

On the poster, we show the first results of the various researches and investigations concerning chronological data, gender and age of the individuals whose remains belong to these collections. We reached interesting data concerning the children mummy remains, identified alterations on some adult individuals, including multiple healed injury, abnormally high lead (Pb), sodium (Na) and iron (Fe) levels in some cases as well as endocranial lesion...

Keywords: Interdisciplinary; Mummy study; Collection; Examinations; Health issues



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Papyri from the Mortuary Temple of Thutmose III

Fredrik HAGEN (University of Copenhagen)

The paper will present a selection of papyrus fragments found during the re-excavation of the mortuary temple of Thutmose III at Thebes (directed by Myriam Seco-Alvarez). The focus will be on contextualising the fragments, as well as on evaluating their potential for reconstructing activities within an Egyptian temple, and will end with some observations about the cult rituals that took place at this institution.

Keywords: Papyrus; Hieratic; New Kingdom; Administration; Rituals



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A Foucauldian Approach to Egyptology

Matthieu HAGENMÜLLER (Sorbonne University)

Michel Foucault is nowadays considered as a thinker whose ideas can greatly help historians to ask new questions and change their approach to long-discussed topics. Despite some recent works (e.g. U. Matic or M. Maitland), Foucauldian theories have seldom been investigated for what they may bring into Egyptology. This is partly because M. Foucault wrote very little on Egypt and Near Eastern civilisations, contrary to his long-term interest for the Graeco-Roman world.

That does not mean reading his works is not of great use for present Egyptologists. I would like to study this topic in three steps. First, I plan to sum up the use Egyptologists have made of Foucauldian ideas, and compare it to other historical periods, especially Graeco-Roman and Near Eastern studies. Secondly, I would like to analyse the few references M. Foucault himself made to Ancient Egypt: The most famous was about the pastoral governmentality in his course 'Security, Territory, Population' (1978). But behind his thoughts on the classical world, can we have access to an analysis of other societies from the Ancient World, like Ancient Egypt?

I finally plan to list some Foucauldian theories that could bring new heuristic trends in Egyptological research. In my own work on the representation of violence in funerary scenes, I argue that tomb iconography can be seen as a 'disciplinary institution', that is, places where people are submitted to a double process of domination and acculturation. Some comments can also be made on Foucault's ideas about sexuality, the representation of the human body and mechanisms of power. Finally, his works on the rise of practices of confession in the Western world since Late Antiquity can lead us to question Egyptian ways to tell the truth about oneself.

Keywords: Michel Foucault; Discipline; Violence; Interdisciplinarity; Power/Knowledge



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Some Metaphors of Transferring Royal Legitimacy in the Old Kingdom

Ahmed HAMDEN (October 6 University)

The early periods of Egyptian history witnessed the important role of transforming the royal legitimacy from the predecessor kings to their successors. The royal ka is the vital force designated to transfer this royal power to the new monarchs. Since the early dynasties until the Roman period, the royal ka representations have been scattered on numerous monuments in temples and tombs.

The royal ka has two iconographical aspects, the standard shape that appears more frequently, while the other is the anthropomorphic form. Over all periods of history, the royal ka has been characterised with specific and constant metaphors, for instance its particular locations, thematic purposes and finally its accompanying texts and epithets i.e. *ḥnḥ k3-nsw.t ḥnt db3.t ḥnt pr-dw3.t*, 'the living ka of the King, foremost of the robing house, foremost of the morning house'.

In the Old Kingdom, several motifs represented kings escorted by their kas occur at different occasions and monuments, for instance, the temples of Sahure at Abusir and that of Pepi II at Saqqara. Previous studies of the royal ka during the Middle and New Kingdoms have been pursued by the author, so by extending the studies core to include the Old Kingdom period in this paper, it will extensively help to comprehend its functions and roles in different contexts through all these epochs.

Keywords: Legitimacy; Kingship; Old Kingdom; Power; Royal ka



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Why is this Here? Bringing the Question of Provenance to the Museum Floor

Lisa HANEY (Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh)

Carnegie Museum of Natural History stewards over 5,000 objects from Ancient Egypt, the majority of which have never been displayed. Much of this material was acquired in the late 19th and early 20th centuries when colonial politics had a profound impact on museum and collecting practices. This paper provides an overview and evaluation of From Egypt to Pittsburgh, a new rotational exhibit that places a small group of objects on display for the first time and traces their history. The exhibit examines the lives of these objects from creation to display, directly addressing the history of colonialism in museums and Egyptology. 3D models enable online and in-gallery visitors to get up close and personal, examining/handling objects in ways they could never do with a traditional display. All written components are provided in English and Arabic, so Egyptians locally and abroad can have more direct access to their disbursed cultural heritage.

This paper will discuss what we learned during the first two rotations and what we plan to stop, start, and continue moving forward. The first rotation includes objects from Amarna, which were selected to provide insight into the museum's relationship with the Egypt Exploration Society. The second rotation will be designed with members of St. Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church, located just outside Pittsburgh. This partnership is one way we hope to build a stronger relationship with the local Egyptian community and emphasize that Egyptian culture is not frozen in time. The overarching goal of this project is to create a space where visitors feel respected and included in discussions of unjust systems and past practices in the hope that they may consider how objects from Ancient Egypt speak to many time periods and perspectives.

Keywords: Museology; Colonialism; Provenance; Cultural heritage; Community engagement



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Nefertiti's Bust and Egyptian Efforts of Restitution: 1925-1946

Monica HANNA (Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport)

This paper discusses the Egyptian efforts of the restitution of the bust of Nefertiti through the documents found at the National Archive of Egypt, file number 101/123/1. The research overviews the Egyptian administration, public opinions, and international reactions on the issue of the bust. The research discusses the roles of the different actors such as Pierre Lacau, Hassan Nashaat, Marcus Hanna and Mahmoud Fahmy al-Noqrashy in the restitution of the bust. The paper also touches upon the reception of the bust in Egyptian popular art and media.

Keywords: Nefertiti bust; Pierre Lacau; Borchardt; Cultural property; Restitution



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Categories of Lexical Innovation in New Kingdom Egypt: A Categorical Semantic Network

Haleli HAREL (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

This talk presents the Ancient Egyptian lexicon from a new viewpoint. Using a case study of lexical borrowings in New Kingdom texts, I illustrate an emic image of innate semantic hierarchies existing in the Ancient Egyptian script system. The case study I present is comprised of an extensive list of lexical borrowings (= loanwords) in texts of the New Kingdom. First, I examine how lexical borrowings in Egyptian texts were classified into classifier categories. Most loans were written with one or more signs in the role of classifiers. In my doctoral research, I digitized eighteen hundred examples of 360 distinct lexical borrowings occurring in more than 400 Egyptian texts of the New Kingdom with the iClassifier (©Goldwasser, Harel, Nikolaev) digital research platform, created in the ArchaeoMind Lab, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. I then tagged in each example the signs in the role of a classifier. Utilizing Network Analysis visualization and applying community detection algorithms implemented in the research platform, the innate categorical semantic space of the Egyptian vocabulary is displayed. The talk will include a presentation of the repertoire of categories and the semantic spaces they form. I will then comment on what we can learn from the way classifiers structure the semantic space and how we can better tag lexicographic data with concepts and semantic fields to map the architectures of semantic spaces. The results shed light on the key conceptual domains in cultural transfer between Egyptians and neighbouring civilizations. To conclude, I provide an interactive digital list of lexical innovations by classifier categories and discuss how these domains correspond to what we already know about cultural transfer in the material and social realms.

Keywords: Digital Egyptology; Language and linguistics; Network analysis; Language contact



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Home Is Where the Heart Is: Child Burials in the Houses of Ancient Egypt, c. 1980-c.1760 BCE

Hannah HARRISON (University of Edinburgh)

Children are proportionally less represented in Ancient Egyptian cemeteries, but it is unclear why this occurred; was this due to differential burial rites, individual reactions to infant death, or methodological biases? Recent work has sought to understand and rectify this phenomenon, often by demonstrating that this group were not solely buried by differential means. But there remains a lack of attention to the social contexts of these burials, and particularly those found within domestic structures – potentially obscuring evidence of personal (emotional) motivations, rather than cultural responses, to infant mortality.

To investigate why settlements were perhaps chosen over communal cemeteries, this research examines patterns of intramural burials for children across Middle Kingdom Egypt, whilst exploring identifiers and perceptions of children and childhood in Ancient Egypt. Comparing this with corresponding burials in other age groups and contexts, it seeks to broaden understandings of Ancient Egyptian life and beliefs beyond the elite classes.

The incorporation of modern psychological theories, specifically pertaining to reactions of grief and the parent-child/parent-deceased child relationship acts as an interpretative framework for the data. Such an interdisciplinary approach can help us develop outwith the confines of the discipline of Egyptology, as well as encourage discussions surrounding infant death, which is often considered a taboo subject in contemporary society.

Keywords: Child burials; Childhood; Middle Kingdom; Settlement; Intramural; Grief theory



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Changes in Economic Organization and the Impact on Farmers' Lives, as Seen through Sickles

Elizabeth HART (Independent Researcher)

Bread and beer were essential to Ancient Egyptian dietary and ritual practices. To reap grain for bread and beer, Ancient Egyptians used sickles made from flint inset into wooden hafts. Such sickles were produced in Egypt for thousands of years, even after the introduction of metals. Scholars have explained the endurance of these composite stone sickles primarily as a combination of functional and economic factors: Flint works as well as metal, and it is abundant, so it must be cheaper and easier than metal sickles. However, this simple explanation masks any complexity or changes in the systems of production and distribution of this critical tool over time. This study examines how the production and use of Egyptian flint sickle inserts changed over their ~4000 years of existence by documenting attributes of stone sickles (raw material use, flaking technologies, dimensions, use, re-working). The author analysed artifacts from the sites of Kom el-Hisn, Heit el-Ghurob, Lisht, el-Mahasna, Nag el-Qarmila, and others and compared to published materials. The results indicate that there is a substantial amount of diachronic and synchronic variability, and that political or social factors, not just functional and economic considerations, are important for thinking through changes in sickle production. This is significant for understanding how tools got into farmers' hands, and hence how their lives were affected by larger-scale changes, and more broadly how and why Egypt's economic practices changed.

Keywords: Farming; Production; Economy; Lithics; Sickles; Tools; Flint



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Towards an Encyclopedia of the Reception of Ancient Egypt: Current Research Approaches in Munich

Patrizia HEINDL (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

The intellectual and material presence of Ancient Egypt is at the heart of many societies around the world from Antiquity to the present. Scarcely any other culture produced a repertoire of ideas, objects, forms, and styles that is so recognisable and that produced such a long afterlife.

After some hesitant beginnings, the study of the reception of Ancient Egypt has now become a fruitful perspective in Egyptology. It is no longer dismissed as a collection of misunderstandings, but has been transformed through new orientations in cultural studies and is taking shape in numerous research projects. The historicist narrative of the emergence of scientific Egyptology from the abyss of Egyptomania is slowly replaced by an analysis of their overlap and interaction in terms of mnemohistory. It is against this background that an international group of scholars is currently designing an Encyclopedia of the Reception of Ancient Egypt.

The diversity of contemporary research into the reception of Ancient Egypt, as well as the reception itself, is reflected by numerous projects at the LMU Munich, which illustrate to what the Encyclopaedia must respond: The redesign of the journal *Aegyptiaca* will integrate digital media and interactive elements. An exhibition with the Egyptian artist Alaa Awad highlights the contemporary reception of Ancient Egypt and an online exhibition, produced by students, combines music videos and images with scholarly reappraisal. Workshops on hot topics, like identity formation in revolutionary art in Egypt and Sudan, Afrocentrism and Postcolonialism highlight the relevance of the Encyclopaedia.

Keywords: Reception of Ancient Egypt; Encyclopedia of the reception of Ancient Egypt



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The Ghost of Christianity in Egyptian Religious Texts

Jennifer HELLMUM (University of Auckland)

Christianity provided the vocabulary used to translate Ancient Egyptian texts. It was natural that it should have done so, given the religion of the original translators, but using this vocabulary does not represent Ancient Egyptian religion as a discrete and self-contained faith. Concepts, such as 'saint', 'chapel', 'eternity', and 'heaven' only loosely fit the Egyptian concepts to which they're applied, if they fit at all. The fact that the Egyptians had two different conceptions of 'eternity', for example, indicates that their conceptual religious worldview was fundamentally different than ours. Translating both *dt* and *nhh* as 'forever' does a very real disservice to the complex Egyptian concepts of 'eternity'. The use of King James or Biblical English in translations of Egyptian religious literature is likewise problematic. This both deceptively elevated and distanced the literature (and hence, the religion itself) from modern readers by using archaic terminology and grammatical structures that specifically reference an antique English translation of the Bible. The ancient religious literature does not use the equivalent style of language. This made the English translations doubly artificial, in intent and in form. The original translators could not help but impose their Christianity on the ancient religion; in so doing, they created a kind of hybrid religion that was both familiar and accessible to modern Western scholars, but it was a vocabulary that did not describe the Egyptian original. This talk will examine the issue of the linguistic shadow cast by Christianity over Ancient Egyptian religion, and consider the approaches by which this can be rectified.

Keywords: Christianity; Egyptian religion; Orientalism; Translation



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Violent Deaths in Dra Abu el-Naga

Jesus HERRERIN (University of Alcalá)

Within the framework of the Spanish archaeological mission working at Dra Abu el-Naga North, a series of funerary shafts have been excavated in the surroundings of the courtyard of the tomb of Djehuty (TT 11).

The remains of two individuals were found at the bottom of one of these shafts (UE1158). The chronology of the remains dates to the end of the 17th or early 18th dynasty (1600-1550 BC).

IND-2638 was found in the prone position and resting on a mat. This position reflected that he had been thrown, without much care, to the bottom of the shaft, as it was found. The individual was well preserved, only the skull was fragmented, although it was largely reconstructed. It was a young adult female, 152-153 cm tall and 25-35 years of age. The examination focussed on the marks of violence concentrated on the head. There were at least 7 chop marks in the skull and jaw. All injuries were made with a medium/large sized, very sharp, heavy, curved bladed weapon that was repeatedly discharged at her head from an elevated position. Most of the injuries are very penetrating, which can be explained if the head was on the ground or similar. No signs of violence were found on the rest of the skeleton.

Next to IND-2638, a very fragmented and incomplete isolated skull (IND-2640) of a male (30-50 years) was found. This skull was partially reconstructed and showed 5 chop marks produced by a weapon of similar size and shape to the previous one.

The type of wounds (chop marks), the location (the head) and the type of weapon (sword or similar), lead us to a possible scenario of death by execution, rather than as a result of a violent personal confrontation.

Keywords: Dra Abu el-Naga; Violence; Chop marks; New Kingdom



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Emancipating Materiality: An Integrative Research Approach to Inscribed Objects on the Example of Papyri

Elena Luise HERTEL (University of Basel)

The Material Turn has impacted most of the Humanities and Egyptology is not an exception. In the case of text-related studies, it has sparked an interest in the text carriers which nowadays are often examined additionally to text editions and discussions.

This paper argues for a more radical implementation of such approaches, stepping away from the idea that material features are only supportive to the text and instead embracing materiality of inscribed objects as a fully developed research area. The concrete application of such a methodology will be illustrated on the example of some New Kingdom papyri from Deir el-Medina that were studied for physical traces of use and reuse.

The papyri are characterised by a mix of administrative and non-administrative inscriptions co-existing on the same manuscript, which illustrates the pragmatic use of writing as an everyday tool. Through the analysis of traces of earlier, erased texts it is possible to gather information on what kind of texts were removed and what they were replaced with, thus shedding light on the (re)use of a manuscript in varying contexts. Further, features like text distribution, changes in handwriting and text-internal dates can allow to reconstruct the sequence of inscription of a papyrus and provide a glimpse into the concrete use life of manuscripts in Deir el-Medina.

Based on these application examples, it will be proposed to evolve Egyptological research on materiality of texts towards a truly symmetrical treatment of the text and the physical features of the inscribed object that will grant materiality a more prominent position within the field, and render Egyptological sources and work accessible to an interdisciplinary community of manuscript research.

Keywords: Materiality; Manuscripts; Papyrus; Deir el-Medina; New Kingdom; Reuse



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Identifying Two Truths: The Transition and Transformation of the Goddesses Dual Maat during the New Kingdom

Tokihisa HIGO (Kanazawa University)

Chapter 125 of the Book of the Dead is one of the prominent compositions which tells us where Ancient Egyptians travelled in their afterlife for their eternal life. In this spell, the deceased tread on the judgment hall named 'the broad hall of Two Truths' (*wsht nt mꜣꜣty*) in order to go through the judgment by Osiris. Following pictures of two goddesses depicted in the judgment Hall, the name of this judgment hall is certainly derived from Dual Maat (*mꜣꜣty*), the reduplicated goddesses of Maat, being involved in Egyptian dualistic notions. Although the reduplication of the goddess Maat in this judgment hall has been discussed by scholars, the reason for the reduplication of this goddess is still unclear. In addition, while some Book of the Dead manuscripts show *mꜣꜣty* as a pair of the same Maat goddess, they are frequently represented as different entities such as a pair of male and female divinities. There is still no convincing explanation for this phenomenon, which makes it difficult to identify who exactly are the *mꜣꜣty* in the judgment hall.

For further understanding of the pair of divinities *mꜣꜣty*, this paper will reconsider the attestation of *mꜣꜣty* in the sources from the New Kingdom, focussing on the Book of the Dead papyri and the other Netherworld Books. The iconographic analysis and comparison of the various depictions of Dual Maat and their subsidiary texts reveal the diversity of the images and roles of these deities in the earliest attestations of the *mꜣꜣty* concept as the goddesses in the judgment hall. Also, a close look and comparison of the sources from the late 18th and 19th dynasties reveals that the roles and forms of Dual Maat in the Netherworld were, in each stage, assigned in concert with their relationship with Re and Osiris.

Keywords: Maat; Book of the Dead; Duality; Development of religious thought



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Reconstructing Osiris: Dismemberment, Decapitation, and Mummification in Predynastic Egypt

Jane HILL (Rowan University)

Cases of well provisioned Predynastic graves containing both disarticulated skeletons and plentiful and costly burial goods have invited various interpretations since their earliest documentation by W.M.F. Petrie and James Quibell in their publications of the excavation of the great Predynastic cemeteries of Naqada and Ballas. While Petrie's initial interpretation of cannibalism is not supported by the surviving osteological or material records, the presentation of these burials nevertheless raises interesting questions about the beliefs and ritual behind these postmortem skeletal arrangements. More recent discovery of a collection of disembodied skulls at the site of el-Adaima seems to indicate a more sinister practice. Evidence suggests that while the dissolution of the body in death was to be carefully avoided in some cases, it was actively sought in others, depending on the social role that each of these individuals inhabited. How may we understand decapitation, dismemberment, and re-articulation within the developing religious practice of Predynastic Egypt? Using the Predynastic mummy of a mature male in the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology collections as a lens through which to analyse these burials, the author will discuss the possible religious and ecological reasons for the treatment of these bodies.

Keywords: Predynastic; Mummification; Ritual; Religion; Mortuary practice



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Craftpeople's Agency and Choice: A Case Study of Jewellery Manufactured at Amarna

Anna K. HODGKINSON (Free University of Berlin)

This paper investigates the technological choices made by craftspeople in the manufacture of jewellery (or personal ornaments) at site M50.14-16 at Amarna (Middle Egypt, New Kingdom) and addresses the following questions: 1) Which were the main factors in the choice of materials used, and 2) which objects were used, or repaired despite being imperfect, and why were they discarded?

Site M50.14-16 constitutes a domestic workshop, the recent excavations of which yielded large quantities of jewellery from faience, glass and stone, together with production waste and tools. This material presents an ideal case study for the analysis of production at household level, while also considering the taphonomic processes involved in creating the archaeological contexts in which these objects were found.

On the one hand, the same or similar pendant types from different materials were excavated at the site, including turtle amulets from both glass and stone: Based on these items, the author investigates how symbolism, material availability, technology and/or value played a role in the selection of the materials. On the other hand, the archaeological record comprises objects that may have been considered fully functional, although they appear imperfect. This group of objects includes faience pendants with manufacturing errors, to which loop beads were attached in order for the pendants to be suspended on a collar or necklace.

The examined material provides us with information regarding the agency and intention of the craftspeople who produced jewellery that was to be used and worn throughout society, both as ornaments and as symbols. While many of these choices were made by the craftspeople, some of these decisions may have also been influenced by patron(s) and society as a whole.

Keywords: Amarna; Jewellery; Craftspeople; Agency; Use/discard; Glass; Faience; Stone



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Beni Hassan in Vienna: Restoring the ‘Egyptian’ Wall Paintings in the Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna

Regina HOELZL (Museum of Fine Arts, Vienna)

Some galleries of the museum’s Egyptian and Near Eastern Collection are decorated in the Egyptianizing style of the late 19th century. On the walls there are reproductions of wall paintings from the tomb of the nomarch Chnumhotep II at Beni Hassan/Middle Egypt. The original wall paintings were thoroughly copied in 1843 by Ernst and Max Weidenbach – both were members of the Prussian expedition to Egypt and Nubia which was led by Richard Lepsius.

These large scale reproductions on cardboard-like paper were created for the 1873 Vienna World’s Fair, where the tomb of Chnumhotep II was recreated and exhibited. Afterwards the wall paintings were re-used to decorate the walls in some of the Egyptian galleries of the newly built Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna (which opened in 1891).

But time left its traces on the ‘Egyptian’ wall paintings – damages and tears were the consequences. Pieces of wall paper separated from the wall and threatened to fall away. After assessing the damage, plans for a restoration project were made. Thanks to a great many donations, the restoration work could be carried out in 2021.

During the restoration process many interesting details about the creation of the wall paintings and the methods to attach them to the walls were discovered. Currently the research focusses on the history of the wall paintings, but also on the original tomb of Chnumhotep II. in Beni Hassan and its decoration.

Keywords: Beni Hassan; Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna; Collection history; Restoration



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Revisiting the East Frontier Canal in North Sinai

James HOFFMEIER (Trinity International University)

During the 1995 ICE Cambridge, I presented a paper investigating the recently discovered East Frontier Canal. Israeli geologists found this feature with the aid of aerial photographs during the occupation of Sinai. My presentation sought to review the Egyptian textual evidence that might point to the existence, purpose and date of the canal. At that time, the use of satellite imagery was just in its infancy, but showed promise to assist in tracing the route of the canal. I also reported on a programme of sub-surface drilling with an auger undertaken near Hebua I to probe the nature of the soils that lay below the aeolian sands on the surface; they were Nilotic. The preliminary research presented at Cambridge laid the ground work for additional visits to north Sinai beginning 1998 that continued until 2008. In 1998 I was joined by geologists, Stephen Moshier and armed with recently declassified CORONA images of the Qantara East region. These showed that the visible trace of the canal was around 4 km longer than the aerial photos the Israelis used. The image also showed where the canal ended. Subsequent archaeological work at Tell el-Borg and palaeo-environmental investigations of the surrounding area revealed a number of previously unknown Nilotic features. While the date and function of the ancient canal remain uncertain, the research undertaken since 1995 has helped clarify several matters, the most significant being that it is unlikely the canal was dug and functioned in the 2nd millennium or earlier as previously thought.

Keywords: Tell el Borg; North Sinai; East Frontier Canal



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The Abnormal Hieratic Papyrus P. BM EA 10798

Petra HOGENBOOM-MEIJERINK (National Museum of Antiquities, Leiden/Leiden University)

This paper focusses on the research of a group of abnormal hieratic fragments, which was (re)discovered a few years ago in the collection of the British Museum. They have been catalogued and mounted together under the inventory number 10798 in 1962, but had not been studied since.

During this presentation, we will examine different parts of the group, focus on specific and significant aspects of the fragments and consider the role this papyrus plays in creating a definition for abnormal hieratic. This administrative script was only relatively short in use, from ca. 725 until 535 BC and it's origin and development are studied to better understand it's significance for the history of the Ancient Egyptian scripts and the Third Intermediate and Late Period.

Keywords: Papyrology; Hieratic; Abnormal Hieratic; Demotic; Late Period



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Behind the Façade: Eurocentrism and Re-imagining the Ancient Egyptian Material World

Genevieve HOLT (Macquarie University)

The future of the study of Ancient Egypt lies in knowing and acknowledging the colonial origins of the discipline. Early interpretations of cultural material embodied a Eurocentric approach to understanding an ancient non-Western culture and resulted in discipline-specific terminology. This terminology fostered the unequal power dynamic inherent in Eurocentrism and the disenfranchisement of Egyptians from their heritage. The non-critical adoption of the architectural term 'palace-façade' is an example of this process. The term continues to be used indiscriminately today and provides a focal point for a discussion on the relevance of Egyptology within the wider socio-political concerns of 21st century society.

The term 'palace-façade', coined by Ludwig Borchardt in *Das Grab des Menes* (1898), reflects an approach to the history of Ancient Egypt which emphasised the elite and mirrored 19th century social structures. The paper presents a new approach to this history using an interdisciplinary framework that incorporates the architectural theory of landscape biography with anthropological analyses of ritual practice. The paper offers an early view of preliminary work into a re-interpretation of the material evidence associated with the architectural term 'palace-façade' and a re-appraisal of ritual encounters in the non-Western culture of Ancient Egypt.

Keywords: Eurocentrism; Palace-façade; Material culture; Ritual; Interdisciplinary



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Absorbed Residue Analysis of Funerary Ceramics from the Early Dynastic Cemetery of Maassara (Helwan)

Amber HOOD (Lund University/German Archaeological Institute, Cairo)

This talk will present the results from organic residue analysis of an assemblage of ceramic sherds from Maassara (Helwan), which were excavated by Hjalmar Larsen in the last 1930s and are now held in the Museum of Mediterranean and Near Eastern Antiquities in Stockholm.

The ceramic assemblage spans the late Early Dynastic Period to the early Old Kingdom and includes vessel fragments typically diagnostic of this time period, e.g., bowls with an internal rim/lip, collared 'beer' jars and deep Meydum bowls.

Absorbed organic residue analysis using both GC-MS (gas chromatography-mass spectrometry) and GC-C-IRMS (gas chromatography-combustion-isotope ratio mass spectrometry) has successfully extracted lipids from the sherd material, enabling us to discuss vessel use in funerary contexts and to begin discussions centered upon diet, subsistence, animal husbandry and funerary traditions during this period. Organic residue analysis will be presented alongside contemporary archaeological evidence from the recent Helwan Project excavations. Additionally, the results will allow us to consider a (re)assessment of ceramic forms and their function.

Finally, this project will examine the potential of compound-specific lipid dating—a cutting-edge technique in archaeological science—on sherds exhibiting high lipid yield, in addition to optically stimulated luminescence dating, providing new possibilities for chronometric dating of Egyptian ceramics held in museum contexts.

Keywords: Interdisciplinary; Residue analysis; Chronometric dating; Ceramics; Helwan

Co-authors: Julie DUNNE (University of Bristol), E. Christiana KÖHLER (University of Vienna) & Friederike JUNGE (University of Vienna)



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Ulrich Jasper Seetzen and the Egyptian Collection at the Ducal Museum Gotha

Shih-Wei Hsu (Nankai University)

This poster aims to present my ongoing project of the Egyptian Collection at the Ducal Museum Gotha. During the Egyptian expedition of Napoleon (1769-1821) between 1798-1801, many scholars travelled to Egypt and drew attention to this country from different points of view. The magnificent volumes *Description de l'Égypte* were published from 1809 to 1829, and provided relevant information of Egypt at that time. Therefore, from the beginning of the 19th century onwards, a series of reflections, the so-called Egyptomania, arose from many perspectives. Ulrich Jasper Seetzen (1767-1811) lived exactly during this stream of obsession with ancient Egypt. He was a German doctor, botanist, and naturalist. However, the Duke Ernst II of Saxe-Gotha-Altenburg (1745-1804) and his son Emil Augustus (1772-1822) requested him to acquire original handwritten manuscripts and antiquities to establish an Oriental Museum in Gotha. He became thus an explorer, in particular of the Near Eastern world.

Seetzen's travel route from Damascus, Jerusalem, Palestine, Jordan to Egypt is shown in detail through his diaries and the correspondences between him and his friends. During his stay in Cairo, i.e., in Saqqara, Seetzen acquired a large number of manuscripts, antiquities, jewelry, household articles, animals, plants, minerals, mummies, etc. which were destined to form the proto-collection of the Gotha Museum. However, many acquisitions got lost over time. This poster will show two points: 1) Seetzen's detailed travel in Egypt and the background history of Egyptian collection at the Gotha Castle Museum; and 2) the contemporary Egyptian exhibition at the Ducal Museum Gotha.

Keywords: Ulrich Jasper Seetzen; Egyptian collection; Ducal Museum Gotha; 19th Century



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Decoration of Middle Kingdom Coffins from Beni Hassan: A (Re)productive Local Tradition

Lubica HUDÁKOVÁ (University of Vienna) & Uta SIFFERT (University of Vienna/Egyptian Museum, Bonn)

The Lower Necropolis of Beni Hassan plays an extraordinary role in the funerary archaeology of the Middle Kingdom. The site yielded nearly 900 tombs with a huge number of items, including coffins, all of which were found during two archaeological seasons in 1902/3 and 1903/4, conducted by John Garstang, his assistant Harold Jones and the ra'is Saleh Abd El Nebi. The coffins have been hardly accessible for study because of the short and very selective overview published in the excavation report in 1907. Moreover, due to Garstang's lavish division of the finds, the whereabouts of numerous coffins have been widely unknown until recently. In the course of the project Painted for Eternity (2019-2023), an in-depth examination of the history of excavation and the distribution of finds allowed for locating c. 74 decorated coffins (or fragments thereof) in museums all over the world. Careful study of published as well as archive material (excavation photographs, correspondence, documents) indicates that in total more than 260 coffins were discovered during the excavation. The project focused on the decorated coffins from an art-historical perspective, analysing the decorative scheme as well as the iconography of the decorative elements. The study revealed the existence of a well-established local tradition and involved an analysis of how the coffin decoration was produced. Important phenomena became visible in the coffin corpus: a) an extensive use of templates (for ornamental and non-ornamental texts as well as for the figurative decoration), b) prefabrication, and c) reuse. The poster shall present an overview of the project results.

Keywords: Coffin decoration; Middle Kingdom; Beni Hassan; John Garstang



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Shabtis Found Associated to a Mud-brick Offering Chapel at Dra Abu el-Naga North

Laura HUERTAS LÓPEZ (University of Seville/Djehuty Project)

A Spanish archaeological mission, known as Proyecto Djehuty, has been working on the excavation and restoration of the tomb-chapels of Djehuty, Hery (TT 11-12) and its surroundings at the north of Dra Abu el-Naga since 2001. In front of the open courtyard of TT 11, a relatively large mud-brick offering chapel was found, dating to the 17th or very early 18th dynasty.

To the northeast of the chapel, two shabti coffins and five stick-shabtis were found on the ground. These could have been votive offerings related to some cult associated with the chapel. All the stick-shabtis were inscribed combining hieroglyphs and hieratic signs, and most of them are dedicated to a certain Ahmose. In one case the name written is Ahmose Sapair. The latter was found wrapped in its original linen. Two other shabtis were found inside their wooden coffins.

To the southwest of the offering chapel, a model sarcophagus made of mud was found with the lid still in place and tied to the box by a string. Inside, a wooden shabti was wrapped in linen bandages. The figurine and one of the bandages had 'The Osiris, Djehuty' written in black ink.

A preliminary study of the shabtis, together with a description and evaluation of their archaeological context will be presented.

Keywords: Stick-shabti; Mud-brick chapel; Dra Abu el-Naga; Djehuty; Ahmose Sapair

Co-author: Jose GALAN (Spanish National Research Council, Madrid)



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Re-assessing the Historiographic Construction of Thutmose II: A New History for the Twenty-first Century

Trent HUGLER (Hertford College, University of Oxford)

A growing corpus of primary evidence together with a timely, critical aspiration to move beyond Egyptology's colonialist origins enables a reconsideration of narratives shaping New Kingdom historiography. This revisionist approach will frame this poster presentation of Thutmose II. Previously, he has been viewed as an elusive, barely-relevant early Eighteenth Dynasty ruler. As a result, insufficient consideration was devoted to the study of his life, reign, dynastic significance and afterlife. Therefore, I will re-evaluate the 'Thronwirren' theory, its aftermath, and the 'sickly-king' trope, driven by imperial, bellicose expectations of the king as conquering hero. These narratives envisaged Thutmose II as an ailing king, controlled by his 'dominating' half-sister/wife Hatshepsut, ruling in his name. Through a diachronic analysis to date the evidence for Thutmose II, especially his posthumous representations during Hatshepsut's regency for Thutmose III, and into their later co-rule, this poster presents this period's political dynamics from new perspectives emerging within contemporary Egyptology. Such recent research illustrates an unusual predicament: while little is reliably known about the actual period of Thutmose II's life and reign, there is substantial evidence for his royal presence in the period after his death. It is now evident that the posthumous representation of Thutmose II's imagery reveals more about the politics of the Hatshepsut/Thutmose III era than anything about Thutmose II himself, and as a result, earlier historiographic discourse dismissing his person as a sickly king unable to undertake the requirements of sole rulership has to be re-assessed.

Keywords: Thutmose II; Hatshepsut; Thutmose III; Historiography; Thronwirren; Sickly king



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Anat in Thebes: A Case of Cultural Translation and Hybridity

Jacqueline M. HUWYLER (University of Basel)

The goddess Anat, who was closely associated with warfare, violence, and hunting in her Syro-Palestinian homeland, made her appearance in Egypt as early as the Middle Kingdom, via her inclusion in an elite or royal personal name. However, her appearance in Thebes is not documented until the 18th dynasty reign of Amenhotep III (1390-1352 BCE), again via the realm of personal names. In Thebes, Anat has been found to appear on ostraca, on stelae, and in texts, many of which date to the 19th dynasty reign of Ramesses II (1279-1213 BCE). This paper provides an overview of all known attestations of Anat in personal names, texts, and images from Thebes, dating up to the end of the New Kingdom, c. 1069 BCE. The attestations are then analyzed to determine trends in their agents, audience, visibility, and 'readability', or ability to be read and comprehended. The aim of this research is to better document and understand the people involved in the appearance and worship of a Syro-Palestinian deity in Thebes, Egypt. What are some possible reasons why Anat found a foothold in Thebes? Who was involved in the creation and existence of the attestations? What type of audience had access to these attestations, and what sort of message, if any, did the attestations convey about Anat and her homeland? This research forms part of an ongoing doctoral study at the University of Basel Switzerland focussed on illuminating the agents, audience, and larger cultural significance of the introduction of Anat into Egypt, especially in relation to the anthropological concepts of cultural translation and hybridity.

Keywords: Anat; Thebes; Religion; Cultural hybridity; Cultural translation



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Material Entanglement in the Architecture of Jebel Barkal

Francesca IANNARILLI (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)

Among the historical phases that affected the Nile Valley, first the Napatan and then the Meroitic one certainly constituted a moment of strong interaction and/or clash between neighbouring communities, geographic areas and empires, namely Egypt and Kush, and later Rome. The encounter is physical and semantic, and is expressed in various manifestations of material culture, clearly recognisable through iconographic and architectural analysis.

The architectural elements pertaining to the structures of the Meroitic Royal District at Jebel Barkal (Napata, II cent. BCE – I cent. CE) clearly show a stylistic originality that treasures external artistic-cultural influences, mostly related to the Mediterranean world of the Hellenistic-Roman period, albeit still intimately connected to pharaonic Egypt, to rework the models according to a local and original perspective, providing excellent evidence for the 'material entanglement' (Stockhammer 2012; van Pelt 2013) in (not only-)stone architecture.

Keywords: Jebel Barkal; Architecture; Material entanglement; Meroitic



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Figurines of Harpocrates and Isis-Aphrodite from the Excavation in front of the First Pylon at Karnak Temples

Amira IBRAHIM (Archaeologist at Karnak Temples/Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

During the excavation season 2012-2013, a team from the Supreme Council of Antiquities discovered a large number of terracotta figurines from the residential area located to the north of the Karnak public Ptolemaic bath. Most of the figurines depicted ithyphallic Harpocrates and Isis Aphrodite and were more widespread throughout Egypt during the Graeco-Roman period.

These figurines were made of clay and are now preserved in the local storeroom at Karnak temples. They can be dated to the Ptolemaic period between the 2nd and 3rd centuries BC. These figurines seem to have different functions related to a cult of fertility and domestic practices during the Graeco-Roman Times.

This paper focusses on the figurines of Harpocrates and Isis-Aphrodite in an attempt to study the multiple uses of figurines in everyday religious household practices performed in this residential area during the Graeco-Roman period, in addition to their association with the popular beliefs of ordinary people.

Keywords: Karnak excavation; Figurines; Popular beliefs; Household; Harpocrates; Isis



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The Ancient Egyptian Celestial Diagrams: Between Tradition and Innovation

Yossra IBRAHIM (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz)

The celestial diagram is a term denoting a decorative motif that can depict a variety of stellar elements i.e., decans, constellations, and planets. This elaborate picture of the night sky was very well utilised from the New Kingdom onwards and can be found decorating multiple media such as the ceilings of tombs and temples, coffins and in some occurrences, it can also decorate the exterior of water clocks. The celestial diagram was open to accepting new traditions and showed a capacity to welcome new elements, e.g., the Ramesside star clock, the zodiac, and the four winds. With the introduction of the Babylonian zodiac, these astrological signs found their way among the classical images of the night sky and blended in perfect harmony. These zodiacs are not just a foreign addition to the celestial diagram, they are also greatly inspired by the Egyptian iconographic repertoire. Of particular interest is the group of Roman period coffins that exemplify an interest in personal astrology. These coffins are decorated with traditional celestial figures along with zodiacal elements that portray a great deal of Egyptian indigenous ideas and iconographies. The purpose of this presentation is to explore the primary celestial decorations and discuss the combination of foreign and Egyptian art forms in these sets of astronomical representations. It is the hope to elucidate how the zodiac was adopted to the classical images of the celestial diagram and to what extent it communicates Egyptian concepts.

Keywords: Astronomy; Celestial diagrams; Astronomical ceilings; Constellations; Zodiac



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Some Patterns in the Distribution of Titles on Family Monuments

Alexander ILIN-TOMICH (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz)

Egyptology often takes titles at their face value as labels to administrative posts or other occupations or as expressions of ranks conferred on bureaucrats. Scholars arrange titles hierarchically, establish their functions and catalogue their holders. The nature of sources attesting titles is not always figured in; whence the occasional underestimation of the situational nature of titles in expedition texts or of the aims of self-representation, dictating the choice of titles on familial monuments. This paper focusses on the latter aspect. Whereas earlier studies on titles in families often dealt with their transmission (Eichler, Nelson-Hurst, Favry), this paper examines the relation of titles with the ownership of monuments.

A database of Middle Kingdom and Second Intermediate Period personal data (<https://pnm.uni-mainz.de/>), currently expanding to cover early to mid-18th dynasty, allows analysing digitally the occurrence of titles on family stelae and in tombs. The dataset includes names, titles, relations. Out of totally 42,207 attestations of persons, 3,004 were owners of objects naming at least one other person of the same gender, and 410 were patrons of such monuments.

Various patterns can be established; thus, in the Middle Kingdom, holders of the titles *jmj-r3* *ḥnwtj* or *ḥrj-sšt3* were almost always owners of the respective monuments, whereas *ḥnḥ n njwt*, *ḥrj n tm*, or *sš n tm3* occur mainly in other positions (owners' fathers or sons).

Such patterns can emerge for varied reasons. Higher ranks facilitated getting a larger stela or an own tomb. Or rather, the choice of titles ascribed to the owner and to other family members on a monument could be due to the owner's intention to represent oneself in a better light, in accord with the prevalent image of an ideal career.

Keywords: Databases; Administration MK; Administration NK; Family



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Recent Discoveries at the Temple of Ramesses II in Abydos during the New York University-ISAW Field Seasons (2019-2022)

Sameh ISKANDER (Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University)

I will discuss in this presentation the recent archeological finds during the 2019-2022 seasons within the temple precinct, which included a temple palace connected to the temple by a walkway, several mud brick magazines, temple precinct enclosure walls, foundation deposits, a massive number of rams' heads, many of which are mummified, and the unusual packing of animal bones inside niches within the mud brick magazine walls.

The results also include the striking discovery of an Old Kingdom mud brick massive palatial structure that extends under the foundation of the northern part of temple's first pylon, and continues northward. The complete layout of this structure is not yet clear, nor its function, pending further explorations.

These standing structures, which until recently had been buried under the sand near the temple add considerable information about the ancient landscape of Abydos.

Keywords: Recent discoveries; Temple; Ramesses II; Abydos



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Early Ptolemaic Changes in Temple Architecture and Decoration

Konstantin IVANOV (Independent Researcher)

This paper is concerned with the development of Egyptian temples in the Graeco-Roman period. Initial observations suggest that different, relatively unrelated elements of temple architecture and decoration underwent changes at a similar point in time – around the end of the reign of Ptolemy II and the beginning of the reign of Ptolemy III. Later examples of the same elements demonstrate minimal variation or outright rigidity in their development. The chronological coincidence and the nature of the changes are indications which point towards a coordinated effort to reconfigure some of the inner workings of Egyptian temples. The subsequent relative stagnation indicates that, perhaps unintentionally, the early Ptolemaic designers set a standard which was observed and emulated until the twilight of Egyptian temple building.

Keywords: Temples; Decoration; Architecture; Edfu; Philae; Ptolemaic period; Ptolemy III



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Mountain of Seeds: Daily Life in Petra/Tuna el-Gebel

Jessica IZAK (German Archaeological Institute, Berlin)

Since 2018 the excavation of the Joint Mission Cairo-Munich at Tuna el-Gebel has been focussed on the mountain settlement named Petra. It dates to Ptolemaic and Roman times and consists of a temple and living quarters. In the seasons 2021/2022 the Joint Mission carried out in cooperation with the DAI Berlin a first archaeobotanical investigation. Huge quantities of plant material were found during the excavation of the Graeco-Roman tower house TG2018.MS1, e.g. amidst large heaps of domestic waste lying in and around the courtyard area. In addition to the plant macro-remains, the study also included the analysis of dung and mud bricks.

Few multi-period settlement sites have undergone thorough excavations that included archaeobotanical study. As a result, this site presents a great chance to examine changes and continuities in plant-use patterns within an Ancient Egyptian community. The aim of the study is to provide a first assessment of the cultivated and wild plants and to interpret them in order to characterize the nature of the mountain settlement. Hence the main focus is on the reconstruction of the everyday life of the inhabitants at that time. The perfectly preserved remains via desiccation allowed a first stratigraphic approach of this rubbish heap. The results confirm that the garbage found at the site correspond to human and animal waste, as well as leftovers of artisanal activities conducted on-site. By identifying the food remains very promising results can be yielded for the reconstruction of the dietary customs, which will be complemented by information obtained from papyri and associated archaeological artifacts. In addition, more detailed analyses are planned to reconstruct the full complexity of the farming system and the integration of livestock into it.

Keywords: Settlement archaeology; Archaeobotany; Graeco-Roman period; Food culture



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Egyptology and Archaeogaming: Exploring and Teaching Egypt through Video Games

Briana JACKSON (American Research Center in Egypt, Cairo)

Video games involving ancient themes have existed since the 1980s, but it was not until much more recently that academia broadly accepted such games as tools for archaeological education. The term “archaeogaming” was coined by Andrew Reinhard in 2018 (*Archaeogaming*), which he defined as “the archaeology in and of digital games”. The small but growing discipline often examines video games inspired by or set in antiquity through lenses of reception, cultural awareness, accuracy, intention, and educational merit. The discipline has seen explosive interest within the field of Classics, but in the field of Egyptology there has been little ground gained in the study of archaeogaming. In 2020, video games first gained momentum among Egyptologists, namely through the popular *Assassin’s Creed: Origins*, a video game set in Ptolemaic Egypt, which incorporated an education mode for learning about Ancient Egypt. This paper intends to present the merits of academically approaching video games about Ancient Egypt and to introduce ancient and modern themes that scholars might observe in several games set in Egypt and Western Asia. Furthermore, this paper shall present ways in which scholars may use video games to teach these themes in a way that is accessible not only to students in a classroom, but also to a broad public audience.

Keywords: Archaeogaming; Video games; Egyptology; Education; Digital



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The Importance of Being Digital: On the Production of Machine-Readable Hieroglyphic Texts

Heidi JAUHIAINEN (University of Helsinki)

With digital methods researchers can study large amounts of textual data and find patterns they might not otherwise see. For the researchers of hieroglyphic texts there are useful full-text-based digital dictionaries, such as Ramses Online and Thesaurus Linguae Aegyptiae (TLA). However, one must have openly available machine-readable texts to use methods other than those available at the online services. Despite the release of the TLA texts, the scarcity of machine-readable data hinders the digital study of hieroglyphic texts and the development of new methods. This leaves Egyptology at a disadvantage when competing for funding and students.

There is, however, already a tradition of making machine-readable hieroglyphic texts. When using hieroglyphic text editors to produce properly positioned hieroglyphs for print, Egyptologists encode the texts with the Gardiner Sign List extracted codes. Such encoded texts are machine-readable and contain the information needed to study many aspects of Ancient Egyptian language and culture and to develop new digital methods. Unfortunately, the binary encoding files are usually not published but, instead, are discarded after a picture of the text has been produced.

In the Machine-Readable Texts for Egyptologists (MaReTE) project I develop digital tools and methods using the TLA database extract and the sentence corpus of the Ramses automated transliteration software. Furthermore, to test the methods, I use the hieroglyphic text editor JSesh to encode texts from Deir el-Medina. In this paper, I will present a tool to turn binary encoding files into more reusable forms, as well as tools for semi-automatic annotation. These tools will be open-access and enable the re-use of encoded texts with digital methods.

Keywords: Digital Egyptology; Hieroglyphic texts; Machine-readable; Encoding



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Automatic Detection of Place and Time for Greek Texts in Egypt

Tommi JAUHIAINEN (University of Helsinki)

In this poster, we present the results of our experiments on the automatic detection of the place of origin and the time period for Greek papyri and ostraca written in Egypt. The period we are investigating ranges from 400 BCE to 900 CE. As our data we use all the transcribed texts available through the Papyri.info project. For further annotation and easier handling, we have ingested the texts and their metadata to the database of the PapyGreek project at the University of Helsinki. Currently, the collection contains metadata for over 100,000 texts, of which almost 60,000 have been transcribed. The origin of the texts (mostly the place where the physical object has been found) has been annotated in about 70% of the transcribed texts. The texts are primarily written in Greek, but some are multi-lingual, containing, e.g., Coptic and Latin. The Koine Greek used in the texts is expected to be written in a relatively standardized version of the language without much dialectal influence. In addition to verifying this supposition, we were interested in investigating whether some Egyptian and Greek personal and place names would be used differently in specific regions or periods. Also, many texts contain spelling errors that might differ from one time period to another. The errors might also contain clues on whether the writer was a native Greek speaker or if the text was written by an individual to whom Greek was a second language. In addition to the newest deep learning methods like BERT, we utilize several more traditional machine learning methods such as Naïve Bayes, Maximum Entropy, and SVM. Unlike deep neural networks, the traditional methods allow us to see which features contributed most to the decisions made by the automatic classifier.

Keywords: Digital papyrology; Digital Egyptology; Automatic text classification

Co-authors: Erik HENRIKSSON, Marja VIERROS & Heidi JAUHIAINEN



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Examining Emotions in the Ancient Egyptian Textual Record: A Case-Study of the ‘Sadness’ Semantic Field

Madeline JENKINS (Macquarie University)

The current research on emotions argues that emotions are bio-cultural phenomena. While emotions have a strong biological basis, cultural attitudes, values, and beliefs play a significant role in shaping how emotions are conceptualised, lexicalised, expressed and appraised within different historical and cultural contexts. Further, the words used to label emotions, such as ‘sadness’ exhibit a high degree of cross-cultural variability. Consequently, emotion words seldom have exact equivalents across languages. This insight has important implications for the study of emotions in the ancient past, as it is not possible to examine “what made the Ancient Egyptians ‘sad’?” for example, without first determining whether such Anglophone emotion concepts existed in the Ancient Egyptian context in the first place.

Against this background, this paper argues that investigations of Ancient Egyptian emotions must first begin by establishing the precise meanings of Egyptian emotion lexemes, without presuming that they mirror modern conceptions and categorisations of emotions. This paper proposes that the innovative combination of a lexical-semantic method with theoretical concepts from the History of Emotions approach is a profitable method for exploring Ancient Egyptian emotions, as preserved in textual sources. This paper demonstrates the rich insight to be gained from this method through a case study examination of Ancient Egyptian lexemes traditionally ascribed to the ‘sadness’ semantic field.

This paper offers a more nuanced understanding of the emotional world of the Ancient Egyptians, as preserved in the textual record. Additionally, it contributes a deep diachronic perspective to worldwide emotions research, particularly cross-linguistic, comparative emotion research.

Keywords: Lexical semantics; Emotions; History of emotions; Hieroglyphic Egyptian



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On the Right Side of the King: A Microhistorical Study of High Official Titles in the Early 19th Dynasty

Bente Bladsgaard JENSEN (Sapienza University of Rome)

This paper explores the different ways in which Ancient Egyptian administrative structures can be influenced based on titles, which were used by a limited group of high officials, and the activities of these individuals during the early Ramesside period of the 19th dynasty (c. 1305-1225 BC). At the core is a prosopographical study of the vizier Paser used as a case. The large number of monuments, artefacts and inscriptions with a known provenance connected to this particular vizier allow an investigation into how and when specific titles were used by him. Furthermore, it is possible to examine some specific functions of the vizier through his use of titles. The material is contextualised by that of contemporary high officials, who held the same or similar offices as Paser, namely viziers and high priests of Amun and Ptah, which is analysed through a multi-faceted interdisciplinary approach, done by using methodology and theory of microhistory, philology, archaeology and anthropology, in order to look at the topic of administration and titles in a new light.

Part of the study presented here is a suggestion to the renewal of theoretical Egyptology, which in recent years has received criticism for being Eurocentric and lacking willingness to move away from the classic conceptions of Ancient Egypt. Therefore, the increasing movement towards an interdisciplinary approach of Egyptological research is followed here. By implementing methodology and theory of related disciplines, the goal is to work towards a more unbiased field of research.

This presents the preliminary findings of the research for my dissertation conducted at La Sapienza University of Rome 2021-2024.

Keywords: Interdisciplinarity; Administration; Vizier; Titles; Ramesside



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To See or to Be Seen: Visibility Analyses and Distribution of the Territory in the New Kingdom Necropolis of Dra Abu el-Naga

Ángeles JIMÉNEZ-HIGUERAS (University of Granada)

The visibility studies applied to Dra Abu el-Naga allow us to understand the reasons behind the election of the place to build a tomb during the New Kingdom. These kinds of studies have been motivated by the idea that the tomb owner wished to see from his eternal resting place in his desire to connect with the funerary and cult monuments in the Theban necropolis, as well as to participate symbolically in the religious festivities.

The views from the tombs have been researched as opposed to the study of the views to the tombs, which has opened a new line of research that has significantly improved our understanding of the spatial organisation, distribution and development of the Theban necropolis. If these two analyses are combined, the connection between willing to see and willing to be seen in the necropolis will be complete. Likewise, establishing the existence or lack of visibility reciprocity between the tombs and the Theban necropolis surroundings will be very valuable since the intervisibility between the tombs in the study area with the funerary monuments and temples will help us to clarify the links and connections between them across the funerary landscape.

Following the rationale of these studies, the aim of this paper will be to compare the two types of visibility analyses with its connection between willing to see and to be seen, since this comparison will provide us with more information to ascertain whether the distribution of the tombs was determined or influenced by visibility to and from certain monuments. In this way, we will be offered an overview of the building context of the tombs and the reasons behind the choice of a certain place for their location.

Keywords: Dra Abu el-Naga; Visibility analyses; Territory; GIS; Landscape archaeology



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Book of the Dead in 3D: Learning from the Past and Planning for the Future

Kea JOHNSTON (Independent Researcher)

The ability to easily create and view 3D models provides an excellent opportunity to study the interaction between textual content and the spatial positioning of text on the surface of material culture. Since 2016, the Book of the Dead in 3D Project has built 3D models of over 18 coffins and sarcophagi, providing each model, along with background research and bibliography on our website and associated Sketchfab page. For eight of these coffins, full translations are available and visitors to the website can click on the text on the coffin to read translations, transliterations, and notes while rotating and moving the model in 3D. A secondary goal of the project is to highlight and make available to scholars the many relatively unknown coffins in small regional collections in the United States.

Over the course of the COVID 19 pandemic, several Egyptian scholars joined the project and worked with us to translate the content and UI of the site into Arabic to make the material more accessible to scholars in Egypt and the Arab world. During this process, it became increasingly apparent that in order to grow and to provide translations to texts in both languages, the page would need an easy and extensible way to add new models and annotations in both languages.

This talk will give a summary of the project and the Arabic localization but will focus on the current ongoing project to upgrade the site. We are currently developing a viewer that will allow visitors to the site to view and manipulate 3D models, clicking on the text to highlight the entire text area and to view translations and transliterations in Arabic or English. For scholars, an editor will facilitate the easy addition of new models, and the ability to mark areas of the model to associate with annotations provided.

Keywords: Coffins; Digital Humanities; Photogrammetry; Funerary books; Funerary art



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Some Insights on the Boats of Hatshepsut in the Portico of Obelisks

Ewa JÓZEFOWICZ (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures of the Polish Academy of Sciences)

The current project concerning the Portico of Obelisks in Hatshepsut's temple at Deir el-Bahari included documenting the decoration in higher detail than the 100 years old publication by É. Naville. This yielded some interesting linguistic, visual, and historical details regarding the boats of Hatshepsut. They will be presented together in this paper to showcase the variety of interdisciplinary data that the Portico of Obelisks has to offer, and the usefulness of revisiting already published monuments. The key linguistic element is the official name of Hatshepsut's boat, discovered after combining the text on a loose block from one of the temple's blockyards and a partially erased inscription in the reconstructed part of the portico's wall. This is a relatively rare occurrence, for less than 50 such names of real boats are known. The name is similar in construction to other boats' names of the New Kingdom. A detail that pertains to both the linguistic and visual areas is the very specific hieroglyph used as the determinative for the obelisks barge. It has been noted in the past, but not commented upon, and it possibly indicates the actual look of the obelisks barge. The fully visual information is the depiction of various types of boats taking part in the fluvial transport of the obelisks. The boats are represented both in great detail and with the conciseness typical of Ancient Egyptian art. There is no doubt that the scenes represent a historical event, but the level of symbolism, and said conciseness due to limited space, have led to a discussion that is still not fully resolved today. Some insights regarding details of the portico's decoration may help to interpret part of the matters in question.

Keywords: Hatshepsut; Deir el-Bahari; Portico of Obelisks; Boats



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The Dagger of Ahhotep: Gender Roles at the Dawn of the New Kingdom

Beth Ann JUDAS (Rowan University)

The tomb of Ahhotep, a queen and co-ruler with her son, pharaoh Ahmose, was unique as it held objects that would have been traditionally assigned to a grave of a male warrior: An axe, two daggers, and gold flies of honour. One of the daggers in the collection of grave goods was inscribed with the name of Ahmose, and was decorated with motifs that have associations with kingship and violence. However, the archaeological context of the dagger in a woman's tomb has led to the pommel and the hilt guard being associated with female symbolic values than male kingship symbolic values. The heads on the pommel of the dagger are generally assigned female identities rather than male identities due to Ahhotep's gender. The weapons and the flies of honour that were placed into the tomb were clearly included in honour of Ahhotep's role in the reunification of Egypt. This paper will explore why the heads represented on the pommel may be male rather than female as previously suggested.

Keywords: Ahhotep; Dagger; Reunification of Egypt; Tomb of Ahhotep; Gender roles



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A New Reading of the Colophon of the Blinding of Truth by Falsehood (pChester Beatty II)

Judith JURJENS (Leiden University)

Only a few traces remain of the colophon of the Blinding of Truth by Falsehood (pChester Beatty II). It is in fact so fragmentary that Gardiner remarked that it seemed useless to discuss the remaining traces in detail (*LES*, p. 36a). Later scholars also did not concern themselves with the colophon, their focus lying primarily on the text itself. However, in recent years material philology has shown the importance of looking beyond the text at the material object itself, stating that paratextual features such as colophons provide information about the social context in which the text was produced. This paper serves as a showcase of the potential of this contextualized approach for future research in Egyptology, presenting a study of the colophon of pChester Beatty II. It is argued that one of the scribes mentioned in the colophon can be identified as the scribe Piay, known from pTurin C (Miscellanies) where he is mentioned in the title as the scribe who wrote the document for his apprentice. The paper offers a partial reconstruction of the colophon, as well as an improved reading of Gardiner's transcription. As a result of this new reading, the colophon sheds light on the social context of the papyrus, showing that teaching activities took place within the mortuary temple of Ramses III. Furthermore, the now established link between pChester Beatty II and pTurin C provides more evidence that the Chester Beatty papyri and the Turin papyri complement each other (cf. Roccati 2009, pp. 46-47).

Keywords: Colophon, Chester Beatty II, Piay, Education, Turin C, Material philology



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Indigenous Heritage at the Sharm el-Sheikh Museum

Faten KAMAL (Sharm el-Sheikh Museum/Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

Sharm el-Sheikh is an attractive destination for many international conferences and diplomatic meetings. In 2020, the Sharm el-Sheikh Museum opened as an additional offering catering to educational and cultural tourism given the high percentage of international tourists to the area.

The Museum precinct spans 192,000 m² and contains 5,200 artifacts predominantly from Ancient Egypt, but also from the Graeco-Roman, Coptic, Islamic, and Bedouin civilizations.

The Museum's aim is twofold: (1) To connect the promising cultural destination of Sinai with the cultures of the whole world, and (2) to work closely with local Sinai communities in order to share cross-cultural stories and experiences with the city of Sharm el-Sheikh.

One of these key local communities is that of the Bedouins – a tribal community descendant from immigrants who arrived in the Arabian Peninsula between the 14th and 18th centuries AD. Currently the Museum displays artifacts which represent their daily life customs, but via close community consultation and collaboration, we are now working to reinvigorate these displays through storytelling, interviews, bilingual label text, and knowledge exchange.

This paper will therefore share some of our experiences to date in establishing these relationships with the local Bedouin community and developing our new displays, including capturing oral histories with local Bedouin craftsmen, organizing exhibitions representing their artisanal handcrafts, and other social activities.

Keywords: Indigenous heritage; Bedouin civilization; Sharm el-Sheikh; Sinai



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The Bark Stand of Isis from Berenike

Olaf KAPER (Leiden University)

The temple of Isis in Berenike is situated in the middle of this international harbour town on the Red Sea. The temple was the only large Egyptian style temple in the Eastern Desert and it was extensively rebuilt in the reign of Tiberius. A bark stand for Isis was found buried under the floor of its sanctuary room. The stand is decorated with eight images of Tiberius supporting the sky as well as two fragmentary texts. This lecture will examine the cultural connections of the stand and compare it with surviving stands in Koptos and elsewhere in Egypt and Sudan, as well as the possible reasons for burying the stand. By taking this perspective, the Egyptian cult practices of a remote temple are brought to the fore as they were maintained in the context of the wide trade networks of the Roman world.

Keywords: Temple cult; Roman Empire; Isis of Koptos; Development of religious practice



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Reconstructing the Layout of Ancient Egyptian Monuments in the Digital Era – Solutions and Challenges: The Example of the Temple of Thutmose I in Qurna

Katarzyna KAPIEC (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures, Polish Academy of Sciences)

The work on the theoretical reconstruction of the Ancient Egyptian monuments has significantly changed with the arrival of the digital era. With more and more precise and easier to navigate digital tools, the work has been simplified in a general sense, however, bringing a few challenges too.

The variety of digital instruments available to Egyptologists nowadays allows the creation of a unique method applied in the reconstruction work, tailored to the needs of the reconstruction of the decoration of individual buildings. The approach implemented by the authors in the theoretical reconstruction of the layout of the temple of Thutmose I in Qurna is the outcome of the authors' experience in epigraphic work in the temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari and the specifics of the assemblage of blocks coming from the above-mentioned temple in Qurna. The severe fragmentation of the decoration along with inconsistent information regarding the dimensions of the edifice requires specific solutions to determine the scale and possible arrangement of the wall scenes.

The paper aims to present the method, tools and processes applied by the authors in the theoretical reconstruction of the temple of Thutmose I in Qurna, discuss the solutions that digital tools bring, and also point out the challenges that the digital work area may create.

Keywords: Temple of Thutmose I; Thutmose I/Hatshepsut; Reconstruction; Digital Egyptology

Co-author: Jadwiga IWASZCZUK (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures, Polish Academy of Sciences)



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Hatshepsut Builds the Perfect, Pure, Enduring and Splendid House for Amun: A Study of Selected Texts from the Northern Chamber of Amun at the Temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari

Katarzyna KASPRZYCKA (University of Warsaw)

In the so-called Northern Chamber of Amun in the temple of Hatshepsut in Deir el-Bahari are found texts that have not yet been thoroughly studied, published only by E. Naville. Three of them are particularly noteworthy, in which Amun thanks the queen for building the temple of Djeser-djeseru. In the god's gratefulness there are words referring to the temple, which in the following sentences call it differently. One of these is the term *ḫwnn*, not very common in Egyptian texts, the meaning of which is ambiguous and still discussed, although it seems to refer to the architecture of the temple.

The analysed words occur in texts that are one of the many propaganda elements related to the legitimacy of the queen placed by Hatshepsut in the temple at Deir el-Bahari, and they also emphasise the temple's significance in the cult of Amun.

Keywords: Deir el-Bahari; Hatshepsut; Amun; Building; Temple; Terms; *ḫwnn*



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Tutankhamun's Canopied Ceremonial Chariot: A Royal Vehicle for the Afterlife?

Nozomu KAWAI (Kanazawa University)

The Grand Egyptian Museum Joint Conservation Project by the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities has proved that the 'Second State Chariot of the King' has been attached to the canopy, which had been considered an independent mobile canopy for the king by the excavator Howard Carter (Kawai et al. 2020). Due to the fragile condition of the chariot and canopy, we have created a virtual reconstruction by using a 3D laser scanner. It can now be inferred that the 'Second State Chariot of the King' was equipped with a canopy that functioned as a sunshade. The two-wheeled chariot with a canopy is represented in the scenes of the Battle of Kadesh during the reign of Ramesses II. In these iconographies, only one pillar of the canopy is depicted, but since Ancient Egyptian iconographic representations were not realistic, it is thought that the actual one was omitted. The chariot with the canopy from the tomb of King Tutankhamun, however, is a complex and delicate structure unsuitable for battle use. The 'Second State Chariot of the King' body is gilded and decorated with various inscriptions and images. It can be assumed from the texts and images that the chariot was used for royal ceremonial festivals and parades instead of battlefields. It is known that the ritual function of the two-wheeled chariot began during the reign of Akhenaten and that the two-wheeled chariot rider, who was likened to the god Aten, was an object of worship. Still, there is no clear evidence that the chariot had the same function in Tutankhamun's reign. It will be suggested that such a royal ceremonial chariot from the tomb of Tutankhamun may have been buried for the king's continuous eternal ride in the afterlife.

Keywords: Tutankhamun; Chariot; Canopy; 3D reconstruction; Ceremony; Afterlife



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Regions in Flux: Transformation of Sacred Spaces

Mohamed KENAWI (University of Leicester)

Once the power of ancient Egyptian religion and temples decreased, a new religious elite spread over the country during the early Christian and later Islamic periods. At the same time the landscape of ancient towns, villages, and temples started to change, becoming constituted by hundreds of domestic structures, churches and mosques that chaotically occupied the same space. This landscape was represented in the early travellers' and researchers' drawings and photographs since 1700. During the 20th and 21st centuries, the landscape dramatically changed again, and heritage sites became surrounded by rough, crowded red brick structures, which in most cases hide the traditional landscape of a village or a town. What has remained of the ancient landscape?

Early Christians and Muslims continued using the same sacred ancient landscape and re-used architectural remains in the new buildings in many instances. There was no contrast or conflict until the medieval era.

This poster will showcase some examples of the re-use of sacred space through time from the dynastic to the Islamic period, excluding the well-known examples from Luxor and Cairo. It will focus on re-use of architectural elements within the new religious buildings.

Keywords: Middle Egypt; Upper Egypt; Coptic; Islamic; Landscape; Future of Egyptology



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Beyond Pyramids and Golden Treasures: Communicating Ancient Egypt to the Egyptian Public Audience Today

Fatma KESHK (French Institute for Oriental Archaeology, Cairo/Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology, Cairo)

This paper discusses the facts, challenges and potential of communicating Egyptological knowledge to the Egyptian public audience today. Drawing on her experience in heritage outreach, the author of the abstract started in 2016 a research that aims to study the perception of Ancient Egypt in contemporary Egypt. This research provided clearer understanding of all sources of knowledge such as educational curricula, modern literature, movies and social media. This research highlighted how the public audience in Egypt is exposed to a set of repeated narratives that focus on pyramids and golden treasures. Based on her research of 2016, the author developed several projects that aim to present narratives shaped on the basis of the growing Egyptological knowledge through an engaging presentation.

One of these projects is the lecture series Egyptology bel Araby (Egyptology in Arabic) since September 2020; it attempts to present reliable Egyptological content in Arabic to a non-specialist audience. Other projects included the authorship of a book for the young audience with the title *Archaeological Clichés*, where each chapter provides facts of a famous information that was repeatedly taught to students in Egypt but needs significant clarification. In 2019, the author presented for the young audience a fictional tale inspired by the ancient and modern heritage of Shutb, including the results of archaeological excavations in the village since 2016. The author was notably able to improve all engagement methods of the heritage outreach workshops led by the author. These methods were experimented during a workshop at the National Museum of Rashid in 2022 for a group of young students on the occasion of the bicentenary of the decipherment of hieroglyphs.

Keywords: Perception of Ancient Egypt; Heritage outreach; Community engagement



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Silver Handicraft Safeguarding as a Privileged Legacy of Ancient Egyptian Intangible Heritage

Eman KHALLAF (Alexandria University)

The concept of identifying the ages with materials and metals – Stone, Bronze, and Iron Ages – indicates the strong bond between man and materials since ancient times. Despite the controversial evidence concerning the existence of native silver ores in Ancient Egypt, silver handicrafts dated back to the Predynastic period were excavated. Although silver continued to exist as a distinctive element in the manufacture of traditional handicrafts, the emergence of several counter-factors affected the craft such as: The entry of technology, import, and economic problems. Thus, it no longer received the prestigious status it held since ancient times. Focussing on the new approaches towards the aspects of heritage conservation and sustainable cultural development, it is essential to recognize the role of craftsmanship in the revival of the intangible heritage through the traditional handmade production.

The continuity of crafts as intangible sources and the existence of tangible inherited objects are of a main vital enrichment for the socio-cultural identity of communities. The study identifies the earliest historical and archaeological evidence concerning the existence of silver handicraft in Egypt in which selected objects and scenes will be presented to emphasize the Egyptian indigenous identity of this manufacture. The main aim of this study is to investigate both issues: The Egyptian indigenous identity of the craft and ways of merging the current silver manufacture status with its authentic roots as an inherited Egyptian handicraft in order to employ this traditional industry in the revival and preservation of the Egyptian authentic identity.

Keywords: Ancient Egypt; Silver handicraft; Heritage; Safeguarding; Sustainability



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Egyptian Linguistics in a Digital Era: Goals and Interim Results for the LCDE-Project at Basel University

Marwan KILANI (University of Basel)

The ‘Like the conversation of a Delta man with a man from Elephantine!’ (LCDE) project is a new 4-year project based at the University of Basel (starting date: 1st of August 2022).

The main goal of the project is to explore the interactions between dialectal realities, Levantine loanwords, and sociocultural dynamics in New Kingdom Egyptian from a fresh and innovative sociolinguistic perspective. The project aims at being innovative also in its methods, which are characterized by the use of newly compiled linguistic databases for the Egyptian language, and by the deployment of various digital tools and algorithms both to organize and analyze the data. The presentation will focus on this digital and computational dimension, and it will present three linguistic databases developed within the frame of the project, namely: 1) A database collecting the attestations of Levantine placenames in New Kingdom sources (developed in collaboration with Anna Khoury – Basel University), which includes various subsets of data and metadata for further processing through linguistic algorithms, GIS software, etc.; 2) a dataset collecting basic vocabulary from Middle and Late Egyptian sources (developed in collaboration with Melina Jakobs – Basel University), and built according to the most recent standards in general computational linguistics (and linked with general linguistic databases like Concepticon, LexiBank, etc.), and 3) an Egyptian-Coptic etymological database designed to be compatible with all most modern computational linguistics libraries (e.g. the LingPy Python library). The presentation will provide an overview of these datasets, of their characteristics, the challenges encountered in building them, and their potential uses and usefulness for other scholars beyond the LCDE project.

Keywords: Computational linguistics; Digital Egyptology; Databases; Lexical studies



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Between Closed and Opened: The Iconography of the Semi-closed Doors in Alexandrian Funerary Art

Sara KITAT (Alexandria University)

The iconography of the semi-closed doors was early attested on the tombstones and loculi slabs from Alexandrian tombs such as el-Shatby tomb and Hadara. The shape of the semi-closed door accompanied other Graeco-Egyptian elements such as figures of jackals flanking the door, Nemesis as a winged griffin, and the falcon of God Horus. Moreover, the semi-opened door was usually set being topped by the pediment and a dentil frieze. The iconography of the semi-opened doors was also found in altars and continued to be found in Alexandria after Christianity. There is an Alexandrian-Coptic altar that takes the shape of a cup-shaped grave altar. It is identical to a terracotta altar discovered in the tomb of Gabbari from the imperial period. Generally, semi-opened doors could be categorized into two types; the first type, which is the most common type, is where the two leaves of the door are half closed. However, nothing behind the door appears. The second type represents one of the two leaves opened and the other leaf is closed. This remarkable scene appeared on a Roman altar. Behind the opened door leaf, a figure of a uraeus in high relief is executed. Furthermore, the two-door leaves were usually excavated plain without any decoration. Rare examples represent every door leaf divided into two panels; upper and lower ones. This paper aims to trace the origin of the iconography of the semi-closed doors in the various aspects of Alexandrian funerary art. The paper approaches the religious concept as well as the artistic features of this remarkable scene. The interpretation of the scene depends on the general theme and context of the pieces in question. Thus, this paper aims to interpret this iconography as one of the unique scenes found in the profane art of Alexandria.

Keywords: Semi-opened door; Tomb; Macedonian; Alexandria; Tomb stone; Tomb slab; Altar



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Power, Emotion, and Pain: Analysing the Conceptualization of Fire in the Ancient Egyptian Textual Record

Jessica KNEBEL (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz)

Fire is presented ambiguously in various Ancient Egyptian texts. While some written sources indicate the light or protection function, others focus on the destructive or punitive connotation of fire. Furthermore, metaphors of fire are also attested in Ancient Egyptian textual sources constituting both universal and culturally specific ways of expressing human attitudes and values.

By examining the conceptual domain FIRE with methods from semantics and cognitive linguistics, this paper highlights the importance of an interdisciplinary approach. Following this interdisciplinary approach, I will show how a combination of lexical semantics with theoretical-methodological concepts from cognitive linguistics can shed light on the ancient Egyptian conceptualization of FIRE, as preserved in the Ancient Egyptian texts.

Using case studies from diverse text genres, this paper explores how fire was perceived and conceptualized in Ancient Egyptian text sources. More specifically, it will analyse various metaphors to demonstrate how ambiguous the metaphorical perception of fire can be.

This paper is based on my PhD project within the Research Training Group 1876 “Early Concepts of Humans and Nature: Universal, specific, interchanged” and will present some preliminary results of my research.

Keywords: Interdisciplinary research; Language; Texts; Metaphor studies



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The Materiality of Time: Towards a New Chronological System for Ancient Egypt

E. Christiana KÖHLER (University of Vienna)

Ancient Egypt has long been considered a major reference point for chronologies in Eastern Mediterranean and Levantine archaeology. Since the late 20th century, when new and more refined chronometric methods allowed for highly accurate datings of archaeological contexts in the areas neighbouring Egypt (e.g., via 14C or dendrochronology), such synchronisms were increasingly called into question for the building of local chronologies. Also within Egyptology attempts were made to synchronize historical and absolute chronologies and to build a more precise chronological system for Ancient Egypt. However, what these attempts are lacking is the methodical use of archaeological relative chronology in Egyptian archaeology, because most archaeological sites, contexts and artefacts are dated within the historical, i.e., dynastic, chronology of Egypt. This also applies to Predynastic Egypt whose chronology rests on cultural-historical narratives. As a result, Ancient Egypt is probably the only major archaeological culture without an archaeological relative chronology that would allow for independently dating non-elite, provincial and domestic archaeological evidence for which the historical chronology is not suitable.

This paper proposes to remedy the situation and to call for a new chronological system that is built on three different chronological approaches: Historical, absolute and relative chronology. In particular it aims to lay the groundwork for establishing a relative chronology which is based on the comprehensive scientific analysis of archaeological evidence in order to devise chronological phases for the Egyptian Nile Valley and Delta between ca. 5000 and 300 BCE.

Keywords: Chronologies; Material culture; Archaeological science



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Egyptian Amulets as Objects of ‘Exotic’ (?) Offerings with Ingenious Magical Value and Efficacy in Receptive Cultures: The Case of the Minoan and Rhodian Egyptian and Egyptianised Amuletic Motifs

Panagiotis KOUSOULIS (University of the Aegean)

This presentation attempts to investigate elements and aspects of magical interactivity and praxis in the ancient Mediterranean through the examination of certain Egyptian and Egyptianising material of amuletic value from Crete and Rhodes, with a special focus on the designating criteria, problems of definition/perception and transformation of the Egyptian religious values, icons and identities within the local ideology, as well as phenomenological modes of familiarity and creative misreadings. Possible differentiations according to the ideological values and conceptions and in relation with the user's ideological background will also be examined.

Keywords: Egyptian; Minoan; Amulet; Magic; Aegyptiaca

Co-author: Christina PAPADAKI (University of the Aegean)



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Deadlier Seasons? Investigating the Seasonality of Death in the Graeco-Roman Cemetery at Saqqara

Iwona KOZIERADZKA OGUNMAKIN (University of Warsaw)

Ancient Egyptian life was governed by the rhythm of the Nile and its seasonal flooding, which was a symbol of life and rejuvenation, but could also create conditions conducive to higher morbidity and mortality across the land. As many diseases leave no trace in skeletal remains, the study of spatial orientation of inhumations has potential to shed light on the seasonality of death in Ancient Egypt. It has been observed that in later periods burial alignment was closely associated with the movement of the sun across the horizon, with the bodies placed on the east-west axis, with the head to the west. Accepting that this orientation was a standard practice, any deviation from this alignment would reflect differences in the position of the sun on the horizon in different times of year. Using the spatial distribution and demographic data from a cemetery located immediately west to the Step Pyramid funerary complex, we have investigated a seasonality of death during the Graeco-Roman period at Saqqara. The poster will present the results of our investigation based on hundreds of inhumations documented during ongoing excavations at this multi-period ancient necropolis. The results will be compared with the existing data from contemporary cemeteries at Giza, Saqqara and Abusir to explore the pattern of the seasonality of death in the Memphite necropolis with regards to environmental conditions as well as economic and religious factors.

Keywords: Saqqara; Graeco-Roman Period; Seasonality of death; Burials; Health; Environment

Co-authors: Julia CHYLA (University of Warsaw) & Kamil Omar KURASZKIEWICZ (University of Warsaw)



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Religious Change and the (Dis)continuation of the Use of Graeco-Roman Amulets in Late Antique Egypt

Patricia KRET (Leiden University)

Graeco-Roman amulets were used to deal with difficulties of life, such as disease and danger. Their users believed that the objects had the power to change lives. While early Christianity brought religious change, the use of ancient amulets continued – despite critique from the church fathers. Yet, amulets are not a static phenomenon and they evolved as their religious context changed. Earlier research focussed on the religious changes in the textual or iconographical aspects of amulets. My dissertation adds another layer: It researches changes in the use, motives and motivations to understand underlying religious choices.

This poster deals with locations. Ancient amulets were used all over the (former) Roman empire, but Egyptian sources play an exceptional role: We may think of the Greek and Demotic magical papyri, the amulets from places like Oxyrhynchus and the comments of abbot Shenoute of Atripe. These late antique sources are often understood within larger arguments on 'Graeco-Roman' religious practices. While this is a valid use of sources, it should be kept in mind that they were created within their own Egyptian context.

In this poster I focus on a specific corpus of approximately 40 late antique amulets and recipes for fever, 20 from Egypt and 20 from the rest of the empire. They will be explored to problematize the question how the use of amulets in Egypt relates to the rest of the Roman empire. The following questions will be asked of each amulet: Is the disease understood in a similar manner, were the same materials believed to 'work', do we see differences in use, and why might this be?

This poster should be seen in an interdisciplinary context and contributes to reflections on the exchange between the fields of Ancient History and Egyptology.

Keywords: Amulets; Magic; Religion; Roman Period; Christianity; Late Antiquity



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The Cult of Osiris at Tebtynis: An Overview

Andrea KUCHARÉK (Heidelberg University)

The Roman period papyrus archive pertaining to the temple of Sobek at Tebtynis in the Fayum preserves, besides literary and scientific texts, numerous fragments of cultic papyri. While there is hardly any architectural evidence for a local cult of Osiris, the papyrus record shows that it must have played a significant role in the cultic life of the temple. The archive has not only produced ritual texts already known from other sources (in particular papyri used in private burials) but also texts hitherto unknown. Examples of the former include the Lamentations of Isis and Nephthys, the Great Decree and the Great Ceremonies of Geb. Of the latter, there is, for instance, the Procession Text (related to the Great Decree version used at Tebtynis), a fragment of an intriguing text most likely about the creation of an Osirian figurine, as well as a number of fragments of one or perhaps two papyri whose purpose appears to have been the introduction of the cult of Osiris-Antinoos at Tebtynis.

The study and publication of Osirian ritual texts as preserved on late fragmentary papyri mostly from Tebtynis has been the object of a long-term project undertaken by the speaker since 2011. The presentation provides an overview of the Osirian texts from Tebtynis and, based on their evidence, attempts to map out the specific features of the cult of Osiris at Tebtynis.

Keywords: Osiris, Ritual, Hieratic, Temple cult, Religion, Tebtynis, Graeco-Roman period



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Reassessing Collapse: Craft Production in the Late Old Kingdom

Nisha KUMAR (Harvard University)

In many ways, the traditional narratives about the end of the Old Kingdom have been shaped by ideas of collapse, decentralization, and the loss of quality in production. This history that has long since been ingrained in us affirms that with the loss of power in the Capital Zone, provincial areas in Egypt were able to fill the power vacuum under the rule of local nomarchs. It is often surmised that the subsequent outcome of this regionalization coincided with the fragmentation of long-distance trade networks for raw materials and the loss of refined artistic schools. But perhaps there is more to be understood regarding craft traditions and the overall social networks of Egypt during this period. This presentation aims to introduce research pertaining to my dissertation, which deals with the complexity of craft production at this time. Centering around this discussion will be the faience workshops that were excavated by IFA Excavations at Abydos in 2006. The findings from this season revealed workshops on the periphery of a late Old Kingdom and First Intermediate Period town. The faience workshops from this site revealed that high quality products were being manufactured here. The faience produced in this location is believed to have been used in some of the jewelry and other miscellaneous items which have been found in the burials of a neighbouring cemetery. Through the lens of such production centers, more depth can be added to the otherwise simplistic narratives about the sophistication of craft production during this time.

Keywords: Craft production; Late Old Kingdom; First Intermediate Period



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On Literacy and Education of Ancient Egyptian Artists

Dimitri LABOURY (Fund for Scientific Research-FNRS/University of Liège)

One of the most salient and noticeable characteristics of Ancient Egyptian culture undoubtedly is its hieroglyphic script, whose 'code' was cracked two hundred years ago, in 1822, by the brilliant French linguist Jean-François Champollion, the founding father of Egyptology. The complexity of this writing system resulted in a low literacy rate among the pharaonic population. The paper will address the important question of the level(s) of literacy and scholarly education among the makers of the countless hieroglyphic monuments which still make the fame of Ancient Egypt today. Was every Ancient Egyptian artist capable of reading and writing hieroglyphs? Can we use the relation of Ancient Egyptian artists to written culture as a probe to analyse their education and professional hierarchy? And in that society, who were the real experts in hieroglyphic writing?

Keywords: Ancient Egyptian artists; Hieroglyphic literacy



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This is Ramesses IX, Signing off: Some Final Remarks on the So-called Archive of Ramesses IX at the Museo Egizio in Turin

Martina LANDRINO (University of Leipzig/Egyptian Museum, Turin)

The papyrus collection of the Museo Egizio in Turin hosts about thirty documentary papyri with texts dated – or attributed – to Ramesses IX and connected with the administration of the community of Deir el-Medina. Since 2018, this corpus has been the subject of my PhD research, which is going to be the first complete publication of the material. Transliterations, translations, transcriptions, comments, photos, and digital reconstructions are uploaded regularly to the online database Turin Papyrus Online Platform (TPOP) and are available for every registered user.

This paper, divided into two sections, offers first a synopsis of the data obtained during the research, with a focus on the workers of all ranks. This is aimed to provide an overview of their activity in Western Thebes during the reign of Ramesses IX. The second part of the presentation addresses questions related to the creation and life of the documents through time, for instance, ‘Were the sheet joins produced by the manufacturer or directly by the scribe?’, ‘Was the manuscript rolled up or folded?’, ‘How much of the document is lost now?’. Two documents serve as case studies, allowing to show the process carried out to answer such questions.

Keywords: Papyrus; Administration; Hieratic; Late Ramesside period; Documentary text



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Realism or Idealism? A Comparison between CT Scanning of a Child's Mummy and its Fayum Portrait in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo

Magdalena ŁAPTAŚ (Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University)

The aim of the lecture will be to present the results of digital imaging of a child's mummy, carried out at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo in 2022. The imaging included both X-ray and CT scans. The goal of the research was to establish how much the portrait of a child was alike to the model at the time of its death. Since most of the 'Fayum portraits' that have survived to our times have been separated from the mummies, research of this type is unique. The results are prepared by a multi-disciplinary research team consisting of archaeologists, an art historian, an anthropologist, radiologists, an orthopedist and a conservator representing various research centres and cultural institutions. On behalf of the entire team, the results of the research will be submitted by PI – Magdalena Łaptaś, representing the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw.

Keywords: Mummy; Fayum portrait; Graeco-Roman art; Petrie; Egyptian Museum in Cairo



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Learning from Nature: Guiding Systems and the Drafting of Animal Figures in Middle Kingdom Tomb Imagery

Nicolle LEARY (University of Vienna)

Depictions of animal figures dominate the material records of both ancient and modern cultures across the globe. In Ancient Egypt, representations of the natural world were an intrinsic feature of visual culture, with the vast array of imagery recording animals a testimony to the fundamental role(s) they played in society. Despite fauna being extensively examined for their physical appearance and the context(s) in which they appear, the enduring belief that 'man is the measure of all things' (Plat. Theaet. 152) has (either consciously or subconsciously) influenced Western academic circles resulting in an arguably human-orientated bias appearing within contemporary literature. As such, comprehensive analysis of the methods and techniques employed by Egyptian practitioners when drafting non-human forms is an area fraught with opportunity.

Based on pre-conceived views that the natural world was depicted more 'freely' and a lack of systematic research to suggest otherwise, the speaker has been undertaking on-going investigation into the rendering of animal figures during initial scene composition dating to the Middle Kingdom. This paper will present the preliminary results of a new study into the use of guiding systems when drafting animals in 11th and 12th dynasty private tombs, with a focus on what guides associated with non-human forms can further reveal regarding artisan training and transmission of models at the time. By seeking to highlight that practitioners applied a comparable level of care and consideration when illustrating the natural world, the study aims to challenge the prevailing perspective of a 'free' approach being in place for subject matters beyond the human form.

Keywords: Middle Kingdom; Tomb imagery; Animals; Art; Training; Guiding systems



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Pitcher: An International Project for Education against the Looting and Trafficking of Archaeological Artefacts

Remi LEGROS (Franco-Swiss Archaeological Mission to Saqqara)

Fight against trafficking and looting is of course based on legislation and control measures. It also involves prevention and awareness among the civil society. The international Pitcher project is explicitly aimed at schools. It seeks to raise the awareness of the younger generation to the multiple problems of archaeological looting and trafficking of objects.

Funded at European level by an Erasmus+ programme, this project brings together nearly ten teams from different nationalities. Following the recommendations of a previous programme (Netcher), which drew up an initial statement of needs and proposed a series of resources, Pitcher brings together professionals from a variety of backgrounds, teachers, museum and cultural staff, and the police academy. Together, they prepare open source educational materials and resources to be distributed to schools in all partner countries.

Egypt, with its rich heritage, is unfortunately the subject of numerous wrongdoings and several case studies are being analysed and used by the project teams. Our aim is to include the Egyptian context in final resources, in order to draw a certain number of tangible data on looting and trafficking. Placed in a more general context, this information allows access to a higher level of understanding and addresses various issues, whether ethical, scientific or geopolitical.

In this conference, we will present the Pitcher team and its working methods. We will see what its objectives are, both in terms of pedagogical productions and on the theoretical level.

Keywords: Trafficking; Looting; Prevention; Education; Pedagogy



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Changes and Developments in the Title *imy-r3 3hwt* from the Old to the New Kingdom

Shan LIANG (Harbin Normal University)

Land is the most essential and fundamental factor of production in agricultural civilizations and effective land management is thus the primary concern for every agricultural civilization. In Ancient Egypt, the position of 'overseer of fields' was established to manage arable land at the end of the 5th dynasty, the function undertaken by the 'overseer of works' and 'vizier' before. In this thesis focus on the title 'overseer of fields' (*imy-r3 3hwt*), its hieroglyphic written form, family background, professional career, official rank, administrative function, administrative region, staff composition and the categories of land management of *imy-r3 3hwt* were analyzed based on documents of seventy-seven such functionaries of fields from the Old to the New Kingdom.

The administrative status of 'overseer of fields' rose from magistrate to senior officer of the central government in the administrative system accompanied by the development of Ancient Egyptian civilization. The position of 'overseer of fields' was one of the important responsibilities of a local governor during the Old Kingdom; the function became unique during the Middle Kingdom, when these functionaries had only one position, that is, of 'overseer of fields'. But the Temple of Amun occupied a large amount of land managed by 'overseer of fields of Amun', while the 'overseer of fields' managed the secular land during the New Kingdom. They belonged to two administrative systems and were strictly separated. The 'Overseer of fields' and 'the office of fields' managed the arable land including royal land, temple land, and farming land owned by state agencies.

Keywords: Overseer of fields; Titles; Old Kingdom; Middle Kingdom; New Kingdom



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Current Egyptological Research at Museum August Kestner, Hannover (Germany)

Christian LOEBEN (Museum August Kestner, Hannover)

During the last couple of years, intensive scientific research on Egyptian objects of Museum August Kestner, Hannover (Germany), has been conducted. The objects are – among others – wall painting fragments, bronzes, and for organic materials the content of inscribed vessels of ‘ten sacred oils’, remains in canopic equipment as well as the three mummy portraits at the museum. Many different methods have been employed. E.g. for the organic material a multi-analytical approach combining gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GC-MS), high temperature gas chromatography mass spectrometry (HT-GC-MS) and liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) have been employed in order to differentiate and identify the substances. Exciting results in regard of material compositions and their provenances have been yielded from both, those and different methods for analyzing the inorganic materials. These investigations by natural scientists applied to objects which have been kept under ‘museum conditions’ for over 100 years, which the panel presentation wants to inform a broader Egyptological public about, certainly contribute to Egyptological knowledge. However, also new insights on objects of the museum were the results of recent Egyptological as well as Classical Archaeological research, which will also be presented. The research projects have been conducted with a fair number of cooperation partners, such as Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum, Max Planck Institute of Geoanthropology, Jena (both Germany), Laboratoire d'Archéologie Moléculaire et Structurale, Sorbonne, Paris (France) and Rijksmuseum Amsterdam (Netherlands).

Keywords: Materials; Paintings; Bronzes; Mummies; Iconography; Dating; Long distance trade



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Coffin and Mummy in the Archaeological Museum of the University of Muenster

Angelika LOHWASSER (University of Münster)

The Archaeological Museum of the University of Muenster has on permanent loan a painted wooden coffin and a mummy. Both were extensively restored and examined in 2016. The mummy, whose head is lost, belongs to a man of about 30 years. All fractures are post-mortem and the condition of the joints suggests that he did not have to work hard. A C14 examination gave a date range between 750-580 BCE. Of the anthropomorphic coffin, especially the lower box is well preserved, and the colours inside in particular still shine brightly. The decoration points to the 22nd Dyn. and also the C14 examination revealed the period 950-890 BCE. The deceased on the coffin is depicted as male, but the inscription is for a female. Unfortunately, no name has been preserved, only the title "Singer of Amun". The temporal difference between the coffin and the mummy lies in the convention of the TIP to use coffins for the funeral procession several times and therefore to finally deposit them in the tomb only after some generations.

A special feature of this ensemble lies in its object history: It was acquired by a German merchant on his trip to Egypt in 1903 and donated to his former school in Muelheim/Ruhr in the same year. While private purchases were quite common in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Aegyptiaca usually entered private collections and museums. The dedication to a school, while not singular, is rare. Although not all uncertainties have been resolved so far – above all, the place of purchase and the probable provenance are unclear – many pieces of the mosaic have been brought together to provide a vivid picture of this ensemble, which has not yet been published scientifically.

Keywords: Coffin; Mummy; TIP; Museum



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From the Museum Back to the Tomb: The Re-contextualization of a 26th Dynasty Egyptian Sarcophagus at the Cemetery of Saqqara in Virtual Reality

Rita LUCARELLI (University of California, Berkeley)

The Late Period basalt inner sarcophagus of ‘chief physician’ and ‘overseer of the Temehu (Libyan mercenaries)’ Psamtek, found by Barsanti and Maspero in 1900 in Psamtek’s tomb south of the Unas pyramid at Saqqara, is now on public display in the Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology in Berkeley, California (PAHMA 5-522). Like many museum objects, its modern display cannot adequately replicate aspects of its original archaeological context — in a deep rock-cut shaft, nestled among hundreds of impressive elite tombs at the necropolis. The museum visitor has little opportunity to understand the meaning and original placement of the object, either within the tomb or in the larger cemetery. To virtually re-place the sarcophagus in its original context, the authors are developing a dynamic VR-headset experience that combines a 3D reconstruction model of Saqqara with a photogrammetric model of the sarcophagus. The application allows the user to jump between multiple levels of scale: Experiencing a visualization of the Saqqara cemetery in the Late Period, entering a model of the tomb’s burial chamber, interacting with the text of the sarcophagus, and reading translations of the object’s text. The goal of the project is to experiment how new immersive ‘virtual reality’ headset technologies can be used by Egyptologists to better express to the public the complex histories and layered meanings of archaeological objects, especially those removed from their original sites of deposit.

Keywords: Virtual reality; Coffins; Saqqara

Co-author: Elaine SULLIVAN (University of California, Santa Cruz)



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Egyptological Image-Thinking: How Can We Bring our Discipline's Past into the Future?

Geirr LUNDEN (University of Basel)

Ancient Egyptian approaches to images and image making have always been central to Egyptology, and the field has continuously been searching for the 'key' to understanding how these images fulfilled their functions and transmitted meaning to their ancient audiences. While these debates were once relatively contained within Egyptology, a recent surge of interest in interdisciplinary research means that Egyptologists have begun searching for new ways to advance interpretations of ancient images via other sectors of the humanities and social sciences. Consequently, discussions on some of the past Egyptological topics of contention have quietened, and some of the proposed solutions have slowly become accepted as academic orthodoxy without the debates truly being resolved.

The aim of this paper is to bring back to light some of these discussions, and show how their unresolved nature can stand in the way of current interdisciplinary Egyptology. Specific attention will be paid to sign interpretation, style as a creative inhibitor, and function dictating form since these interpretative models are particularly susceptible to undiscussed axioms on the purpose of Ancient Egyptian art. A brief overview of Egyptological art history's relationship with image theory from the late 19th century onwards will be presented to show why several of the Egyptological principles of Egyptian art should have their omnipresence reconsidered. Using depictions of the Nile marsh in tombs as a subject, I will argue that a comprehensive modern conceptualisation of Ancient Egyptian art – both individual pieces and the greater tradition – cannot be achieved through borrowed models alone, but must be formed through a continuous evolution of our own models to find new hybrid methods of interpretation.

Keywords: Image theory; Interdisciplinary approaches; History of Egyptological art theory



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Not Only the Paint: The Value of the Geometry in the Production of Yellow Coffins. Preliminary Results on the Faces Revealed Project (H2020-MSCA-GF 2019: 895130)

Stefania MAINIERI (Egyptian Museum, Turin/University of California, Los Angeles)

The last years have seen an increase in studies on yellow coffins as evidenced by international projects such as the Vatican Coffin Project, the Gate of the Priests Project, or the Cambridge and UCLA Coffin Projects. These studies are focussed not only on the iconography and textual apparatus, but recollect all elements linked to their production and construction. Researchers are now mainly focussing on carpentry, wood, and on the composition of pigments which together allow a deep analysis of these complex objects of art.

In the wake of these international projects, the three-year research project Faces Revealed – born thanks to the collaboration with the Vatican Coffin Project – is focussing on a never analysed peculiarity: The geometry and the volume of the objects which create the anthropoid forms. The used approach combines digital technologies and traditional approaches of analyses and it is opening new lines of research and giving interesting information, especially on the men and workers who created them. Analysis of a group of around 100 yellow coffins demonstrated that it is possible through the geometry to identify specific elements suggesting contemporary (or not) production of coffins belonging to the same or different sets through horizontal and vertical connections of specific elements. The way to render the forms (i.e. mouth, ears, forearms, or hands) could indicate specific production corroborating also a posited common origin of the material as well as they also hint at the possibility of identifying craftspeople operating in workshops. Moreover, the comparisons of the geometry and its relation with the paint can help to contribute to the identification of a chronological sequence within the coffins (set) itself.

Keywords: Digital Humanities; Photogrammetry; Geometry; Yellow coffins; Production



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Re-discovered Early Roman-era Shrouds and Mummy Bandages from the Rhind Tomb at Thebes

Margaret MAITLAND (National Museums Scotland)

Following the re-discovery a few years ago of several unregistered, previously unpublished textiles from the so-called Rhind Tomb at Sheikh Abd el-Qurna in National Museums Scotland, yet another painted shroud from the same Roman-era family has recently been found and investigated. The Rhind Tomb was discovered in 1857 by Alexander Henry Rhind, an innovative Scottish excavator who became the first experienced archaeologist to work in Egypt. He had set out to find an intact Theban tomb in the hopes of better understanding how Ancient Egyptian funerary traditions had changed over time. With the knowledge and guidance provided by Rhind's Qurnawi collaborators, they discovered a remarkable tomb on the Theban West Bank, built around 1290 BC, and then used and reused for over a thousand years, until it was finally sealed intact with the burials of an early Roman-era family. This stunning burial group, including a funerary canopy, *krsw*-coffins, mummy-masks, gilded wreath, and other objects, is a remarkable record of the changing funerary practices of this era. The bilingual funerary papyri P. Rhind I and II record the deaths of their owners in 9 BC, making it possible to date the shrouds and hieroglyph-inscribed bandages almost precisely. This is unprecedented, providing an invaluable source for comparison with other Graeco-Roman shrouds. The latest re-discovered shroud allows for a fascinating new comparison with the existing shroud from the same burial group, demonstrating similarities and differences in workshop production, use of colour, divine and apotropaic symbolism, and the representation of facial features. Dye and pigment analysis indicate the wealth of the family and reveal the use of both traditional, local materials, as well as newly-available Roman imports.

Keywords: Funerary archaeology; Shroud; Mummy bandage; Thebes; Graeco-Roman; Roman; Textile



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Hieratic Ostraca in the State Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, Moscow

Natalia MAKEEVA (St Petersburg State University)

There are about four dozens of ostraca in the collection of V.S. Golenischeff stored now in the State Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts. Only few of the Golenischeff's ostraca have been published until now, the better known of them being the large ostrakon with the Hymn to the Nile flood and fragments of the Teaching of a man to his son. Yet there are more ostraca in the collection, literary as well as documentary, and we aim at publishing the entire collection. For the moment, we could identify another small fragment of the Hymn to the Nile flood, several fragments of the Teaching of Kheti, and small fragments of other literary texts. As for documentary ostraca, some of them come from Deir el-Medina, one relating an episode in the life of the head of the Medjai *Mntw-ms*.

Keywords: Hieratic; ostraca; Pushkin Museum; Golenischeff

Co-author: Evgeniya ANOKHINA (State Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, Moscow)



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The Yellow Coffin and the Mummy Board of Ankh-Khonsu of the Civic Archaeological Museum of Bergamo, Italy: Highlighting the Bab el-Gasus Coffins

Sabina MALGORA (Mummy Project Research)

This remarkable anthropoid 'yellow' coffin is painted with a lustrous yellow pigment, coated with varnish and the well-known crossed red 'stola' insignia on its complex floral collar. It arrived in Bergamo with a mummy board and a mummy in 1885, as gift of Giovanni Venanzi, the Italian consul in Alexandria, Egypt.

Its owner is named Ankh-Khonsu, a wab-priest of Amun-Re, king of the gods and scribe of the gods' offerings (Eg. *wꜣb ꜥmn-Rꜥ nsw.t-ntrw sꜣ ḥtpw-ntr*), a member of the Theban priesthood during the late 21st dynasty or early 22nd dynasty (c. 945 BCE). Communal burial of priests was common at that time as shown by the Bab el-Gasus cache at Deir el-Bahri, Thebes. Different styles within this group allow us to understand the chronology of coffins from other communal tombs.

The coffin features thirteen vignettes painted on the outer sides of the trough showing the named priest and a chantress named Henut-nefert with various deities. The precise sequence of presentation has been identified on coffins of the late 21st/early 22nd dynasties. Similar pairing of figures occurs on the Vatican stola coffin of singer Djedmut (Inv. MV 25008). Another close parallel is the coffin of Nesykhonsu in Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) 1914.714a.

The CT scan analysis established that the mummy was male and possibly Ankh-Khonsu himself.

Study of the male/female template used on this coffin has begun to improve our understanding of vignette sequences found on the coffins of lesser functionaries decorated during the later phases of the funerary industry of the Theban priest-state. This particular template developed late in the era of Pinedjem II, after 975 BC, and may have been in use during the early 22nd dynasty in the decades following 945 BC.

Keywords: Coffin; Egypt; Bab el Gasus; Third Intermediate Period; Study; Conservation



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The Impact of Climate Change and Nile Hydrology on the Agriculture of Ancient Egypt: Can Ancient Practices Provide Solutions to Modern Problems?

Claire MALLESON (American University of Beirut/University of Warsaw)

Analyses of the archaeobotanical remains of ancient agricultural by-products can provide invaluable insights into human-land-plant relationships in the past, including relationships between climate change and food production.

In this paper I will focus on three principal case-studies. Firstly, evidence from 6-4000 BC which shows how human groups transitioned from intensive gathering of wild grasses in oasis areas to cultivation of Levantine domestic cereals along the Nile, in response to the sharp aridification at the end of the African Humid Period. Secondly, evidence from 4-2000 BC which reveals a declining Nile flood regime, but intensification of agriculture supporting the realization of increasingly monumental markers of pharaonic power. Finally, evidence from the Wadi Tumilat which provides a detailed insight into the effects of short-term 2nd millennium hydrological fluctuations in the Nile regime. Results from Tell el Retaba are especially valuable, and I will show how farmers in that region managed integrated farming systems, supporting the 'Empire' in a constantly changing environment.

It will be apparent from this summary that this paper will cover not only a long span of time, but also collates results from a large number of sites in Egypt. Via this broad-spectrum analysis, I will a) demonstrate how Ancient Egyptian farmers managed to continually provide staple foods in the face of climate change, and b) show how studies of ancient agriculture can contribute to discussions surrounding the development of sustainable solutions to current and future (global) food security issues, specifically by suggesting alternate, more flexible and diverse arable cropping systems.

Keywords: Agriculture; Climate; Environment; Sustainability; Archaeobotany



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The Reused Inscribed Blocks within the Sphinx Avenue between Karnak and Luxor Temples: A Narrative Epigraphical Story

AlShaimaa MANDOR (Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

The processional way between Karnak and Luxor temples has passed by many stages of construction. Some continue to serve its main function but others have transformed sections into industrial areas. Despite the avenue's length and the differences between its parts, there is a common clear feature in all its stages, which is the reuse of blocks from previous periods. Most of the blocks were found upside down. By studying the reused blocks within the avenue, another story behind the main purpose of the avenue's construction might come to light.

One of the aims of the epigraphic method is seeking to find not only the physical purpose of the reusing but also the mental one. Therefore, it is important to realize the concept of respect in the reusing process. During the pharaonic times, the Ancient Egyptians tried to respect the reused material as roots of the past so that they could make the tight connection between the past and their recent life.

This paper is trying to differentiate between two types of reuse, the first of which is the one that took place during the construction of the avenue itself. The other concerns those blocks that were found reused when the road was no longer used as a processional way. Studying the places where these blocks were found and trying to find out where they originally came from represent the lion's share of the story.

Digital Archaeology is a main factor during all study steps. So, the study depends on sorting the different types of the reused blocks through documenting them via a FileMaker programme. Then comes the step of photogrammetry for all the concerned blocks trying to create a suitable photo through Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Lightroom. This photo is prepared for making facsimile copies using Adobe Illustrator.

Keywords: Reused inscribed blocks; Processional way; Karnak; Luxor; Industrial areas



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Stars, the Firmament or Skyscapes of Light? Study of the Terms $h_3 b_3.s$ and $h_3 \text{ } \text{z}h.s$ in the Pyramid Texts and Coffin Texts

Alicia MARAVELIA (Hellenic Institute of Egyptology)

Interdisciplinarity in the context of Archaeoastronomy and Egyptology is *per se* an opener of new ways for dialogue—in a wider sense— between Egyptologists and (Archaeo)Astronomers. The HELLENIC INSTITUTE OF EGYPTOLOGY, in the frame of its Research Project *Digitization and Complete Study of the Ancient Egyptian Astronomical Texts* (DCSAEAT) strives to explore, develop and maintain high standards of scholarship and innovative, interactive research methods, assisted by a team of international scholars. Archaeoastronomical analysis of texts is an innovative means for re-creating and studying the Ancient Egyptian skyscapes that are expressed in the funerary texts as cosmographic metaphors.

In the *PT* terms like $h_3 b_3.s$ and $h_3 \text{ } \text{z}h.s$ are met three times; in the *CT* the same terms are met four times. However, their function and actual astronomical and cosmographic significance has never been deservedly studied in depth [GUILHOU 2011]. Sometimes they are met in connection with a celestial and/or a solar barque and the sky-goddess Nut; sometimes in connection to the imperishable stars [MARAVELIA 2006]. In the frame of the aforementioned context, we shall endeavour to study them rigorously, examining their possible parallelisms in the *stemma* [ROELLI 2020] of two *corpora* of funerary texts (*PT* and *CT*) [MARAVELIA 2006]. Comparisons will also be made to their references in funerary stelae and the *BD*. Their astronomical function will be outlined by reconstructing the ancient skyscapes, based on the former texts, using modern archaeoastronomical software [MARAVELIA 2017B]. No matter if their frequency of occurrence was low (compared to other astronomical terms), their importance was great and points to a stellar theology of light, typical property of the Ancient Egyptian religion.

Keywords: Egyptian astronomy; Interdisciplinarity; Stars; Firmament; Sky; Archaeoastronomy



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Script and Language in Ancient Egypt: A New Gallery at the Museo Egizio

Paolo MARINI (Egyptian Museum, Turin) & Federico POOLE (Egyptian Museum, Turin)

The Museo Egizio in Turin is working on a new permanent gallery devoted to writing in Ancient Egypt. The gallery – which will build on a temporary exhibition on the same subject scheduled to open in December 2022 – will display a selection of about 230 objects from the museum's collections.

The themes dealt with will include the appearance of writing; the way the hieroglyphic script works and its decipherment; the different scripts used to write the Egyptian language; the variety of text-bearing supports; scribes, their status and their training; hieroglyphs as an integral part of monumental art; and the 'magical' power of writing. A variety of both well-known and little-known objects in the museum's collection will be displayed, including stelae, statues, coffins, and ostraca, as well as smaller items such as scarabs and funerary cones.

Ample space will be devoted to the Museo Egizio's important collection of papyri – largely from Deir el-Medina – and the variety of text types they contain: Narratives, teachings, documentary texts, administrative texts, letters, journals, funerary texts, and magical texts.

Various museums address the topic of writing and language in their galleries or temporary exhibitions. However, the Museo Egizio is among the first to dedicate a vast space (nine rooms in all) to this theme. The aim of this paper is to present the new gallery to colleagues to illustrate how the museum is striving to face the challenge of communicating a rather complex Egyptological topic to the general public.

Keywords: Papyri; Museum; Exhibition; Script; Writing; Language; Museology

Co-author: Susanne TÖPFER (Egyptian Museum, Turin)



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Families at Sais and Buto: Some Genealogical and Prosopographical Notes

Nenad MARKOVIĆ (University of Reading)

Little work has been done on the sociology of the family in the western Nile Delta during the Saite-Persian era, especially in comparison to contemporaneous Thebes in Upper Egypt. This paper aims to re-evaluate the prosopography and genealogy of an important family group, active in the region of Sais and Buto, including some of the most influential people of the time. Its members held prominent positions in numerous local temples, as well as at the royal court. Today, the rich inscriptional corpus that attests to this family, composed mostly from the texts on private temple statues, is dispersed worldwide (Cairo, London, Edinburgh, Vatican, Rome, Mantua, Detroit, New York, Tübingen, St. Petersburg, Amiens, Leiden, Stockholm). Thus, this is an epigraphically based study. In total, seven generations that lived under the 26th Dynasty (c. 664-526 BCE) can be proposed and several of the family members included in the family tree have not previously been identified as belonging to the family. The most eminent members include Wahibre (I), governor of Sais, and his (here identified) son Ahmosesaneith, overseer of the antechamber, both active under king Amasis (570-526 BCE), as well as numerous cultic personnel of various temples at Sais and Buto.

Keywords: 26th dynasty; Priesthood; State administration; Prosopography; Genealogy



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Rediscovering Hathor: Summary of Recent Work at the Memphis Hathor Temple

Michelle MARLAR (Houston Museum of Natural Science, Houston)

In 1969, while digging air-raid shelters, the Egyptian army happened upon a previously unknown temple in Mit Rahina (the ancient city of Memphis). Subsequent excavation by three different Egyptian missions between 1970-1984 revealed a small, limestone temple fronted by a pylon, followed by an open courtyard with in situ, Hathor-headed columns, with presumably a tripartite sanctuary across the back. Abdulla el-Sayed Mahmud was the first to undertake excavations in this temple. Working mainly in the courtyard, he revealed the upper parts of eight in situ, Hathor-headed columns, the west side of the pylon, and west wall however, the high-water table prevented him from proceeding further. The second mission, in 1978 led by Huleil Ghaly, and the third in 1984 directed by Abd al-Karun Abu Shanab, both concentrated on later occupation phases over the southern part of the temple. Since that time, no subsequent excavation has taken place, however the temple was included in the Egyptian Exploration Society Survey of Memphis, directed by D.G. Jeffreys, and small conservation projects have subsequently been carried out by Mit Rahina conservators working for the Ministry.

This past year marked the first season of a newly-formed joint mission between the Houston Museum of Natural Science and the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities at the Memphis Hathor Temple, co-directed by Dr. Michelle Marlar and Mr. Mohamed Elseaidy. This paper will present a summary of the recent work at the temple, including imaging, conservation, epigraphic and photogrammetric results, as well as new discoveries related to the attribution of the temple itself.

Keywords: Mit Rahina; Memphis; Hathor; Temple; Imaging; Epigraphy; Conservation



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The Artefact behind the Goddess: Ostrakon Cairo CG 25125

Andrés MARTÍN GARCÍA DE LA CRUZ (Leiden Institute for Area Studies, Leiden University/Netherlands Institute for the Near East, Leiden)

One of the most suggestive pieces from the ostraca collection of the Egyptian Museum Cairo (EMC) is the figurative ostrakon CG 25125 (O. Cairo CG 25125). The principal scene of O. Cairo CG 25125 depicts the combat between a female individual – generally interpreted as a goddess or queen – and a masculine figure – attired like an Egyptian king – shooting arrows at each other from opposed horse-drawn chariots. This dynamic, unusual representation has inspired several iconographic studies and endowed the piece with a significant role in a series of broad approaches to particular realities of Ancient Egyptian culture, society, and political history.

However, besides the debate and usages surrounding the principal scene, little room has been granted to studying the many complexities concerning the artefact containing the depiction. For this purpose, the paper proposes the first comprehensive multi-approach study of O. Cairo CG 25125, reassessing the iconographic and iconological interpretation of the principal combat scene as well as drawing attention to four specific understudied aspects of the piece: I) The examination of the archaeological context of the ostrakon-find; II) the historiographic study of the modern journey and museological approaches to the piece; III) the analysis of various ‘secondary details’ of the obverse combat scenes; IV) the presentation and analysis of the unpublished depiction of the reverse of the ostrakon. Furthermore, new data and visual materials, including a new set of photographs, will be presented, favouring an integral, renewed understanding of O. Cairo CG 25125.

Keywords: Ostrakon; Archaeological context; Fighting goddess/queen; Astarte; Unknown scene; Iconography



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Digging into the Archives, Writing the Biography of Raymond Weill (1874–1950): A Project in Progress

Émilie MARTINET (A. von Humboldt Foundation)

The archives of Raymond Weill (1874–1950), a former engineering officer, archaeologist and historian specialising in Ancient Egypt, are preserved at the Paul Valéry – Montpellier 3 University (France). This hitherto unpublished collection, with its large typological variety, provides valuable and complementary information on the archaeological history of several sites in Egypt, the Sinai, the Egyptian Eastern Desert and of the City of David in Jerusalem, as well as on the objects that were discovered there. The Weill collection also gives information on the history of the teaching of Egyptology and the scientific methods of an Egyptologist of the first half of the 20th century. More generally, this collection broadens our knowledge of the history of French Egyptology and the intellectual history of the first half of the 20th century.

With the help of several archival collections kept in France and beyond, the overall objective is to reconstruct the career of Raymond Weill by placing him in the intellectual life of the time, as well as to highlight his contributions to the study of the Ancient East and in particular to Egyptology. Although less well known than some Egyptologists who were his contemporaries, his double career, the importance of his scientific work and his status as a Jewish intellectual in the first half of the 20th century justify such a project. Moreover, he was completely integrated into the scientific network of the time, as evidenced by the presence in the collection of approximately 150 letters sent by scholars from different countries.

Keywords: Raymond Weill; Scientific archives; Historiography of Egyptology



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Floods, Farmland and Settlements: The Study of the Ancient and Modern Theban Landscape through Historical Mapping, Archaeomorphology, and Remote Sensing

Jesús MARTÍNEZ FERNÁNDEZ (University of Rovira i Virgili/University of Alcalá)

This paper is based on the study of the modern landscape – from the beginning of the 19th century to the present day – as a basis for understanding the landscape in ancient times in the Theban area. In the past few decades, research on the evolution of the Nile river has provided an increasing amount of information on the ancient landscape and the territoriality of the communities that inhabited its banks over time.

This research on the Theban landscape is developed under the MKTP auspices through an interdisciplinary and diachronic perspective. Archaeomorphological research is being carried through the study of various natural and anthropic formations. This methodology allows us to perform regressive analyses together with the vectorization and interpretation of historical cartography to understand the changes in the agricultural and fluvial landscape of the Nile valley over the last centuries, particularly the modifications that occurred after the modern irrigation reforms and the construction of the Aswan dams.

In addition, this study is complemented with the employment of innovative analysis technologies through cloud-based data processing – thanks to Google Earth Engine – testing new remote sensing methodologies with varied multi-spectral satellite data sources.

Regarding our analysis of the area, this presentation shall focus on some of the significant results achieved in this last year, including the recent eastward movement of the Nile and the probable ancient channel near the west bank temples during the NK. The results will serve as a basis for promoting future geoarchaeological studies that confirm the hypotheses obtained together with the dating of the different phases of the Theban landscape.

Keywords: Archaeomorphology; Landscape archaeology; Nile; Remote sensing; Thebes



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The Case of a Necropolis in the Enclosure of Tomb No. -28- in the Asasif (Luxor) of the Vizier Amen-Hotep Huy

Francisco J. MARTÍN-VALENTÍN (Institute of Ancient Egyptian Studies, Málaga) & Teresa BEDMAN (Institute of Ancient Egyptian Studies, Málaga)

The Archaeological Mission of the Instituto de Estudios del Antiguo Egipto has been working on the Tomb No. -28- in Asasif (west of Luxor) since 2009.

During the 2010 season we discovered a secondary tomb, numbered as 'AT -28-, A', which was excavated in 2014 (1-2nd centuries BC).

In seasons 2014 to 2020 we discovered on the south wall of the courtyard the main entrances of Tombs nº -86-, and -96-, and in the north wall of the corridor, those of tombs nº -244-, -268- and -272- (Frederika Kampp's Cat.). The preliminary inspection of all of them showed certain differences with Frederika Kampp's documentation.

During the same seasons six other unpublished tombs were discovered and numbered according to the instructions of the West Bank Antiquities Directorate, as follows: AT-28-, B/C; IN -28-D-; AT-28- E; A -28- F, and AT -28- G.

We must add those of two intact burials, existing next to the exterior façade of the chapel of the main Tomb AT nº -28-, (years 2014 and 2015).

These discoveries show that the enclosure of Tomb AT nº -28- of vizier Amen-Hotep Huy, (time of Amen-Hotep III / Amen-Hotep IV) was used in later times to build other individual tombs that formed a necropolis (from the late 18th dynasty to the 2nd century AD).

A preliminary hypothesis allows us to consider the tomb of the vizier Amen-Hotep Huy (AT nº -28-) as a practically intact set that shows the history of the Theban necropolis in the Asasif area for about sixteen centuries.

At the moment it can be said that the great historical and religious prestige of the memory of this vizier from the time of Amen-Hotep III was one of the most decisive reasons for the creation of this important necropolis within the enclosure of his tomb.

Reference: <https://www.visiramenhotep.es/>

Keywords: Amenhotep III; Amenhotep IV; Amenhotep Huy; Necropolis Asasif; AT nº -28-



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Bringing the Place of Truth Back to Life (3): Places to Live (Houses, and Houses of Eternity)

Julie MASQUELIER-LOORIUS (French National Centre for Scientific Research/Sorbonne University)

A reassessment of Ancient Egyptian written artefacts from the village of Deir el-Medina can contribute significantly to the identification of 'owners' of specific houses, and also tombs. This reappraisal focusses on door parts, made from stone and even wood. It was carried out thanks to the use of a scientific protocol which removed inaccuracies and errors made by the archaeologist Bruyère, from the discovery and excavation of an artefact to its inclusion in a publication. The current reappraisal of these architectural remains – represented by more than a thousand documents which include important information – has yielded far better results than previously achieved. By using this protocol, and with assistance from recent studies in prosopography and anthroponymy, the ability to differentiate efficiently and accurately between homonymous and contemporary inhabitants of the village is now possible. Such groundbreaking information gives an insight into family groups, as well as new perspectives on the development of the houses within the village, and the Houses of Eternity within the whole site. All artefacts naming a particular workman have been grouped, and sometimes attributed to either his house or his tomb. This project has made considerable progress since the accuracy of the extant material has been re-checked in order to determine the identity of the workman (and his family) who occupied one of the numbered houses within the village; and occasionally a few tombs were also reassigned. However, in using such data one must proceed with some caution, since, for example, the names engraved on the elements of a door are not systematically those of the 'owners' of the house, or the house of eternity.

Keywords: Houses; Tombs; Deir el-Medina; Door parts; New Kingdom; Community of workmen



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Hybrid Animals and Ontological Change in Early Egyptian Art

Sebastián MAYDANA (University of Buenos Aires)

Hybrid animals appeared in Egyptian art at a time of tremendous socio-cultural change. By the end of the 4th millennium BCE, a territorial state had emerged in Upper Egypt, cities had prospered where there had been hamlets only decades before, far-reaching trade routes had been opened, and a clear artistic canon had been developed. It is logical to suppose that art forms, as products of human action, accompanied some of these changes. In this presentation, I will concentrate on Predynastic hybrid animal imagery, understood as visual attempts to affect the landscape as well as the people who encounter the images. Different explanations have been developed to account for the advent of hybrid imagery: Monsters are seen as reconstructions of 'real' prehistoric animals from fossil remains, semi-accurate depictions of real-life conjoined twins, or just failed portraits due to inexperience. On the contrary, I find that Egyptians had an astounding knowledge and experience of cohabitation with animals, that is, a remarkable proximity. Hybrids in art do not express a distancing from the animal world, but a will to intervene in said world, while creating a new image for the rising elite. In short, the 4th millennium BCE was the setting for a change of ontologies, of ways of relationship between non-humans and humans, and of logics of social organisation. All of this is expressed through hybrid iconography.

Keywords: Predynastic art; Ontologies; Hybridity; State emergence; Naqada



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Museum Workshop:

Engaging (Young) Audiences: Interactive Activities in the Museum and Beyond

Chair: Marein MEIJER (Rijksmuseum van Oudheden, Leiden)

This workshop takes place in the Egyptian galleries of the National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden. Participants will take part in three learning activities used during interactive guided tours for young audiences. The activities revolve around the following questions: What do you think it would have smelled like in an Egyptian temple? Can you draw an Egyptian statue from memory? And how do you feel about a museum displaying mummified Egyptians?

These activities will be the point of departure for an active exchange of ideas and perspectives on how to engage museum audiences, predominantly groups of students aged 8-21. Participants will share their experiences with young museum audiences in a world where students want to be activated when learning about ancient Egypt. The aim of the workshop is to identify obstacles and opportunities in achieving this goal.

This workshop is not exclusively aimed at those interested in museum practices. It is open for everyone who is looking for more interactive ways to engage with the general public about ancient Egypt and Nubia.

Practical information

Duration: ca. 90 minutes

16:15-16:30: meet at the Temple Hall of the National Museum of Antiquities

16:30-18:00: workshop in the Egyptian galleries

Maximum capacity: 60 persons

Registration

www.rmo.nl/en/register-for-ice-workshop



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Reuniting the Shabtis of Akhenaton from the Egyptian Museums

Ahmed MEKAWY OUDA (Cairo University/French Institute for Oriental Archaeology, Cairo)

This paper studies the shabtis of Akhenaton at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo (EMC) and the Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) at Giza. The GEM houses the remains of 33 shabtis, all of which were moved from the EMC. The latter retained the remnants of 55 shabtis. These figures came mainly from the royal tomb at el-Amarna. Akhenaton is represented wearing a variety of headdresses including the nemes, khat, tripartite wig and Nubian wig. He is shown holding the life-sign (*ḥnh*) in both hands or grasping the scepter and flail. No single shabti was left intact and the known fragments include heads, busts, legs, lower portions, feet, shoulders or a headless shabti. The different materials of which they are made, the inscriptions—including text position and direction and palaeographical comments—the state of preservation, artistic features and production technique will be addressed. The investigation of the shabtis of Akhenaton also discusses issues relating to moving/splitting one group of objects between different museums and the problem of registering some of these remnants (over 25 pieces of fragments of shabtis bear the same ‘Temporary Register’ number). This paper aims to rejoin many pieces of these shabtis and raises some questions: (1) How do we fit the shabtis of King Akhenaton among the royal shabtis of the 18th dynasty?, and (2) were they made by a single sculptor or different sculptors at the workshop of Amarna?

Keywords: Akhenaton; Shabtis; Amarna; GEM; EMC



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Intertextuality and Intericonicity in the Book of the Twelve Caverns

Daniel Miguel MENDEZ-RODRIGUEZ (University of La Laguna)

The Book of the Twelve Caverns is a cosmographic composition first attested at the beginning of the New Kingdom. It mainly consists of a litany of offerings to the divine inhabitants of the caverns of the Duat in order to obtain certain benefits in several contexts. It was not only used as funerary text but it was also involved in various temple rituals.

The media, use, and content of the composition (introductory texts, names of the cavern deities, illustrations...), show an interrelation and adaptation to various religious (con)texts. The multifaceted nature and versatility of the book feature several characteristics belonging to the genre of the cosmographies called Books of the Netherworld and etiological compositions such the Book of Venerating Re in the West (i.e. Litany of Re). Additionally it also shares features with the Book of Going Forth by Day (i.e. Book of the Dead), within which it was also included in a sequence of spells since the 19th dynasty.

The aim of this communication is to analyse the textual and iconographic links of the composition with several religious texts, such as funerary corpora, other cosmographic texts (e.g. Book of the Hidden Chamber (i.e. Amduat), Book of Caverns, etc.) and specific ritual contexts.

Keywords: Intertextuality; Intericonicity; Book of the Twelve Caverns



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Beyond the Cemetery: Uncovering the Urban Dynamics of the Memphite Necropolis (Abusir to South Saqqara) in the First Millennium BC

Filippo MI (University of Strasbourg)

This study explores the social dynamics and functional distribution of buildings in the Memphite necropolis between the 7th and 1st centuries BC. An urbanistic approach and a reconstruction of the topography through archaeological and documentary sources are used to create a comprehensive GIS map of all the archaeologically attested elements and reconstruct the overall environment of the necropolis as a settlement-like site. The aim is to recognise the patterns in the organization of the buildings and explain the dynamics of the system, using a combination of archaeological and urbanistic approaches. Previous literature has primarily focused on the necropolis as a cemetery, neglecting the non-funerary activities that occurred within it. Therefore, the study aims to understand the different activities carried out at the site and the interactions between its inhabitants, ascertainable in the archaeological record. The study highlights the relationship between the graves of the 1st millennium and the monumental funerary architecture of the Old and New Kingdom. It also shows the dependence of settlements and secular buildings on the main temples and cultic structures. In light of this approach, the Memphite necropolis appears primarily as a sanctuary devoted to kingship and the cult of past rulers, with social dynamics more akin to other religious sites in the Mediterranean basin. Finally, the study suggests that tombs and temples were not closely connected but rather independent of each other. Tomb clusters were more responsive to the attraction exerted by monuments of the past than contemporary cultic facilities, in line with the cult of deceased pharaohs. The poster will present a new, up-to-date map of the site in the first millennium BC.

Keywords: Memphite necropolis; Urbanism; Settlement archaeology; Digital archaeology; GIS



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Assessing Methods and Hypotheses on Ancient Egyptian Mathematics

Luca MIATELLO (Bocconi University)

Studies on Ancient Egyptian mathematics have often been based on inadequate methods. Problem texts from the Middle Egyptian period are arranged as a series of operations executed step by step, and Ritter's algorithmic method prevents distortions in the interpretations that can occur with modern formulaic notations. Even in recent times, however, some scholars have chosen to read the procedures by means of formulae. The reason is apparently 'practical', as synthetic relationships are more intelligible at first glance to readers. Examples of why the formulaic method is incorrect are here provided. Studies on problem texts make use also of hypotheses, with various degree of plausibility. Assumptions have been made with regard to geometric objects that are not clearly identifiable, or to explain how geometric algorithms were constructed, as the calculation of the area of a circle, or the volume of a truncated pyramid. Connections with textual evidence, feasibility of restoring hieratic signs, and algorithmic consistency, should be considered in the evaluation of the degree of plausibility. Selected cases are discussed here briefly. Hypotheses with various degree of plausibility and falsifiability have been proposed also with regard to mathematics in pyramid architecture. For example, hypotheses of mathematical relationships between horizontal and vertical measurements identifying the *seqed*-slope, which is defined in problem texts of the Middle Egyptian period, are much more plausible than supposed correlations involving approximations of π , whose concept is foreign to the sources of that period. Objective criteria of evaluation of the degree of plausibility of mathematical hypotheses on architectural features are here indicated.

Keywords: Ancient Egyptian mathematics; Algorithmic method; Evaluation of hypotheses



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Experiencing and Embodying Egyptian and Mayan Hieroglyphic Writing

Jordan MILLER (University of Cambridge)

This poster introduces one research strand of a new interdisciplinary undertaking titled 'Visual Interactions in Early Writing Systems' (VIEWS), based at the University of Cambridge and funded by a UKRI Frontier Research Grant (no. EP/X028240/1). The poster outlines the primary research questions and theoretical framework for a four-year monograph project that will compare how hieroglyphic writing fitted within the visual cultures, social lives, and sensory experiences of ancient Egyptian and Classic Maya people.

The project aims to develop a theoretical vocabulary for assessing those features across cultures, and thus to achieve three objectives. First, to consider how the embodied practices of hieroglyphic writing differ from those in alphabetic, logosyllabic, and other traditions. Second, to strengthen dialogue between Egyptology, anthropology, and art history. Third, to help develop strategies for revitalizing endangered writing systems in the contemporary world, given that many such systems stem from social and material contexts very different to those of modern Western society.

The poster explores three sets of relationships: writing and iconography; language and image; writing and the body. Each of these topics is discussed through Egyptian and Maya case studies. Egyptian examples include scenes from the Coffin Texts, statues and offering tables from tomb contexts, and 'natural' objects understood as embodiments of deities. Interpretation draws on theory in social anthropology, notably the concept of perspectivism.

Other strands of VIEWS research, focussing on cuneiform and Aegean scripts, will be briefly described at the end of the poster. Discussion about any of these strands is welcome, as are enquiries about VIEWS events and opportunities for collaboration.

Keywords: Anthropology; Religion; Hieroglyphs; Writing systems; Visual culture



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Evidence of Coptic Vowel Phonology from Medical Manuscripts

So MIYAGAWA (National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics) & Mona SAWY (Assiut University)

Coptic medical papyri from the 7th century onwards contain many loan words from Arabic and Greek. As such, these documents represent significant sources for elucidating the phonology of the Coptic language, the last stage of the Egyptian language. However, while previous studies have typically employed these sources to examine the history of medicine, they have not been explored in depth from a linguistic perspective. This presentation shares a phonological analysis of loan words from Arabic and Greek that appear in the Coptic medical literature on papyri and parchments, such as P. Méd. Copt IFAO, P.Ryl.Copt. 106 and SBKopt. I 006. The phonology evident in these sources will be compared with the phonology of the original languages to demonstrate that the eta, epsilon, omega, and omicron of the Coptic script are not different in vowel length or shortness but vowel opening degree. In addition, we analyse the distribution of long vowels in Arabic and the distribution of vowel letter doubling in words written in Coptic script and borrowed from Arabic. Finally, we present more new pieces of evidence from medical papyri to show that Coptic vowel letter doubling is a long vowel. This new finding is in line with that of the study by Greenberg published in 1962. We conclude that Coptic vowel letter doubling is a long vowel because Arabic long vowels, when borrowed, correspond to Coptic vowel letter doubling. In this presentation, we propose a new interpretation of vowels based on new evidence from Coptic medical manuscripts.

Keywords: Coptic; Phonology; Medical manuscripts; Papyri; Parchments; Vowels



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Managing a Collection of Unpublished Artifacts Made in 1321 AH/1903 AD on the Occasion of the Inauguration of the Arab Antiquities House Currently the Museum of Islamic Art: A Museum Documentary Study

Mohamed MOHAMED AHMED ABDEL SALAM (Ain Shams University)

This research falls under the most important scope of museology, which is the management of museum collections along with their documentation and recording. This works in achieving the optimal utilization of the museum's collection, which is applied on unique pieces kept at the Museum of Islamic Art in Cairo. These artifacts were made in 1321 AH/1903 AD on the occasion of constructing the museum building that is currently located on Port Said Street in Bab Al-Khalq Square, in commemoration of the most important and largest museum of Islamic art in the world. The institution was officially opened to the public, by a decree from the Khedive of Egypt at the time, Khedive Abbas Helmy II (1892-1914 AD), after laying the foundation stone for the construction of the House of Arab Antiquities, currently the Museum of Islamic Art, and the Khana Book, currently the National Books and Documents House. Construction work began in 1317 AH/1899 AD and the inauguration took place on December 29th, 1903 AD, corresponding to the Islamic month of Shawwal 11th, 1321 AH.

The main problem addressed by the research are as follows: addressing the problem of archaeological documentation and recording of these artifacts, the subject of the study, given that more than 100 years have passed since they were made, making them archaeological objects in the view of museum traditions of international organizations. While the first and second articles of the Egyptian Antiquities Protection Law- Law No. 117 of 1983 and its amendments and its executive regulations do not approve the archaeological registration of these artifacts. Note that these memorial artifacts are documented in the records of the Museum of Islamic Art Library and have not been archaeologically documented to this day. As such, the research presents an integrated scientific and practical vision to address this problem and presents a practical proposal to fully document these memorial artifacts archaeologically, in a way that does not violate the articles of the Egyptian law regulating this matter. This is done in accordance with the strategies of museum documentation and management of museum collections.

Keywords: Collection management; Museum gifting; Documentation; Souvenirs; Pencil case



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The Potters of Nazlah and Their Workshops: An Ethnoarchaeological Study in Egypt

Ahmad MOHAMMED (Durham University)

Pottery was an essential element in Ancient Egypt used in all aspects of life. Due to its importance, many scholars have studied and documented pottery manufacturing processes. Nevertheless, little has been reported on the spatial organization of the workshops. Hence, this study questions how ancient and contemporary Egyptian potters organised and still organise their workshops? And what are the factors influencing their organisation and design? To answer these questions, this project investigated Nazlah pottery workshops, a village in Fayoum, Egypt, in addition to ancient pottery workshops to understand workshop organisation and the potential influencing factors on the organisation of the workshops; chaîne opératoire, seasonality, standardisation, specialisation, social identity and gender, environmental and natural aspects. Ethnoarchaeology and chaîne opératoire are the research strategies. During the fieldwork in Nazlah in January, and February 2022, I used the following methods: Video recording, photographing, audio recording, photogrammetry for kilns, workshops and tools, semi-structured interviews with potters, and participant observation. A second fieldwork visit is planned for April 2023 to complete some photogrammetric documentation for the workshops and do more observations and interviews with potters. Through the investigation of contemporary workshops, we can infer the organisation of the ancient workshops that in turn aid archaeologists in identifying and interpreting pottery workshop sites and interpret the influencing factors on the spatial organisation for the uncovered workshops and avoid misinterpretations as well. It might also help interpreting the relation of the workshop to other surrounding archaeological features at the sites.

Keywords: Ethnoarchaeology; Pottery; Workshop organisation; Egypt; Nazlah



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A Group of Coptic Tombstones from Upper Egypt

Enas MOHAREB (Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

The study of tombstones is one of the important studies in archaeology, as it is an archaeological record and part of cultural documentation for a certain period of history, especially ancient Egyptian history, as it includes valuable information in names, linguistic structures, titles, dates, and decorations of all kinds.

Tombstones are plaques that contain information about the deceased, with the aim of immortalizing the memory of their owner. Coptic tombstones show the extent of the merge between the ancient Egyptian and Greek Civilizations, in addition to the Coptic symbols such as the cross.

This research will deal with an archaeological and artistic study of a group of unpublished Coptic tombstones preserved in the museum magazines in Abu Al-Joud in Luxor. The researcher will follow a descriptive and analytical approach in studying the objects by describing the tombstones, their dimensions, the raw material used in their manufacture, the methods used in digging, the general shape, the type of text, their decorations, and their symbolism, with the translation of texts and the analysis of those decorations and texts.

Keywords: Tombstones; Monument; Coptic language; Greek language; Stone; Acanthus leaf



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The Early 19th Century Collection of Joseph Passalacqua, First Director of the Egyptian Museum Berlin, and its Archaeological Contexts

Jan MOJE (Egyptian Museum, Berlin)

Currently, in the frame of our research on the early history of the Egyptian Museum & Papyrus Collection in Berlin, as editor I am preparing a full biography of Josef (Giuseppe) Passalacqua, from 1828 onwards the first museum's director, together with numerous colleagues. An important part is his stay in Egypt until 1825, where he compiled a huge collection of Egyptian Artifacts by digging and surveying in numerous places in Egypt, which was bought in 1827 by the Prussian King for the Berlin Royal Collections. As until now only very little is known about Passalacqua himself, nearly nothing is known about his collection as an entity, the circumstances of objects acquisitions or the archaeological context of his more than 1500 objects. This paper will present my first research results on identifying the places of Passalacqua's activities and his itinerary, as well as on contextualization of several burial ensembles found by him for the first time. This will shed – for the first time ever – light on one of the very early archaeological, pre-Egyptological activities in Egypt at the beginning of the 19th century. Furthermore, presenting an archaeologically annotated catalogue of the Passalacqua-collection will enlarge our knowledge on him as an archaeologist, Egyptologist and Papyrologist in the prehistory of Berlin's Egyptian Museum.

Keywords: Egyptian Museum Berlin; Passalacqua; 19th century; History of Egyptology



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The Emergence and Spread of Coptic in Nubia

Nesreen MONIR (Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt/Fayoum University)

During the Graeco-Roman period, the Greek language became the official language in Nubia, and Egypt as well. That period also witnessed a newly written script of the Ancient Egyptian language, namely the Coptic language. It evolved over time and was even able to replace the Greek language in the documents and different transactions between the Egyptians. The Coptic language started to be used in Nubia from the fifth century AD and continued until the fourteenth century AD, It was used in both types of Coptic texts: Literary texts and non-literary texts (such as tombstones and contracts, letters, etc.).

Most opinions tend to consider the beginning of the actual existence and spread of Christianity in Nubia during the second half of the fifth century. Some attribute the spread of Christianity in Nubia as one of the most important factors for the emergence and spread of Coptic. However, many other factors had a significant impact on this spread. This paper will investigate and discuss why the Coptic language appeared and spread in Nubia.

Keywords: Coptic; Nubia; Ancient Egyptian language



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Making Sense of the Transformation of the Theban Necropolis: Works and Priorities of the Middle Kingdom Theban Project at Deir el-Bahari and Asasif

Antonio J. MORALES (University of Alcalá)

The reunification achieved in Nebhepetre Mentuhotep's reign signified the emergence of a renewed Egyptian state built upon a culture of traditions and transformations centralized at Thebes. The city became a melting-pot of political, religious, and cultural decisions, mostly aiming at the reconstruction of the administrative system, the control of the land and its resources, and more importantly, the boosting of kingship and the Theban dynasty. In this setting, the role of the high officials became pivotal. In the last seven years, the University of Alcalá Expedition and its Middle Kingdom Theban Project have set up a multidisciplinary and international team of experts that is conducting archaeological excavation, epigraphic work, and conservation in the tombs of some of these officials from the late Eleventh and early Twelfth dynasties. The documentation and study retrieved from the tombs of the visirs Dagi (TT 103) and Ipi (TT 315), the high steward Henenu (TT 313), and the overseer of prisons Djari (TT 366), among others, will no doubt allow scholars to have a better understanding of the role of Thebes in the construction of the classical age in pharaonic history. The lecture will cover the major questions posed by this research, the fundamental lines of investigation of the project (archaeology, landscape, territory, conservation, epigraphy), and the results of this expedition after seven seasons of work in the Theban necropolis (2015-2023).

Keywords: Archaeology; First Intermediate Period; Middle Kingdom; Thebes; Deir el-Bahari



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Supporting Research of Small Egyptian Collections in Italy: The Mummy Project Cases

Francesca MOTTA (Mummy Project Research) & Sabina MALGORA (Mummy Project Research)

The Mummy Project, established in 2008 and headquartered in Milan, is a research centre with the purpose of studying and showing Egyptian findings, that belong to collections outside the well known 'top class' museums, and therefore forgotten by the people.

Thus the Mummy Project mission favours people in their approach to unknown collections, which are made of beautiful Egyptian objects and even organic findings, such as human and animal mummies; the latter illustrated by means of tests done with the most advanced techniques of medical and forensic investigation, executed by a multitasking team. The team is able to collect all available information and compare them among the relevant scientific branch: All this with maximum respect and zero damage to the findings.

Over the years the Mummy Project has been able to work with several universities, museums, foundations and cultural organisations: In this respected space it will present plans to study and enhance the small yet precious Egyptian collections kept at the Asti Archaeological Museum, the Archaeological Museum of the Pavia University, the Palais Mamming of Meran, the Archaeological Museum of Bergamo and the Natural Sciences Museum of Brescia.

We like to emphasise how today it is of huge importance to ensure their preservation, by setting up operations of recovery and restoration, promoting the value of the museum, where the objects are kept, installing new fittings, improving their visibility on the media by creating teaching laboratories and conceiving and planning cultural events.

We are convinced that only in this way can we guarantee these collections maintain their rightful importance.

Keywords: Museum; Collections; Italian; Egypt; Conservation; Restoration; Promoting



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Open Forum:

The Future of Ancient Egypt

Chair: Miriam MÜLLER (Leiden University), Daniel SOLIMAN (Rijksmuseum van Oudheden, Leiden)

This forum will address a number of matters related to the discipline of Egyptology; issues that have been raised before, but are still urgent and pertain to the mission statement of the congress. The central question is: **What is the place of Ancient Egypt in contemporary society and academia, and will the discipline be relevant for the future?**

This question is open for debate and participants of the forum may chime in on the premise of the central question: is exploring it indeed urgent, or is it a pointless, self-absorbed pursuit?

For participants who want to engage with the central question, we have formulated the following discussion points:

- To what extent does Egyptological research significantly contribute to bigger questions in the study of ancient history?
- To what extent is knowledge production of ancient Egypt entrenched in popular images of the culture, characterised by royalty, pyramids, and mystery?
- To what extent is Egyptological research restricted to the study of objects in museum collections that favour monumental, aesthetically pleasing objects; and to what extent is research limited to excavations of single tombs and temples?
- Where should be the priorities in the advancement of the field of Egyptology as a discipline in its own right, and in relation to other disciplines? Does contemporary Egyptology take its goals and its place in the wider scholarly community serious?
- Are attempts at knowledge production of ancient Egypt that reveal or dispose of the discipline's colonial backgrounds necessary, hypocritical, or futile?

We invite all participants to submit further discussion topics, thoughts and concerns relevant to this forum.

Please send your input to ice2023@hum.leidenuniv.nl.



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From Egypt to Beyond: The Reception of Egyptian Amulets in Mediterranean Necropolis

Carmen MUÑOZ PÉREZ (University of Cádiz)

This paper discusses the use of Egyptian amulets outside the Egyptian territory and their appropriation in other cultures. In the Western Mediterranean area, Egyptian amulets have been found in a particular context, viz. the Phoenician and Roman necropolis. In addition to the trade and the exchange of these objects, we would like to discuss the reception of religious ideas and funerary practices. In other words: Why were Egyptian amulets chosen for funerary rituals in Mediterranean necropolis?

In Egypt, amulets were essential to accomplish the mummification practices to guarantee the rebirth of the deceased. For this purpose, their form, their material and even their colour were precisely chosen according to their magical attributes. Because of their apotropaic powers, but also their small size and their wealthy materials, they have been part of the trade interconnections in different periods. However, their funerary use proves that they have been appropriated by other cultures to protect their deceased in the afterlife. Indeed, by paying close attention to the typology and the form of these amulets, we can distinguish them from amulets used in Egyptian funerary practices.

The choice of a precise amulet in a funerary context was not due to pure chance. Thus, this particular context raises the exchange of artefacts, but also religious ideas. Considering these ideas, we would like to present a new vision of the research on Egyptian funerary amulets through their reception in the Mediterranean area.

Keywords: Egyptian amulets; Mediterranean necropolis; Interconnections; Reception



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Osiris on the Cape: Egyptian Artifacts in South African Collections

Franziska NAETHER (Saxon Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Leipzig/Leipzig University/Stellenbosch University)

South Africa has a longstanding tradition in the collection, reception and research of 'Classical' Greek and Roman artifacts. Several museums and private collections house significant inventories, and some store and exhibit also Ancient Egyptian objects and human remains. Often, they come from hitherto barely studied provenances and colonial contexts.

This contribution aims to provide an overview of these collections and previous research endeavors. Special emphasis is given to the Iziko Museums in Cape Town and the Ditsong Museums in Pretoria with whom we collaborate regularly in a project and database. Both serve in documenting and researching the ancient artifacts as part of the overarching scheme 'South Africa, Greece and Rome: Classical Confrontations' in cooperation with Stanford University.

In order to achieve this goal, the input not only from colleagues, but also from students is vital: There are modules in which they not only study the artifacts but also create photographic and 3D documentation, and present their findings together with experts to the public. Therefore, the paper also aims to open up a dialogue about good practice of such forms of knowledge transfer in class and to wider audiences.

Furthermore, ancient motifs play a key role in activists' artistic expressions against Apartheid and current issues of the diverse South African society. The final part of the paper is devoted to this often overlooked aspect of the reception of Egyptian, Greek and Roman antiquity as part of contemporary culture.

Keywords: Museology/Museum studies; Digital Egyptology; Teaching; Divine bronze figures

Co-author: Samantha MASTERS (Stellenbosch University)



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Donations as Causes of Conflicts in Ancient Egypt

Hend NAGUIB (Alexandria University)

In Ancient Egypt a donation could be interpreted as transferring property outside normal lines of inheritance, since it could be granted during the donor's lifetime. Whether royal or private, donations were bestowed on temples, statues, and individuals. Officials in the service of the king were usually rewarded with fields, manpower and houses. These were considered as benefits which could be confiscated in case of serious misconduct. Yet, donations were not only a source of income but also a potential cause of conflict.

The study will focus on dispute cases and conflicts resultant of donating. Related documents will be investigated depending on textual and archaeological evidence. An example is pBerlin 3047, dated to the 19th dynasty, where the dispute of *Nfr-ḥt* against his brother the storekeeper *Ny-ḥz* is narrated. The latter was acting as an agent for his brothers and sisters and received some fields along with his siblings. Later, he transferred his share to the temple of Mut as a source of income for himself.

Keywords: Donations; Donor; Conflicts; Inheritance; Individuals; Properties; Ancient Egypt



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The Chapel of Osiris-Ptah Neb-ankh: Recent Updates

Essam NAGY (Osiris-Ptah neb-ankh Research Project/Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt/Egypt Exploration Society/Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

The Chapel of Osiris-Ptah neb-ankh is located outside the Tenth Pylon along Sphinx Avenue to the Mut Complex. The chapel was constructed by the 25th dynasty kings Taharqa and Tanutamun. The structure was in urgent need of consolidation due to strain from earlier 1922 preservation efforts. The surrounding site is under threat from degradation and invasive plant life.

This Egyptian archaeological mission and research project is focussing on the documentation conservation and excavation of the Chapel of Osiris-Ptah neb-ankh. The mission managed to conduct large conservation, restoration, excavation, and reconstruction seasons to restore the chapel after the first restoration happened in 1922. This paper will shed light on the recent work in the area by the Egyptian mission led by the author.

Keywords: Osiris-Ptah neb-ankh; Karnak; 25th dynasty; Taharqa; Tanutamun



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Memphite Graffiti Century: Aspects of Secondary Epigraphy Work in the Memphite Area

Hana NAVRATILOVA (University of Oxford/University of Reading)

Remarks about other people's writing (in large, high, rather ugly writing): This was the 1920s summary of Battiscombe Gunn concerned with an oft-quoted dipinto in the precinct of Djoser. Since then, the text has become a source for analysis of written culture, gender relations, and scribal communities of practice. Yet, investigating secondary epigraphy in pyramid complexes may appear as an over-detailed attention to a minor feature. Next to the architectural history and primary decoration of the precincts articulating major ideas of religion and kingship, these secondary traces of reception and performance of cultural memory appear diminutive in size and scope. However, a systematic analysis of secondary epigraphy in Egyptian temples and tombs indicates that they were neither. Although there is still some way to go to achieve a comprehensive map of secondary epigraphy on the Memphite pyramid fields (first proposed in 2003), a targeted research of the pyramid complex of Senwosret III at Dahshur (first report published in 2013) has shown the potential of a quantitative as well as qualitative analysis. Secondary epigraphy, just like its carrier surfaces, refers to cultural history, piety and memory, and opens new perspectives on the pyramids and their life. It indicates a systemic understanding of visual and written culture that was observed, digested, imitated, and innovated. The 'visitors' belonged to a specific community of practice but also had a distinctly personal agency. Their choices included labelling scenes of offering bearers as well as creating a space for the self in a liminal and privileged environment of the royal and private necropolis. Comparison of patterns of epigraphic activity in royal and private monuments displays both shared and distinct features.

Keywords: Memphis; New Kingdom; Graffiti; Dipinti; Piety; Memory; Script; Pyramids



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New Unicode Control Characters for Ancient Egyptian Hieroglyphic Text

Mark-Jan NEDERHOF (University of St Andrews)

The main importance of Unicode lies in its ability to represent text combining different scripts in a uniform and standardized manner, and to render such text using a single font technology. For example, a Word document may contain English, Coptic, and Arabic text, combined with Egyptological transliteration and Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs, produced using a standard text processor, without any additional tools.

The first Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs were introduced in Unicode as late as 2009. In 2019, nine control characters were added to express how signs are positioned relative to one another, so that at least some portion of original hieroglyphic texts could be represented. Consideration of further control characters was dependent on successful implementation of these first few control characters in common font technology.

This presentation will discuss a font that has been created since then. This paved the way for a further 29 control characters, which became part of the Unicode standard in September 2022. It will thereby become possible in the near future to encode original hieroglyphic text for most practical applications in Egyptology that combine different scripts. The newly introduced control characters express (1) signs inserted into other signs, (2) cartouches and a range of other enclosures, (3) mirroring of signs, (4) blank and lost signs, and (5) damaged or partially damaged signs. Furthermore, rotation can be indicated by means of variation selectors.

We will explain the process leading to the new control characters, by a committee of Egyptologists and font technology experts, to explore requirements from the intended users, in the light of the possibilities of font technology.

<https://www.unicode.org/L2/L2021/21248-egyptian-controls.pdf>

Keywords: Unicode; Font technology; Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs

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Emery and the Ibises

Paul NICHOLSON (School of History, Archaeology and Religion, Cardiff University)

The work of Professor W.B. Emery at the Sacred Animal Necropolis of North Saqqara is well known. Following his untimely death in 1971 much of his work was brought to publication by the late Professor Geoffrey T. Martin and more recently by Professor Harry Smith and Sue Davies.

However, there remain aspects of Emery's field work at the necropolis which have not yet been published. These include his discovery of the North Ibis Catacomb, found in the final season of his work, and of some of the ceramic vessels used as coffins for the birds as well as examination of the bird remains themselves.

This paper looks at a project by the author which aims to complete the publication of Emery's work on the bird catacombs encompassing not only those finds directly made by him but those by the author and his colleagues made during the 1990s.

The new work, discussed in the paper, will produce a detailed plan of the North Ibis Catacomb based on the original plan made by the late Kenneth J. Frazer and supplemented in the 1990s. It will also provide a statistical analysis of the shapes of the mummy pots using a technique developed by the late Dr. N.R.J. Fieller. Preliminary results suggest that some of the galleries in the North Ibis share similar pottery shapes with those in the Falcon Catacomb. The study will therefore encompass the pottery from these two along with the South Ibis Catacomb, the first to be discovered by Emery and whose plan was published by Martin.

Using these techniques, it is hoped to suggest a floating chronology for the bird catacombs at Saqqara and to supplement those works already published.

Keywords: North Saqqara; Sacred animal necropolis; Ibises; Emery



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Weather Charmers: Aesthetic Interactions with Ethereal Powers in Prehistoric Egypt

Olga NIKONENKO (University College London)

Animals played a significant symbolic place in ex-voto practices and religious rituals in different parts of the world since ancient times. A myriad of deities in theriomorphic form remains one of the most striking aspects of Ancient Egyptian religion. Although the Ancient Egyptian divine order is widely discussed in scholarship, the 'conductive-communicative' function of these cults in their relation to the environment and weather conditions is rather overlooked. Recent discoveries of several caves with animal imagery in the Sinai Desert, however, might significantly revive interest and contribute to the understanding of how in prehistoric Egypt animalistic imagery was utilised as a possible 'practical' nexus with the divine order. In this paper, I propose that ancient cave art in tandem with the elements of zoolatry in the form of animal tumuli excavated in the Nabta Playa desert played a crucial role in the process of the 'taming of the weather'. Although this paper does not tie any animal paintings and physical fauna remains to exact dates or dramatic climatic changes during the Holocene, it is still useful in assessing the functional capabilities of animal worship in prehistoric Egypt. The aim of this paper is to study the exegesis of different types of artistic monumentalities with animalistic patterns and creativity to analyse the mentality of the prehistoric Egyptian population and the unusual nature of the three-stage 'man-sacred animal-divine' interaction.

Keywords: Egypt; Sacred animals; Votive offerings; Deity; Religion; Cattle cult



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Who Killed Kheny?! Archaeological Analyses into the (Sandstone) Quarry Workers Who Built Egypt

Maria NILSSON (Lund University)

The aim of this paper is to summarise the preliminary results on the investigations into the non-elite community and industrial settlement of ancient Kheny (modern Gebel el-Silsila), focusing on a socio-religious and economic transformation – and subsequent collapse during the New Kingdom. It sets out to answer what happened to Kheny and its inhabitants, what the causes were for this geo-political and cultural transformation, and what can be learned about the speed and progress of the demise, including its influence on the landscape.

From its beginning in 2012, the Swedish Mission at Gebel el-Silsila has surveyed and excavated the monuments and surrounding landscape on both sides of the Nile, including the areas of Nag el-Hammam and Shatt el-Rigal. Ranging from the documentation of rock art and inscriptions, quarries and quarry infrastructure to the surveying and excavation of workers' villages, temples, workshops and burial sites, the site has revealed insights into the daily life, religious and funerary customs throughout the ancient periods.

Based on a decade of fieldwork (16 seasons) this lecture focusses on lives (and deaths) of ordinary people, their beliefs and local rituals, as well as their responses and management of crises and how their community transformed. It is a presentation of recent work and preliminary results primarily from the Middle Kingdom to the end of the New Kingdom.

Keywords: Gebel el-Silsila; Kheny; Ancient quarry; Excavations; Epigraphy



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The Eight Gable-lid Boxes of Kha in the Museo Egizio di Torino

Naoko NISHIMOTO (Musashino University)

The eight gable-lid boxes owned by Kha (TT 8), each about one cubit long, can be described as treasure boxes for valuables such as linen and alabaster vases. It is quite rare to own eight of them. The diversity of paintings, inscriptions, structural forms, and lid openings attract the viewer's attention. Sara Caramello examined the hieroglyphs on S. 8212, 8213 and 8613, indicating the difference among the scribes in the 'management of the space, the eye-sign forming the name of Osiris, the determinative of "man" after the name of Kha'. When investigated, the characteristic use of dovetail joints was observed on the bottom boards. This was assumed to be a device to prevent the boxes from cracking and breaking because of the ageing of the wood. The eight boxes were therefore classified according to the use of dovetail joints and the slope of the lids, resulting in three groups, each containing one box with an 'offering scene'. Two groups with dovetail joints have lids with slopes of integer ratios of approximately 2:7 and $(2+2/3):7$, whereas the remaining group has boxes without dovetail joints and lids of varying slopes. Three boxes with dovetail joints, which have roof apexes in the middle area of the short side, have the most notable designs among the eight. A good example is S. 8450, where the side panels show a coniferous grain in the bare wood. If, as Caramello states, the painting or inscription was added in haste to create a funerary object, there may have been a time lag between the woodwork and the painting or inscription. Much remains unexplored about the actual state of the workshop; however, it would be most noteworthy if differences between makers could be detected and revealed by analysing the woodworking skills and designs employed.

Keywords: Woodworker; Seqed; Furniture; Dovetail joint; New Kingdom; Kha; Deir el-Medina



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The Holy Horizon: The Early 18th Dynasty Royal Necropolis at Deir el-Bahari

Andrzej NIWIŃSKI (University of Warsaw)

In 2019 the Polish Cliff Mission cleaning the slopes above the temple of Thutmose III at Deir el-Bahari discovered a foundation deposit of Thutmose II probably related to a simple rock sanctuary nearby. Further works in front of this have revealed a huge man-made accumulation of stones and debris topped with a platform. The excavated place is axially connected with the cult chapel devoted to Thutmose I and II within the temple precinct of Thutmose III. Other hints suggest that also the tomb of Amenhotep I and that of Thutmose I may have been located in the area of this temple called 'Holy Horizon'. A common cult place of Amenhotep I and Thutmose III is attested there, too.

Keywords: Holy Horizon; Royal necropolis; Amenhotep I; Thutmose I-III



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SIGSaqqâra: Presentation of the Project, Data and Possible Analyses

Éloïse Noc (UMR 5140, Paul Valéry University Montpellier 3/Institute of Archaeology, University College London)

The SIGSaqqâra project, launched in July 2016 and supported by LabEx ArchiMedE of Montpellier for 3 years (2016-2019), aims to examine the spatial organisation at Saqqâra by listing and documenting the funerary monuments of Saqqara from the Predynastic Period to the end of the Old Kingdom, but also by identifying their location and analysing the recorded data. After a presentation of the project which continues, this conference will focus on the possible analyses thanks to the digital tools – GIS and linked database – created to support the research. Some analyses will be developed to show the advantages of such tools and the potential of the choice of the recorded data (location, chronology, architecture, owners, sources...). It will also point out the difficulties we may face when we are conducting this kind of research, but also highlight the advances made in this work.

Keywords: Saqqara; Archaeology; Spatial occupation; Geographic information system database



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Conceptualising *mw.t* between Biology, Gender and Care: A Preliminary Approach Based on Middle and New Kingdom Sources

Beatriz NORIA SERRANO (University of Alcalá) & Guilherme BORGES PIRES (Centre for the Humanities, Nova University Lisbon)

Kinship-related lexemes in Ancient Egyptian did not necessarily refer to biological bonds. Words such as *sn(.t)* or *s3(.t)* could be employed in reference to people with whom one had no apparent genealogical link. However, a few family-centred concepts have been interpreted in strictly blood-ties terms. *mw.t*, ‘mother’ (*Wb* 2, 54.1-10) is most commonly envisaged as a woman who gives birth to a child. Nevertheless, the use of this lexeme in the divine sphere points to attestations in which it relates neither to a human being nor to a female entity.

In this paper, we intend to consider the lexeme *mw.t* in two textual ensembles: Middle Kingdom stelae from Abydos, and New Kingdom religious hymns. In the Abydian stelae, *mw.t* also comprises obligations and duties towards the child. As for New Kingdom laudatory texts, the male creator deity can be described as a ‘mother’ (e.g. pLeiden I 350, V.3-4). While this has been understood as an argument in favour of the so-called creator’s androgyny, it can be argued that such a characterisation could serve to emphasise the deity’s ceaseless zeal towards his creatures, without compromising his masculinity.

Taking these two corpora as case studies, combining both Egyptological data and the Gender Studies theoretical background, this paper will ponder on *mw.t*’s possible non-biological implications, both in the human and divine spheres. Given the common practice of adoption in Ancient Egypt, and in the absence of a specific lexeme for adoptive mother, could this word also be used to refer to women who performed motherly roles despite not giving birth? What would such a care-centred understanding imply vis-à-vis divine male entities labelled as *mw.t*? In sum: What was the ontological scope conveyed by *mw.t* concerning both humans and deities?

Keywords: *mw.t*; Non-biological motherhood; Abydos stelae; New Kingdom religious hymns



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The Ancient Egyptian Afterlife in Early Modern European Thought

Rune NYORD (Emory University)

By the time of Champollion's famous deciphering of the Egyptian hieroglyphic script, a number of key tenets of Egyptian mortuary religion were already commonly accepted, and these ideas ended up significantly shaping and constraining subsequent 19th and 20th century thinking about the Ancient Egyptian afterlife. This paper explores key moments in this development of early modern interpretations of Egyptian thought about postmortem fate. It shows how the deployment of Ancient Egypt in historical, philosophical, and theological arguments contributed to a gradual approximation between Ancient Egyptian religion and contemporary Christian beliefs in principle based on, but also frequently at odds with, Classical authors such as Herodotus and Diodorus. Which parts of this textual basis were accepted or rejected depended increasingly, and especially from the 17th century onward, on the precise place authors wanted to accord to Ancient Egypt in universal history. However, for all their differences, such arguments tended to have in common the result of aligning Ancient Egyptian religion with different aspects of contemporary Christianity, be it a belief in immaterial souls, a moral judgment after death, or even laws presaging the Decalogue of the Hebrew Bible. As a case study in critical historiography, this paper focusses on the conceptual frameworks, cultural backgrounds, and different audiences of the scholars contributing to this development in order to show how different stances on such topics as the Reformation of Christianity or monotheism vs. atheism contributed to shaping what could be imagined about the Ancient Egyptian afterlife, not only in the Early Modern Period itself, but also far into the following centuries.

Keywords: Afterlife; Conceptions of souls; Judgment; Early modern Egyptology; Historiography



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New Chronology of Metal Tools and Weapons before, during and after the Middle Kingdom and its Implications

Martin ODLER (School of History, Classics and Archaeology, Newcastle University)

In this paper, I would like to discuss the results and wider implications of my PhD research focussed on the metalwork of Early and Middle Bronze Age in Egypt and Nubia, leading to distinguishing of the early and late Middle Kingdom phases for the use of metal tools and weapons. This distinction enables us to tell apart assemblages, which were often datable, only generally, to the First Intermediate Period, Middle Kingdom, or Second Intermediate Period. Updated archaeological chronology leads to fresh and substantially new historical implications. For the First Intermediate Period and early Middle Kingdom, tools and weaponry contemporary to the Intermediate Bronze Age and early Middle Bronze Age are identified. Nomarchs and high-status individuals displayed military affiliations, expressed in literary means by the character of Sinuhe, reflecting the weaponry use in the early Middle Bronze Age Eastern Mediterranean. Late Middle Kingdom and Second Intermediate Period tools and weapons were often considered together as weapons only, while we can now distinguish tool and weapon blades, thus better understand the archaeological assemblages. The re-assessment valid for Egypt and Nubia is supported by the newly proposed chronology of C-Group (M.-K. Schröder) and Pan-grave 'culture' (A. de Souza). This research enables us to better validate entanglements of Egyptians and Nubians in wider context of Eastern Mediterranean in the Middle Bronze Age, even before the 'Hyksos invasion'. The regions were not as secluded as thought before, and current and future interdisciplinary research into the copper metallurgy will further rectify this picture.

Keywords: Middle Kingdom; Second Intermediate Period; Copper tools; Weapons



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The Search for the Origin of a Disease, Medical Instruments and ‘Artificial Mummy Eyes’: Early Encounters between Egyptology and Medicine in Belgium

Vincent OETERS (KU Leuven/Ghent University)

The renewed interest in Ancient Egypt that arose in the nineteenth century as a result of Napoleon's campaign in Egypt led to an explosive increase of sources related to Ancient Egyptian medical knowledge and practice. It is understandable that these new sources of information, exerted a strong attraction not only on Egyptologists but also on medical and surgical practitioners who were interested in ancient healing methods and in the history of their science. In the course of the nineteenth century, the attention of the European medical world was drawn to Egypt for another, much more tragic reason. After the return of Napoleon's armies from Egypt, the wide and rapid spread in Europe of trachoma, a bacterial infection of the eye that can cause complications including permanent blindness, drew medical attention to the disease, its possible treatments and its origins. ‘Military ophthalmia’ or ‘Egyptian ophthalmia’ as the epidemic affection was soon termed, was spread by soldiers who had contracted it in Egypt and thus the research on its origin focussed in particular on that country and its history in the region. Since the Ebers papyrus contains remedies for eye diseases, Ancient Egyptian medicine was included in the debate. This paper examines early encounters between Egyptology and medicine in Belgium. Three ophthalmologists who published research related to Ancient Egypt such as ‘artificial mummy eyes’ are discussed: Victor Deneffe, Eduard Pergens and Daniel Van Duyse. After a brief biographical account, their publications on Ancient Egypt and correspondence with Egyptologists such as Georges Daressy and Jean Capart are discussed for the first time.

Keywords: History of Egyptology; Medicine; Trachoma; Inlay eyes; Georges Daressy; Jean Capart



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Of Course, Living is Simple among the Peasants: Ethnography, Egyptology, and Modern Rural Egypt

Leire OLABARRIA (University of Birmingham)

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries anthropologists were instruments and agents of colonial powers, recording and interpreting cultural phenomena from the 'exotic other' under the auspices of the empire. By placing anthropologists in the field, Western authorities were not just affirming their presence in the area, but they were also trying to understand those cultures to facilitate domination and control. Anthropologists undoubtedly shaped the cultural delimitation of countries whose borders had been created by political convenience. In the case of Egypt, much of this effort was undertaken by archaeologists, whose presence in the field contributed to the colonial enterprise; hence, much of the current work on critically assessing the history of Egyptology has been centred on archaeological projects. Anthropologists, however, also played an important albeit under-researched role in the creation of ideas about Egypt, as well as in the moulding of Egyptology as a field of study.

This paper focusses on the impact of early ethnography on Egyptology by investigating how anthropological perspectives have been incorporated into modern understandings of pharaonic visual and written culture. Egyptological scholarship has long relied on interpretations that derived from ethnographic observations. For example, early translations of Ancient Egyptian texts are riddled with terms such as fellah, omdeh or ezbeh, transposing onto pharaonic times modern Egyptian Arabic words typical of rural environments. In this paper I will present some case studies related to the characterisation of social hierarchies, demonstrating how ethnographic observation contributed to the creation of Egyptological discourses.

Keywords: History of Egyptology; Ethnography; Anthropology; Imperialism; Social hierarchy



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From Dusk to Dawn: How the Egyptian Collections Have Endured the Test of Time

Isabel OLBÉS RUIZ DE ALDA (National Archaeological Museum, Madrid)

The Egyptian collections of the Museo Arqueológico Nacional (National Archaeological Museum) have been part of the foundation collections since 1867, when the museum was created by Royal Decree under the reign of Queen Isabella II. Since then until now, more than a century and a half later, they continue to be part of them and have increased through deposits, purchases, donations and distribution of excavation finds.

The way in which these objects have been displayed has changed through time, following the museological and museographical trends of the moment; the variation in the exhibition criteria, research and studies, and the redefinition of the museum concept. All of these aspects have influenced our perception of the collections, and, far from diminishing, it has continued to escalate. The Egyptian rooms continue to be the most visited and demanded areas by the public.

We will focus on the collections from a museographic point of view, from the 19th century setting of rooms to the most modern museum concepts.

Keywords: Museum; Collections; Exhibition; Egyptian; Museographic



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The Archaeology Knowledge Base: Transforming the Process of Growing Excavation Knowledge

Dominic OLDMAN (British Museum, London)

Most archaeological excavations use a database to record information mostly focussing on intrinsic properties. This is a characteristic of heritage databases which use predetermined data models. Excavations can last many years and are revisited by different teams with different perspectives. Databases are static environments with no underlying semantics for effective data reuse and integration. Each project relies on their own implicit epistemological assumptions. While useful the data is reductive and creates issues for knowledge provenance and collaboration. Databases cannot represent the complexity of wider context or qualitative representations and often become ancillary with a high risk of obsolescence.

The Deir el-Medina (DeM) project builds on work at the British Museum and the Amara West (AW) project which uses a flexible knowledge base system, ResearchSpace (RS). While DeM has similarities with AW, all research projects are different. Intellectual individuality is important and RS provides a semantic framework for representing wider contextual knowledge but which allows meaningful integration of heterogeneous information and comparison of difference. Both knowledge bases use the CIDOC CRM (Conceptual Reference Model) ontology including archaeological specialisations. With RS they provide a dynamic and rich environment for archeologists themselves to grow knowledge models and represent relational patterns of information including their interpretations. The model supports argumentation and causation bringing together different interdisciplinary perspectives to answer questions. It creates an ongoing knowledge base supporting relational paradigms in archaeology using data with explicit semantics not dependent on particular software.

Keywords: Semantic linked data; Interdisciplinary archaeology; Deir el-Medina; Knowledge base



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Big Data Workshop:

From database to knowledge base: building sustainable interdisciplinary digital systems with confidence

Chair: Dominic OLDMAN (Kartography Community Interest Company), Karin DE WILD (Digital Humanities Centre, University of Leiden), Neal SPENCER (Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge), Kathrin GABLER (University of Basel/University of Copenhagen) & Manuela LEHMANN (University of Tübingen)

The workshop co-organised by the Digital Humanities Centre, Leiden, presents and explores new models of work with digital data systems on cultural heritage content. To undertake meaningful, open and interdisciplinary collaborations, researchers need easy access to, and frameworks for exchanging, quality data. Crucially, this must avoid imposing one-size-fits-all data frameworks that suppress context and nuance within the data, but rather encourage integration and interoperability between different approaches. The open source ResearchSpace system, developed at the British Museum, represents a change to the way in which researchers can work with data. It has been deployed in cultural heritage projects within museums, universities, archaeological projects, libraries and archives. Three case studies will be used to explain the various concepts and scope of the system, encompassing archaeological, Egyptological and archival projects (Amara West, Deir el-Medina, The [UK] National Archives Case Study). Besides presenting the knowledge base system, various research tools, configuration possibilities and future perspectives will be shown. The workshop discusses how we communicate and engage with our networks and communities. Its semantic and contextual approach provides new opportunities for sustainable digital heritage using an open access and open source approach.



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Social and Economic Networks of New Kingdom Tomb Owners

Rune OLSEN (McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, University of Cambridge)

This paper presents some of the results from the research project 'Navigating New Economic Networks in Ancient Egypt' (University of Cambridge, 2020-2022). The paper explores the potential of using Social Network Analysis on a combination of archaeological material and textual sources. Working from the premise that the volumetric size was a marker for the economic investment made in the course of the construction of rock-cut tombs, the project maps the social networks of the proprietors of monumental Theban Tombs during the New Kingdom in order to track the resources utilised. It is recognized that there is a correlation between the size of a tomb and the level of societal position of the tomb owner, and this is also to a certain degree reflected in the density and breadth of the tomb owner's social network. The density of the network is determined through Social Network Analysis. The connectivity and patterns of personal networks are indicators of each tomb owner's access to financial and political capital. For example, by focussing on the social network of the owners of the largest tombs in 18th dynasty Thebes it is possible to outline the interconnectivity of the king's high officials and, because these officials represent wealthy and important institutions in the top of society, map the structures of power upon which the Egyptian state was built.

Keywords: New Kingdom; Theban tombs; Social Network Analysis; Economy; Prosopography



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Re-investigation of the So-called Tomb of von Bissing 1897 at El-Salamuni Necropolis

Wahid OMRAN (Fayoum University)

El-Salamuni was the main necropolis of Akhmim during the Graeco-Roman period. In 1897, Friedrich von Bissing first visited the necropolis alone, and then later in 1913, he returned accompanied by Hermann Kees. He noted several Roman tombs at the desert's edge. During his first visit, he documented the most famous tomb in the necropolis, and fifty years later, he published this Roman tomb, which is now numbered Tomb C1 by the Akhmim Inspectorate.

Von Bissing only described the afterlife scenes in the antechamber, and he didn't have access to the burial chamber because its walls were covered with soot.

Between 2019-2021, a full conservation process was conducted in the tomb, removing the debris and the heavy soot on the walls and ceilings of the tomb. New magnificent funerary scenes were uncovered beneath the soot in the burial chamber.

Keywords: Zodiac; Daemons; Orthostates; Afterlife; Soot



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Second to None: Results from Interdisciplinary Investigations in TT 16's Secondary Burials

Suzanne ONSTINE (University of Memphis)

As a result of extensive reuse, Theban Tomb 16 in Luxor's tombs of the nobles contains over 100 individuals whose looted remains are the focus of investigations into topics such as health and funerary practices. Placed in the context of the tomb's architecture and alongside the associated funerary items we can build a picture of the ideology and practice of secondary burials in the Theban necropolis. Reuse of tombs was commonplace, but due to looting, poor preservation, and modern cultural assumptions about tomb reuse, the nature of the practice of interring the dead in an existing tomb has historically been poorly understood. Our work attempts to explore this phase of TT 16's use by reconstituting the elements and possible activities associated with secondary burials. Drawing on disciplines like archaeology, paleobotany, ceramic analysis, and physical anthropology, we bring together evidence to shed light on this common practice.

Keywords: Thebes; Tombs; Reuse; Funerary archaeology; Religion



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John Garstang's Field Records from Beni Hasan (1902-1904)

Sara E. OREL (Truman State University)

The excavations of John Garstang at Beni Hasan from 1902 to 1904 culminated in his 1907 *Burial Customs of Ancient Egypt*. This presentation will discuss the notes taken in the field, what survives and what does not, and what the few surviving field notes add to our knowledge of work at the site and the information included in Garstang's publication.

The focus is on an unpublished field book from the first season at the University of Liverpool. This booklet includes notes on seven tombs, most of which are discussed in *Burial Customs*, but contains information additional to what was published. In addition to the field book were tomb cards, which Garstang writes were used in the preparation of his publication. These are now lost, although they survive for sites which did not receive a final publication. Photographs probably taken by Garstang himself during the first season and Harold Jones during the second, were developed by Mahmoud Abd el Gelél at the site. There were originally 1100 glass-plate negatives, of which some 750 remain in Liverpool. These negatives record information about the inscriptions at the site, something that is not available from the field book and may not have been recorded on the tomb cards.

These three main types of field documentation (field notes, tomb cards, now lost, and photographs) allow us to get a better understanding of the process of excavation at the site, and supplement some of the information that is missing in Garstang's final publication. In addition, field records and publications can be supplemented by objects that can be traced in museum collections. The study of the lower necropolis of Beni Hasan draws on all this material to broaden the picture painted in *Burial Customs of Ancient Egypt*, an important work now over a century old.

Keywords: Middle Kingdom; Beni Hasan; Burial customs; Archaeology; Historiography



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المؤتمر الدولي لعلماء المصريات

Tutankhamun's Silver Trumpet

Moamen OTHMAN (Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

In this lecture we will discuss an analytical study of the silver trumpet of Tutankhamun in the collection of the Egyptian Museum, Cairo. Two trumpets, which were called *šnb* in Egyptian, were found in the burial chamber of pharaoh Tutankhamun. They are considered the world's oldest operational trumpets and the only known surviving examples from ancient Egypt, one in sterling silver and the other in bronze or copper.

The silver trumpet (the studied object) was later found in the burial chamber and is 22.5 inches (57.2 cm) long (Carter No. 175). its bell is engraved with a whorl of sepals and calyces representing the lotus flower. One of the most exciting aspects of Tutankhamun's trumpets is that they were found with brightly painted wooden cores inside, resembling the bloom and stem of the lotus flower. This decorated rigid core was perhaps to protect the delicate metal from distortion, making a 'buzzing' sound, or to help clean the tube's inside with a rag. It is unknown why trumpets contain such cores.

The present work aims to identify and study the silver trumpet of Tutankhamun using X-ray fluorescence, which allows compositional analysis and comparisons.

Keywords: Tutankhamun; Trumpet; Egyptian Museum; Music



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Human Mummies in Warsaw

Marzena OŻAREK-SZILKE (Oncology Clinic of the Medical University of Warsaw),
Wojciech EJSMOND (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures of the Polish
Academy of Sciences) & Stanisław SZILKE (Warsaw Mummy Project)

The Warsaw Mummy Project was launched in December 2015 to conduct a comprehensive and multidisciplinary investigation of mummies at the National Museum in Warsaw.

The project includes non-invasive examinations, i.a. computed tomography and X-rays. The first step was to check whether the mummies were authentic, and reveal what was under their bandages. This brought unexpected finds to light in a mummy that was previously thought to be a fake (200334 MNW). CT scans helped to answer questions about sex, biological age, and possible causes of death. In one case (236805/3 MNW, the so-called Mysterious Lady), a mummy previously thought to be male turned out to be a pregnant woman. Furthermore, CT and X-ray images present an opportunity to find traces of diseases that occurred in ancient times (e.g., metabolic disorders). One of the most important finds in this respect are pathological changes in the skull of the Mysterious Lady that indicate cancer.

Beyond presenting the state of the current research of the aforementioned individuals the paper will also present the mummies of Panepy (147801/2 MNW) and two children (Vr.St. 184 and 142474/5 MNW), together with numerous mummy parts preserved at the museum, which brought attention to some methodological issues.

Moreover, the project goes beyond medical analyses. The CT scans are used to produce facial approximations of the deceased, which help to raise sensibility regarding embalmed human remains. As an innovation, a hologram of a mummy presents a new way of displaying radiological images.

Keywords: Mummies; X-ray; CT; Physical anthropology



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Intertextuality and Textual Transmission in the Mid-18th Dynasty Theban Necropolis: Case Studies from TT 84 and TT 95

Julianna PAKSI (University of Liège)

The decoration of the tombs of the mid-18th dynasty Theban necropolis bears witness to a strong social and intellectual rivalry between the members of the contemporary elite. The lifetime competition between the members of this group—all high-ranking officials from the king's inner circle—thus also manifests in the interconnectedness of the textual programme of their tombs. With the help of selected case studies from the textual programme of two related Theban tombs—TT 84 and TT 95—this paper seeks to provide insights into the nature and strength of the intertextual relations of these monuments. Exploring the intertextual dimension of the inscriptions of these tombs is expected to contribute to a better understanding of the practices of textual transmission within the necropolis, to reveal some of the intentions of the ancient artists, and to bring us closer to the Ancient Egyptian understanding of creativity with regard to text production.

This study unifies the methods of art history and philology—two sub-fields of Egyptology that tend to operate independently of each other. In art history, the discussion on the interconnectedness of the decoration of Theban tombs is still very much dominated by the analysis of their figurative representations and thus by studies on intericonicity; the intertextuality of the material has been largely ignored until now. In philology, the moderate scholarly interest in the inscriptions of Theban tombs can be explained by their rather formulaic nature, although this is more presumed than real. By producing results at the intersection of these two domains, the paper aims to create a bridge between the two. It does so in the belief that a closer cooperation between philologists and art historians is essential for the future of our discipline.

Keywords: Intertextuality; Textual transmission; 18th dynasty Theban tombs; TT 84; TT 95



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Of Crocodiles and Meanings: Or, when Esna Meets Semiotics. Behind (and beyond) a Definition of Figurative Writing

Federica PANCIN (Sapienza University of Rome)

Crocodile hieroglyphs are a paradigmatic presence in the graphic repertoire of the Roman Pronaos of Esna. They feature abundantly also in *L'écriture figurative dans les textes d'Esna*, a milestone in the study of Ancient Egyptian cryptography by the late S. Sauneron (1982). Though partly unrevised due to the author's premature death, the monograph represents an insightful reflection on figurative writing and the innovative allographies of the theonyms in the Litanies of Esna. According to Sauneron, figurative writing consists in the re-elaboration of usual orthographies of basic lemmata – such as theonyms or toponyms – into analytical forms, obtained through the recognition of analogical relationships – of phonetic, semantic, or allegoric nature – in the theological discourse. Writing, then, becomes not just a linguistic notational medium, but a more complex instrument for knowledge. Crocodile-signs can acquire many different values, based on what they are and what they do. In describing the materiality of the hieroglyphic sign, J. Assmann (1994) distinguishes two levels of signification: Denotation (e.g. 'crocodile') and connotation (e.g. greed and aggressiveness, i.e. 'crocodilicity'). Moving from Sauneron's assertion that analogical relations grounded in religion existed between world and word – and that they could be revealed through a graphic alchemical process – the paper aims at proposing a third dimension in the signification of figurative writing(s), a more analytical and cultural ultra-connotative level, or 'Sobekicity', i.e. a summa of the mythological and theological realisations of figuration. The study of the iconic properties of the instance of the crocodile hieroglyph will thus contribute to a more encompassing semiotic definition of the figurative sign.

Keywords: Figurative writing; Esna; Crocodile; Egyptian hieroglyphs; Semiotics



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Confusing Power and Greatness: A Closer Look at the Assumed Synonymy of $\text{ꜥ}3$ and wr

Josefin PERCIVAL (Uppsala University)

The increased interest in lexical semantics over the past few decades has allowed for more detailed and accurate translations and understanding of Egyptian texts. Yet, in spite of this recent interest, much is left unstudied. One such area is that of synonymy. Although absolute synonymy is generally not considered a true concept in linguistics, translations of Egyptian texts still seem to display this phenomenon. Two roots presenting such close synonymy are $\text{ꜥ}3$ and wr , both generally defined as great, important, and mighty in translations of earlier Egyptian texts. Indeed, both roots appear to be used interchangeably on occasion, seemingly expressing the same semantic scope. However, the different morphological and syntactic patterns suggest that their synonymy may not be as close as previously assumed. Studying the two roots closely, it is possible to identify preferences for one over the other in certain constructions, e.g. subjunctive and comparative uses. Furthermore, what is the deciding factor for which translation is to be used for each of the two adjectives when both appear in short succession in the same phrase, if both display the same semantic scope? By implementing adjective sequence pattern, an increasingly studied field in linguistics but not yet applied to Ancient Egyptian linguistics, to earlier and later Egyptian texts the differentiation between $\text{ꜥ}3$ and wr can be further distinguished. By studying morpho-syntax and semantics, in addition to adjective sequence patterning, this paper aims to clarify the level of synonymy displayed by $\text{ꜥ}3$ and wr , questioning whether their semantic definition and translation should be refined or altered.

Keywords: Linguistics; Adjectives; Semantics; Diachrony; Synonymy



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A Reexamination of the Royal Cache Wadi (West Bank, Luxor): Results from Five Seasons of Research

José Ramón PÉREZ-ACCINO (Complutense University of Madrid)

The Royal Cache Wadi has been central in Egyptian archaeology because of the discovery in 1881 of TT 320 with the royal mummies now kept in the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization at Cairo. The actual project has undertaken the task of studying the wadi as a whole unit. Results from the first five campaigns have brought to light several new inscriptions and graffiti and the study of these new materials have revealed aspects of the wadi and tomb TT 320 hitherto unknown, challenging the perceived vision of the wadi and its role in the context of the development and evolution of the Theban necropolis. Among those aspects we should mention the uncovering of external structures at the entrance of tomb TT 320 itself and a cult area hitherto unknown consisting in a niche with a crude offering table, remains of animal and vegetal offerings and furniture. The area seem to be completed by a monumental effigy which shows traces of deliberate destruction aligned with a solstitial phenomenon. The team has identified the debris from this destruction immediately below the figure. The project is a joint collaboration between Universidad Complutense, Madrid (Spain) and Centre for Documentation of Ancient Egypt, Ministry of Antiquities.

Keywords: Archaeology; Thebes; Landscape; Cache



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The Temple of Heryshef in Herakleopolis Magna/Ihnasya el-Medina

María Carmen PÉREZ-DÍE (National Archaeological Museum, Madrid)

The Temple of Heryshef was the most sacred place in Heracleópolis Magna. Discovered by Naville and further explored by Petrie, it has been excavated, documented and restored to a considerable extent from 2014 to 2022 by the Spanish Archaeological Mission team. This work has enabled permanent features of the structure of an Egyptian temple to be identified: The courtyard, pylon, peristyle court, hypostyle hall and sanctuary. With its origins dating from the Middle Kingdom, the pylon was erected by Thutmose III, although it was Ramesses II who was mainly responsible for extending the temple. His influence can increasingly be seen in each excavation campaign with new finds, including the architraves brought by this pharaoh from the funerary temple of Senwosret II in Lahun, the granite reliefs showing the commemoration of the heb-sed festival, or scenes of offerings to the god Heryshef and Hathor his wife.

Heryshef was a creator deity, with a human body and ram's head, crowned with the atef or solar disk enclosed with the horns. This god was linked to water and fecundity, encompassing the terrestrial, divine and celestial spheres. Closely related to Osiris, the cult in his temple was carried out by priests, some of whose titles have been found by the Spanish Mission (Priest of Sameref, Great Concubine of the Harem of Heryshef, *'myt-b'ḥ* of the god), confirming the important role which the sanctuary must have played in Egypt's history.

The restoration of parts of the temple and the systematic excavation of the site, although still underway, have enabled us to create a virtual reconstruction of the sacred complex.

Keywords: Temple; Heryshef; Herakleopolis Magna; Excavation; Restoration



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Sphinx or Proto-ba? Looking for the Iconographical Origins of the Ba-bird

Camilla PERSI (Humboldt University of Berlin)

Although the existence of the ba is well attested in texts since the Old Kingdom, it is generally accepted that as a human-headed bird it appeared only from the beginning of the 18th dynasty. From an art-historical point of view, this 'sudden' manifestation is difficult to rationalize, even though the absence of strong visual referrals prior to the New Kingdom was never helpful in this sense. This paper aims to question such deep-rooted argument from a new perspective, by looking at an amulet-type in the light of visual history theories. The discussed amulet is known as 'female sphinx': A wig-wearing humanoid entity showing a misleading seated feline/bird body, first appeared in the late Old Kingdom but becoming distinctive, then limited to the Middle Kingdom. Its ambiguous shape split academics between those who believe it to be a sitting sphinx and those who see it as a ba-bird. Moreover, there are those who interpret it as 'proto-ba': A term discarded by its coiner, however, successively adopted by multiple scholars, suggesting both its plausible nature and a tacit general agreement. Nowadays, these different schools of thought are evident in museum databases too, where the definitions of this amulet change depending on the collection. On a theoretical level, images can convey multiple meanings, and they might be the result of various social or religious changes, like those of the ba-notion through time. Still, the visual source for their inspiration is rarely unknown, as it mostly lays in nature or in proto-images. By examining various examples of the 'female sphinx' amulet while also stressing its features and changes through time, credence will be given to the hypothesis of it being the visual precursor of the ba-bird iconography.

Keywords: Ba-bird; Sphinx; Amulet; Proto-ba; Iconography



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Vaguely Dendur: A Theoretical Unbinding for Egyptology

Erin PETERS (Appalachian State University)

Modern theories and decolonial approaches have begun dismantling the colonial academic processes of containment through categorization. Yet continual objections of “but what is your evidence?,” and “keep to the data!,” along with “theory for theory’s sake is to be avoided,” demonstrate that many see these approaches as at best tangential, and at worst detrimental. Such rejoinders have much to do with Egyptology’s connections to both European colonialism in the 18th and 19th centuries and the development of modern Western science, binding Egyptology to ‘rational’ scientific methods and outcomes. But Western ‘rationalism’ is built on hierarchical, hegemonic, and binary ways of selecting and organizing information that produced the myths of pure data and a scientific methodology that created and sustains systemic injustices and inequitable conditions.

Using the temple of Dendur to interrogate these conditions, I apply Walter Mignolo’s (2011) “hybrid discourses made up of knowledge that comprises an overlay, metamorphosis, or even contradiction,” and what Marko Marila (2017) calls ‘vagueness’, to open characterizations that are more similar to Ancient Egyptian structures of thought than modern Western understandings. Towards this vagueness, I use the rhizomatic processual philosophy of Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari to search for the temple of Dendur outside the confines of Egyptology. Here, I find Dendur simultaneously becomes an ancient temple, modern museum object, and a contemporary site for public protest. In each layer of Dendur’s deconstruction and reconstruction, meaning can be made in the middle of things, absences can be recovered from the past and present, and there is hope in unknown futures for this icon of Egyptology and the discipline as a whole.

Keywords: Decolonial; Egyptology; Theory; Dendur



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Artistic Techniques in the Carved and Painted Substructure of the Tomb of Khuwy

Gabriele PIEKE (Reiss Engelhorn Museum, Mannheim/Djedkare Project)

The late 5th dynasty tomb of Khuwy, discovered in 2019 in Djedkare's royal cemetery at south Saqqara, contains one of the earliest examples of decorated substructures of Old Kingdom tombs. The decoration on the walls of one of the rooms in Khuwy's substructure is not only very well preserved but shows an usually wide colour palette and breath-taking quality of art, which can be studied from various perspectives. With regard to the study of artistic technique in non-royal tombs, the field of Egyptology has so far focussed on studying 18th dynasty monuments at Thebes. The tomb of Khuwy offers a rather unique opportunity to gain a better understanding of the tomb decoration that was executed by sculptors and painters of the late 5th dynasty.

The reliefs and paintings in the decorated chamber of Khuwy render much information about the techniques and procedures of the ancient sculptors and painters, the sequence of their work and even the number of artists involved and the level of their experience. Among others, the paper will focus on the differences in relief cut images and subsequent painted versions attested in Khuwy's decorated substructure, and will discuss the possible interpretation of the artists' procedures as we deduce them based on the given evidence in the tomb and other monuments of the Old Kingdom.

Keywords: Art history; Painterly practices; Artists; Tomb decoration; Old Kingdom



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Studying Name Stones from Deir el-Medina in the IFAO Collection: A Preliminary Report

Renaud PIETRI (University of Liège)

Among the non-literary Ramesside ostraca from Deir el-Medina kept in the IFAO collection, around 750 belong to the corpus of the so-called name stones (also known as ‘Namensteine’, ‘Namenostraka’ or ‘tessères onomastiques’). Name stones can be defined as small pottery sherds or limestone flakes measuring a few centimeters both in width and height, carrying an inscription of a single anthroponym in hieratic. In rare cases, a title or a filiation is also given, probably to distinguish homonyms. Red ink is sometimes employed instead of the usual black. Moreover, female names are attested, in a small but significant proportion. A comprehensive study of this corpus was lacking so far but has been initiated recently by the author of this paper, using the tools and methods of Material Philology.

This paper aims to present the preliminary results of this comprehensive study. A quantitative and qualitative presentation of the corpus will be provided, with a focus on palaeographical clusters and their relevance from a socio-cultural and prosopographical perspective, in the specific context of the Deir el-Medina village. The function of the name stones will also be discussed, following a cross-cultural and comparative approach. Similar documents were indeed discovered in other places in Egypt and outside of Egypt as well, dating from the New Kingdom to the Graeco-Roman period, and some of them were written in other languages. This study thereby contributes to important interdisciplinary discussions in our field.

Keywords: Deir el-Medina; Name stones; Ramesside ostraca; Material philology; Palaeography



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Domitian's Iseum in Benevento: A Re-assessment

Rosanna PIRELLI (University of Naples L'Orientale)

“In year 8 under the majestyof the Lord of the crowns, Domitian.... A noble temple was built for the great Isis, lady of Benevento and for her gods and a large obelisk was erected by Rutilius Lupus...”

These are the words on facade III of one of the two obelisks of Benevento; together with the texts of the other faces, they inform us that, in AD 88/89, Rutilius Lupus had a temple built in the Samnite city and dedicated it to the goddess Isis to celebrate the victorious conclusion of the Dacian wars by the emperor Domitian.

Although none of the ancient buildings found so far in the city can be attributed to an Iseum, the existence of such a temple is confirmed by a large number of anthropomorphic and zoomorphic statues, few epigraphs and some architectural elements: Most of which were found in a section of the foundations of the ancient city walls, while the fragments of the two obelisks and another group of objects were found scattered in different areas of the city.

This extraordinary set of artefacts – belonging to different historical periods, from the pharaonic to the Ptolemaic and finally Roman times – represents one of the largest concentrations of Egyptian and Egyptianizing finds belonging to a single cultic context of the imperial period outside Egypt.

Since the publication that H.W. Müller devoted to the analysis of the Iseum of Benevento, in 1969, a lively debate has arisen (not yet concluded) on the nature of the temple, its possible location and the relationship of this monument to the other temples dedicated to Isis scattered throughout the empire.

The paper intends to briefly illustrate the results of a study conducted on this subject by the present writer, which will be published in a forthcoming volume.

Keywords: Isis; Egyptian cults; Imperial Isea; Domitian; Benevento



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The Thot Sign List: Recording Palaeographic Diversity in Diachrony

Stéphane POLIS (Fund for Scientific Research-FNRS/University of Liège) & Peter DILS (Saxon Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Leipzig)

During the last International Congress of Egyptologists in Cairo (2019), we presented the Thot Sign List (TSL), the first digital repertoire of hieroglyphic signs (<http://tsl.philo.ulg.ac.be>). It quickly became an important tool for scholars and students alike, as well as for Unicode specialists who are working towards a standardized encoding of the Ancient Egyptian texts (Polis et al. 2021). However, the TSL is currently limited to the hieroglyphic signs that are attested in texts written during the classical period (c. 1900–1350 BCE) and barely covers the repertoire and palaeographical variety of other periods. An extension of its scope towards earlier and later periods, as well as a geographically and palaeographically more balanced approach to the Ancient Egyptian written material, is therefore a requirement if this digital repertoire is to become a proper standard and research tool for the Egyptological community.

In this lecture, we plan to discuss two evolutions of the TSL that address these issues. From a methodological point of view, we present a way to document more systematically the hieroglyphic signs that are attested in texts written both before and after the classical period (c. 3000–1900 BCE and c. 1350 BCE–150 CE), and we showcase the first results. From a technical point of view, we show how the capabilities of the tools can be extended in order to record more accurately the different types of palaeographical variations across time and space.

POLIS, Stéphane, Luc DESERT, Peter DILS, Jorke GROTENHUIS, Vincent RAZANAJAO, Tonio Sebastian RICHTER, Serge ROSMORDUC, Simon D. SCHWEITZER, Daniel A. WERNING & Jean WINAND, J. 2021. 'The Thot Sign List (TSL). An open digital repertoire of hieroglyphic signs'. *Égypte nilotique et méditerranéenne* 14, 55–74

Keywords: Sign List; Palaeography; Digital Humanities; Unicode

Co-authors: Jorke GROTENHUIS (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Philipp SEYR (University of Liège) & Daniel WERNING (Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences)



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Breaking Boundaries, Expanding Horizons: Interdisciplinary Research and Teaching between Egyptology, History, Pharmacy, and Medicine

Tanja POMMERENING (Philipps University of Marburg)

For an Egyptologist and historian of science, the appointment as the new chair of the Institute of the History of Pharmacy and Medicine at Philipps University Marburg in a faculty of pharmacy offers numerous opportunities to rearrange concepts of research and teaching. In this context, interdisciplinarity and networking between national and international research groups are particularly central. My talk will focus on initial results of the research done in collaboration with colleagues in Marburg from our institute and from other faculties (such as medicine, natural sciences, non-European languages and cultures, history, etc.), which is devoted to 1) discovering the potential importance of knowledge about medicinal plants from Ancient Egypt and its later traditions for recent research; 2) exploring new methods for residue analysis, and 3) developing a research database of prescriptions from Ancient Egypt up to the early modern period.

Keywords: Pharmacy; Medicine; Prescriptions; Methodology



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Saite Tombs in the Upper Necropolis of the Archaeological Site of Oxyrhynchus (El-Bahnasa), Egypt (Nº 53-54, Season 2021)

Esther PONS MELLADO (National Archaeological Museum, Madrid) & Maite MASCORT ROCA (Institute of Ancient Near East Studies, University of Barcelona)

The archaeological site of Oxyrhynchus (El-Bahnasa), Egypt, the ancient city of Per-Medyed, is located 190km South of Cairo. One of the most extensive and important area of the archaeological site is the Upper Necropolis that covers a wide chronological framework: From the Saite period to the Christian-Byzantine period, including the Persian and Ptolemaic-Roman eras (664 BC-7th century).

In the season 2021 the results of the archaeological work have been very satisfactory. While we were working in the Sector 36 of this necropolis, we found two Saite tombs with only one funerary chamber (Nº 53-54). Tomb Nº 53 was opened and had a sarcophagus with a mummified female individual with a hematite headrest amulet, many circular and tubular beads of the funeral mesh and a thin sheet of gold leaf as a diadem on the head. Tomb Nº 54 was totally closed and sealed. Inside we found a sarcophagus with a mummified male individual, many circular and tubular beads belonging to the funeral mesh and all the funeral equipment, viz. four epigraphic canopic jars with the viscera of the deceased, 399 ushebtis made of faience, an anepigraphic stone heart-scarab, almost 30 amulets, pottery vessels, one of which containing remains of bandages, and over the sarcophagus a fragment with the image of a sun disk and rays and a scorpion to protect the deceased on his journey to the new life.

Keywords: Saite tombs; Mummified individuals; Cartonnages; Funeral equipment; Scorpion



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The Collector's Box: Making Sense of the Shabti Shrine of Mutemuia (Naples 1097) and its Contents

Federico POOLE (Egyptian Museum, Turin)

Among the Egyptian antiquities held in the National Archaeological Museum of Naples, Italy, is a shabti box for a Mutemuia, chantress of Amun, from the Picchianti-Drosso collection. The box is recorded in the museum inventory as having contained 36 shabtis: 1 out of the 3 of the chantress of Amun Mutemuia in the Naples collection, 31 of Seramun, overseer of recruits in the temple of Amun, and 4 of Khonsumes, chief archivist of the treasury of the temple of Amun. Alain Dautant has drawn an intricate and intriguing tableau of the circumstances that led to the dispersion of the burial assemblage of these three individuals (as well as others) across Europe, tracing it to the likely discovery in the fall of 1820 of a 21st dynasty collective burial at Thebes whose grave goods were divided among several buyers. His reconstruction is convincing, but stylistic considerations call for a nuanced understanding of the connection between the shabti box, its contents, and its putative find spot.

Keywords: Shabti box; Naples; Thebes; Picchianti; Drosso; Mutemuia; Seramun; Khonsumes



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History of Studies on Hieroglyphs in Poland and the First Polish Translations of the Pyramid Texts

Joanna POPIELSKA-GRZYBOWSKA (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures of the Polish Academy of Sciences)

The author of the paper intends to introduce the little-known inception of Polish early enquiries on Ancient Egypt and of Polish Egyptology to an international group of scholars.

She aims to present the history of research on hieroglyphs in Poland (Polish-Lithuanian scholars included). The first studies dedicated to Ancient Egypt and hieroglyphs from the 17th century to the 1960s will be outlined. Moreover, proposals for establishing a new discipline devoted to Ancient Egypt by Joachim Lelewel, testifying to his knowledge of the progress of work on deciphering the hieroglyphs by Jean-François Champollion and other contributions, will be mentioned. For instance, Marcin Poczebutt-Odlanicki analysed the Dendera zodiac (Louvre D38), while Józef Julian Sękowski and Tadeusz Smoleński have already started disseminating their thoughts on Ancient Egyptian written sources against the background of the debate on other ancient languages worldwide.

However, the emphasis will be on the work of two Polish scholars who not only examined the Ancient Egyptian language but also translated the Pyramid Texts. Polish first Egyptologist Antoni Józef Śmieszek's command of Egyptian seems to have been very good, thus he rendered texts with proficiency and scientific precision in the 1920s. The mastery of translations by Tadeusz Andrzejewski lies in their poetic character. The author of the paper will also show what was and is the reception of these studies in Polish society and how they might have influenced and facilitated the further development of fascination with Ancient Egypt among Poles and thus the development of surveys within Egyptology in Poland. She aims to reflect on the current dialogue within studies on Ancient Egypt and their mission in contemporary society and academia in Poland.

Keywords: Beginnings and reception of early Polish studies on hieroglyphs; Pyramid Texts



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Architecture of the Isis Temple in Berenike: Results of the 2018-2022 Excavation Seasons

Szymon POPELAWSKI (Wrocław University of Science and Technology)

The Graeco-Roman port city of Berenike is a testimony of contacts between the Roman world, pharaonic traditions, and cultures from the area of the Indian Ocean. The evidence of intense trade has survived to this day not only in the descriptions of ancient travellers and the presence of goods brought from India, but also in the form of art and architecture created on this spot for a multi-ethnic community. Such a space was undoubtedly a sanctuary built in the city centre, the Isis temple.

This monumental structure was subject to detailed research work under a grant from the Thyssen Foundation, obtained by Olaf Kaper and Rodney Ast, as part of the Berenike Project co-directed by Steven E. Sidebotham. The sanctuary built in the times of Tiberius in Egyptian form was later expanded in classical style. A careful study leaves no doubt that the Isis temple itself was located in the area of the former Ptolemaic temple. Continuous use until the 6th century AD resulted in the conglomerate of multilingual dedicatory inscriptions and gods' statues, among them the Buddha, gathered together in the temple courtyard.

The phases of the discovered building could be confirmed by the different architectural styles and stonework applied. The changes in the function and appearance of the sacred areas inside the Isis temple testify to the influence of multicultural society on their design and continuous use. The original appearance of the sanctuary and its transformations over time are the most important results of the current research and could serve as a case study for temples located in international trade centres.

Keywords: Berenike; Isis temple; Architecture; Cultural entanglement; Religious diversity



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A Gradual Introduction: Evidence for ‘Greek’ Economics in Persian Egypt

Manon POST (Leiden University)

The arrival of Alexander the Great and the subsequent Macedonian rule in Egypt by the Ptolemies has been regarded by economic historians as a watershed period in Ancient Egyptian economics. This has primarily been due to the rapid introduction of coinage, a transition that has been promoted as either the primary cause or effect of a similarly widespread overhaul of economic infrastructure. Subsequent discourse has described an economic reckoning between the original Egyptian and new Macedonian systems and has neglected evidence that suggests that some of the infrastructure necessary to have coins as the state's money was already in place. In his 2016 work on the chronological development of the Ancient Egyptian economy, Brian Muhs identified two examples of Ptolemaic economic practice that appear Macedonian but are attested under Persian rule in Egypt. They are the introduction of uncoined metal money for internal transactions and the documentation of these transactions which included administrative jobs that continued to exist under the Ptolemies, at least in title if not in function. This poster's aim is to consider the origins of these practices as well as investigate other potential Persian influences on Ptolemaic economics from in and outside Egypt, for example the portrayal of representational kings on Persian coinage. The conclusion of this study will provide a better understanding of the role lesser considered external influences played on the Ptolemaic economy, and address the belief that the Macedonians initiated wholesale economic change in Egypt. The results may indicate a need to reconsider the parameters through which Ptolemaic economic history is researched in the future, or question how this evidence set fits into the currently agreed upon system.

Keywords: Economics; Numismatics; Ptolemaic history; Persian history



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Buying Power: The Business of British Archaeology and the Antiquities Market 1880 – 1939

Daniel POTTER (National Museums Scotland)

Previous historiographical focus on the supposed scientific heroism of archaeologists has obscured the reality that many of those individuals were openly active in the antiquities market, buying, and selling objects for institutional or personal gain. This business side of their work may have helped to support them, and their excavations financially, but also led to many less well-provenanced objects entering museums across Europe, and North America. This museum acquisition route was complex and encompassed both sanctioned excavations and illicit activities, opportunistic sellers, and licensed vendors. This paper will assess the involvement of archaeologists, who took part in British-led excavations in Egypt and Sudan 1880-1939, in the antiquities market. As a lens for examining the broader phenomenon, this paper examines the work of curator Edwin Ward, collector-for-hire Charles Trick Currelly, and archaeologists John Garstang and William Matthew Flinders Petrie, who all contributed to the development of the collections of National Museums Scotland. Their transactions are considered individually and quantified, with attention paid to the provenance of the objects, the use of funds received, and money exchanged in the transactions. This paper will explore the ethical and economical views of these individuals, as well as their possible motivations for engaging in the market. A fuller understanding of the business of archaeology is vital for a more honest appraisal of colonial collecting practices, a greater appreciation of the provenance of museum collections and of the history of Egyptology.

Keywords: Antiquities trade; Provenance; Museology; History of Egyptology; Ethics



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Romano-Egyptian Inscribed Obelisks from up Close: A Re-evaluation

Luigi PRADA (Uppsala University)

Romano-Egyptian inscribed obelisks constitute one of the most significant types of monuments related to Romano-Egyptian cultural interactions. Unlike the earlier Egyptian obelisks (from the New Kingdom to the Late Period) moved by the Romans to Italy, these monoliths were expressly commissioned in honour of the Roman emperor and contained inscriptions that constitute some of the last original creations of Egyptian textual production. Such monuments include Domitian's Pamphili obelisk and Hadrian's Barberini obelisk in Rome, and a number of private dedications from Palestrina / Rome and Benevento.

This paper will present a current project dedicated to the comprehensive and integrated study of these obelisks, with special focus on their epigraphy, language (between Egyptian of tradition and later forms of Egyptian), and possible centres of production. Building upon a new, photogrammetry-based epigraphic study of the Benevento obelisks published by the author in 2022, the current state of the study of the Pamphili and Barberini obelisks will be closely discussed, also in connection with a new assessment of the Sallustiano obelisk (a Roman copy of a XIX Dynasty obelisk), as well as recent papyrological discoveries.

Keywords: Roman Egypt; Epigraphy; Texts; Language



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Of Gods and Kings: Religious Innovations during the Reign of Mentuhotep II

Maarten PRAET (Johns Hopkins University)

Despite often being mentioned as the king who heralded the beginning of the Middle Kingdom, there are several aspects of the reign of Mentuhotep II that are still not well understood. One of these aspects is the seemingly innovative religious policies propagated during the reign of this king, which would become intrinsic parts of the religious canon during later periods of Egyptian history.

This paper examines some of Mentuhotep II's religious actions and, specifically, the role and seemingly shifting importance of certain gods, such as Amun, Min, Montu, and Hathor in his religious policies. In order to do so, this paper looks into the iconographic evidence from Mentuhotep II's funerary temple at Deir el-Bahari, which, despite its fragmentary state, still provides us with approximately 3000 decorated relief fragments. Up until now, only a selection of these relief fragments has been published, leaving a wealth of unstudied iconographic data in Egypt and museum collections worldwide that have yet to be analyzed, and which could provide further insights into the seminal reign of Mentuhotep II.

The analysis of the decorative programme of the funerary temple of Mentuhotep II will be guided by theoretical concepts borrowed from Anthropology of Religion and Religious Studies. This theoretical framework will allow for a more informed, interdisciplinary interpretation of the religious actions undertaken by Mentuhotep II during his reign, as illustrated by the evidence from his funerary temple. Using Mentuhotep II's reign as a case study, this paper will therefore attempt to show how religion can be intrinsically linked to political powers and how sacred spaces such as funerary temples were actively used as stages for the display of both religious and political power.

Keywords: Mentuhotep; Deir el-Bahari; Temple; Iconography; Religious Studies



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The Emotions of Ancient Egyptian Kingship

Tara PRAKASH (College of Charleston)

The nature of kingship in Ancient Egypt has been and continues to be a much-discussed topic that scholars have considered from numerous directions. For example, Egyptologists have questioned the divinity of the pharaoh, his relationship to the gods, and the notion of the royal ka. They have also investigated the societal implications of these questions by examining the dynamics and interactions between the king, the royal family, and the elite. Yet despite these studies, it is still uncertain how kings lived, acted, and experienced their world, not only from a practical perspective but also an ideological one.

This paper aims to supplement and engage current arguments on kingship by beginning to consider the emotions that were associated with it. It is part of a broader interdisciplinary project, which I have recently initiated, that seeks to apply history of emotions' theories and methodologies to Ancient Egyptian data. Using Ramesside royal inscriptions and monumental reliefs, my project investigates the emotional standards and norms for the pharaoh during the late New Kingdom. It considers how these standards and norms informed the ideological and practical roles of the pharaoh and impacted the king's relationships with his officials, subjects, and gods. This paper will introduce the history of emotions' theories on which I am drawing and my initial findings. In doing so, it will illustrate the central role of emotions in the ideology of Ancient Egyptian kingship and explore some of the ways that Egyptological material can contribute to the history of emotions.

Keywords: Kingship; Emotions; New Kingdom; Ramesside; Royal inscriptions; Reliefs; Art



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A 'New' Carbonized Papyrus and the Cult of Horus in Tanis: The Edition of Bodl. MS. Egypt. a. 34(P)

Andreas Henning PRIES (Julius Maximilian University of Würzburg)

Bodl. MS. Egypt. a. 34(P) was found by Petrie in 1884 in a private house in Tanis together with fragments of approximately 150 manuscripts of diverging length and content. In the 2nd century CE, when the house burned down, the papyri preserved in a state of carbonization. Shortly after their finding, they were brought to England together with other finds. The papyri include Demotic, Hieratic, Hieroglyphic, and Greek texts of documentary, cultic, scholarly, and literary nature. They are now in Oxford and London. Apart from the prominent Sign Papyrus and the Geographical Papyrus, published in 1889, only two other fragments of this collection are hitherto published. They show sections of an extensive hieroglyphic manual on temple decoration and a piece of Homer's Iliad. The whole rest of this large find remains unknown to the larger community of Egyptologists.

The paper focusses on one of the best preserved manuscripts from the Tanis collection. It comprises ten columns of a ritual text dedicated to pharaoh and different manifestations of Horus, such as Harsiese, Horhekenu or the Lord of Mesen, who plays a major part in the ritual of this papyrus, but also in the cultic environment of Tanis. The legitimization of royal power and the annihilation of the king's enemies are main topics developed within the framework of the Horus myth. The text is unknown for a large part, but it shows many phrases typical for this genre and well-known from other texts. This includes a reminiscence of Tb 18/20 at the end of the text. The paper will give insights not only into the intriguing contents of this composition and philological resp. editorial tasks involved, but also into the method of multispectral photography and conservational issues.

Keywords: Ritual; Tanis; Horus; Carbonized papyri; Graeco-Roman period



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The Images of the Lunar Cycle in the Innermost Osirian Chapels at Dendera

Gyula PRISKIN (University of Szeged)

While some of the lunar scenes in the Osirian chapels at Dendera seem to be unambiguous, others are more difficult to understand, and this is the case with the images on the ceilings of the innermost chapels, for which no fully satisfactory explanations have been put forward so far. This paper argues that some of the lunar images, especially the ones also showing the solar boat, both in the east and the west have an intricate double meaning. On the one hand, they represent the cycles of the moon in general, aptly evoking the regenerative aspect of this celestial body in a cult place that is dedicated to Osiris. On the other hand, however, they are also rudimentary sky maps that refer to specific moments in time: The full moon falling on the day of the autumnal equinox (in the eastern innermost chapel), and the days of lunar invisibility around the time of the heliacal rising of Sirius (in the western innermost chapel). These representations thus underline the close connections between these important celestial events and the astral myth of Osiris in the middle of the 1st century BCE.

Keywords: Dendera; Osirian chapels; Iconography; Lunar cycle



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Early Late Egyptian

Joachim Friedrich QUACK (Heidelberg University)

Within the development of the Egyptian language, it is usual for Egyptologists to define a number of different stages. However, often we lack a clear-cut linguistic definition which criteria are really used to differentiate between them. Too often, schematic divisions are applied. This is especially true for the divide between Middle Egyptian and Late Egyptian. Typically, it is supposed that Late Egyptian became the official language due to a conscious decision by Akhenaton, even though it is admitted that Late Egyptian features can occur already in earlier texts. But it is hardly ever explained what constitutes the linguistic differences between a 'Middle Egyptian' text with Late Egyptian features and a genuinely Late Egyptian text.

In my lecture I will demonstrate how romantic views of the religious reform of Akhenaton (especially a supposed desire for truth) have clouded our judgement, and furthermore, how essentialist constructions of Late Egyptian (with equally romantic notions of a different kind) have further contributed towards misunderstandings. It will be necessary to unravel the vagaries of previous research in order to clear our vision and arrive at a less biased description of what really was going on. Thus, historiography of the discipline is essential for overcoming errors which still plague us.

Keywords: Language history; Akhenaton; Late Egyptian; History of Egyptology



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Recurring Contexts: Depositions of Animals in the Third Intermediate Period Necropolis at the Ramesseum and its Surroundings

Tommaso QUIRINO (Ministry of Culture, Italy/Superintendence ABAP of Milan)

From the 2017 field season an Italian team joined the French Archaeological Mission of Thebes-West (MAFTO) which works at the Ramesseum in partnership with the Center for Study and Documentation on Ancient Egypt (CEDAE, MoTA) and the Association for the Safeguarding of the Ramesseum (ASR). This mission is led by Dr. Christian Leblanc and Dr. Hisham Elleithy.

The Italian team works in the framework of a collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Culture (Superintendence of Milan; National Archaeological Museum of Florence-Egyptian Museum) and has been entrusted with the archaeological research in the northern annexes of the temple, reused during the Third Intermediate Period as a necropolis.

Fifteen funerary shafts were excavated. Many of them have been almost entirely robbed or already been excavated in the past. However, better preserved burials with more complete funerary assemblages have also come to light.

For one of these tombs it was possible to reconstruct two phases of use. Along with the funerary equipment of the dead some intentional depositions of animals have been identified both in the shaft filling and in the burial chamber, finding precise parallels with other contexts at the Ramesseum and the surrounding areas.

A preliminary analysis of the animals found in anatomical connection and of other identified bones will be presented in relation to their context of deposition, in order to offer an overview of the corpus of faunal remains of the tomb. The archaeozoological data will then be related to the stratigraphic and anthropological data and to those obtained from the remains of the burial assemblage to better understand the funerary practices of this period.

Keywords: Archaeozoology; Ramesseum; Animals; Funerary practices; Third Intermediate Period

Co-authors: Margherita MALVASO (University of Milan), Umberto TECCHIATI (University of Milan) & Anna CONSONNI (Ministry of Culture, Italy/National Archaeological Museum, Florence)



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Epigraphy Meets Archaeological Science: A Holistic Interdisciplinary Approach to Uncover Ancient Egyptian Copper Production Systems

Frederik RADEMAKERS (British Museum, London)

Copper alloys were fundamental to Ancient Egyptian society and are widely attested in funerary, manufacturing and urban archaeological contexts. They provided key tools for wood and stone working, were readily transformed into decorative objects as well as weapons, and represented important stores of wealth. As such, they constituted a major component of the Egyptian economy throughout Pharaonic history.

By contrast, research into the production systems underlying the large scale consumption of copper alloys in Ancient Egypt remains limited. Key advances in Egyptology were made only recently through the study of mining inscriptions in Sinai and along the Red Sea coast, providing insight into state organised expeditions for copper extraction. At the same time, the scientific study of production remains and metal artefacts in European museum collections has expanded over the past few years, revising our understanding of early Egyptian metal compositions and their production history. Finally, excavation and analysis of metal workshop contexts are revealing unprecedented detail on the organisation of production and the metallurgical technologies involved.

Yet epigraphy nor archaeological science or excavation alone can paint a complete picture. In this paper, recent results from each field are integrated to obtain a more holistic and balanced overview of metal provisioning in Egypt from the Early Dynastic up to New Kingdom periods. This approach provides a fresh perspective on practices of mining, smelting, alloying and recycling to illuminate changes in resource management over time, showing how interdisciplinary synergy can exceed the sum of its individual contributions.

Keywords: Copper; Alloys; Egypt; Technology; Economy; Consumption; Production; Recycling

Co-authors: Georges VERLY (Sorbonne University), Patrick DEGRYSE (KU Leuven/Leiden University) & Pierre TALLET (Sorbonne University)



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The Women of Hathor and Midwives in Ancient Egypt

Vittoria RAPISARDA (Leipzig University)

Who were the women who practised midwifery in Ancient Egypt and why was it only in the Graeco-Roman period that they became established and not before? What is their connection, if any, with the khener dancers, priestesses of the goddess Hathor and the 'knowledgeable woman' as mentioned in some sources? Some evidence highlights relevant aspects concerning women linked to Hathoric cults, such as khener dancers and the principles related to the idea of fertility, procreation, and regeneration. However, previous research has not yet been able to offer any definite answer concerning the possibility that the 'women of Hathor' may have played other roles in society in parallel throughout their lives, and perhaps even as potential midwives. This work sets out to offer a new approach in relation to the figure of midwifery in Ancient Egypt in order to shed a completely new light on the subject, relying on the strand of research of Gender Studies. The chronological period and the study material that will be considered will extend from the Old Kingdom to the Graeco-Roman period with a focus on the Egyptian sources. This investigation will not be limited to written evidence, but will also include archaeological and iconographic material that refers to childbirth scenes and the care of women and the unborn. Moreover, this work will focus on the female role in two closely related practices in Ancient Egypt: medicine and magic.

Keywords: Midwives; Gender study; Khener dancers; Priestesses of Hathor; Medicine; Magic



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Egyptian-German Excavations in Matariya/Heliopolis in 2020-2022

Dietrich RAUE (German Archaeological Institute, Cairo) & Aiman ASHMAWY (Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

The sun-cult was the central element of Ancient Egyptian religion for more than three millennia, and Heliopolis stood at its centre – the place of the world's creation and a country-wide reference point. The architectural layout and the landscape of Heliopolis are the topic of much debate. Most of these hypotheses are based on decontextualised objects. The Egyptian-German archaeological mission focussed on the reconstruction of the topography of this sanctuary. The results illustrate the transition of the area starting with periods when the mythology might have been formed. The further development of the temple site proved the transformation into an important national sanctuary of the 3rd, 2nd and earlier 1st millennium BCE of Egypt. Current fieldwork addresses for the first time the architecture and epigraphy of the temenos in its latest phase, representing the last period when it had international fame in 4th – 2nd century BCE and its subsequent history from the Hellenistic to the Mameluke periods.

Keywords: Archaeology; History of religion



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Late Egyptian Artefact Database (LEAD): A Research Tool Integrating Materiality, Iconography and Inscriptions

Vincent RAZANAJAO (Bordeaux Montaigne University)

The aim of the Late Egyptian Artefact Database (LEAD, dir. by L. Coulon, EPHE, PSL/Ifao, and O. Perdu, Collège de France) project is to create a comprehensive resource for the study of Late Egyptian art production, especially statuary. Building on the digitization of archival material (*Corpus of Late Egyptian Sculpture*, Brooklyn Museum) and a recent photographic coverage (20,000 images), LEAD will provide detailed and fine-grained information both on the materiality of the objects, and on the iconography and texts they bear, with metadata relating to religion, topography or prosopography. The poster will present the general goal of the project and will focus on the digital infrastructure chosen so that all aspects are taken into account, either archaeological, iconographic, or text-related. In particular, it will detail the XML database put in place, built on the Virtual Research Environment (VRE) Patrimonium Editor developed by V. Razanajao (<https://patrimonium.huma-num.fr/atlas/editor/>). It will discuss the choice of such a technology, which is based on XML and makes use of the Text Encoding Initiative to store the data. The poster will also showcase how an ecosystem can be deployed in order to encompass the whole diversity of the data at stake, from high-resolution images (use of IIIF standard), metadata enrichment with project-specific and external thesauri (e.g. Thot Thesaurus), or digital resources (OEB, TM, Pleiades). In this sense, LEAD adheres to the FAIR principles, which advocate digital projects to produce data that is Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable (<https://www.go-fair.org>). The poster will conclude on the more challenging question of text encoding, which the choice of TEI as pivot format for the recording of the objects will make easier.

Keywords: Late Egyptian sculpture; Digital humanities; XML database; Metadata; FAIR

Co-authors: Laurent COULON (EPHE, PSL University/French Institute for Oriental Archaeology, Cairo), Olivier PERDU (Collège de France), Sépideh QAHÉRI-PAQUETTE (Collège de France), Elsa RICKAL (Collège de France) & Nicolas SOUCHON (EPHE, PSL University/French Institute for Oriental Archaeology, Cairo)



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The *mnw*-plant, the *mnwh*-plant, the *tnw*-plant, and the *ihy*-plant: Possible Taxonomical Identifications?

Jayne REICHART (Independent Researcher/American University in Cairo/The Theban Mapping Project/The Colossi of Memnon and Amenhotep III Temple Conservation Project)

Various formal gardens were constructed in Thebes and its environs during the early to mid-late 18th dynasty prior to the Amarna period. These types of formal gardens (i.e., the *š*, the *hnty-š*, the *šš*, the *k3mw*, the *ʿt-nt-ht*, and the *hrrt-š*) were built in proximity to cult or memorial temples, god's domains, cenotaphs, shrines, palatial residences, and/or private elite homes or non-royal tombs. These formal gardens were aesthetic landscapes used by the pharaohs, royals, and/or upper classes for sports, festivals, banquets, rituals, wakes, leisure, song, dance, and/or musical performances.

More than 42 native and foreign floral and 11 faunal species were incorporated by architects into the landscape designs of early to mid-late 18th dynasty Theban formal gardens. The flora both beautified the landscapes and functioned as surplus produce (*npwt*) for the institutions to which they were connected. The flora and fauna in the formal gardens were overseen, cultivated, collected, and administered by intricate networks of individuals (REICHART 2021; REICHART 2022a; REICHART 2022b).

Four of these 42 floral species have yet to be identified with certainty by scholars: the *mnw*-plant, the *mnwh*-plant, and the *tnw*-plant, and the *ihy*-plant. Current evidence from the Egyptian record as well as previous scholarship on the four floras will be examined in this case study, and when possible, attempt to identify each with a particular species from our modern plant taxonomy.

Keywords: Egyptian garden history; Formal gardens; Archaeobotany; Anthropology



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The Binary [\pm FUTURE] Tense System of Old Egyptian

Chris REINTGES (LLF, UMR 7110 CNRS, Paris Cité University)

Early Egyptian (EE) has traditionally been characterized as an aspect-oriented language in which verbal aspects determine temporal interpretation. A major problem with this analysis is the presence of morphological future tenses (*ndr-w* 'will seize' vs. *ndr-wtj* 'will be seized'; *ndrr* 'will be seized'; *ndr-t(j)=f(j)* 'he who will seize'). I argue that EE belongs to a small group of languages with a typologically marked split between inflectionally marked future tenses and non-future tenses.

Keywords: Early Egyptian; Future tenses; Tense-aspect relation



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Medamud in the New Kingdom: An Overview of the City, its Artisanal Districts and the Relationship with its Temple. Results of the Excavations of the French Mission of Medamud

Felix RELATS MONTSEERRAT (Sorbonne University/French Institute for Oriental Archaeology, Cairo) & Romain SEGUIER (French National Centre for Scientific Research/Centre for Alexandrian Studies, Alexandria)

Since 2015, the French mission of Medamud (MFM - Ifao/Sorbonne/MEAE) has resumed the exploration of the site north of Louqsor known from the excavations of the early XXth century. If the attention of the former excavators had been focussed on the temple, essentially in the desire to feed the museum collections through the 'partages'-system, the kom that surrounded it had not been explored. Therefore the main objective of the MFM is to understand the structure of the city surrounding the temple and the relationship with it in the diachrony. We propose to present the recent results of our excavations, focussing on the XVIII-XXth dynasties documentation that illustrates the spatial interactions between the temenos and the city, as well as the importance of the artisanal sectors in the case of Medamud. Indeed, our research has proven that the site must now be classified among the most important centres of ceramic production in Egypt whose location within the city we propose to study.

Keywords: Medamud; City; Archaeology; New Kingdom; Ceramic production; Pottery kiln



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In the Kitchen of the Gods: Egyptological Research in the Interdisciplinary Project AGROS

Alexa RICKERT (University of Namur) & Arnaud DELHOVE (University of Namur)

The poster gives an overview of the Belgian research project 'Agriculture, diet and nutrition in Graeco-Roman Egypt. Reassessing ancient sustenance, food processing and (mal)nutrition' (AGROS). It revolves around diets in Egypt during the Graeco-Roman period by establishing nutritional parameters from the collection of archaeological plant and animal remains at the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology (USA). The investigations, using the methods of archaeobotany, archaeozoology, nutritional biochemistry and microbiology, are supplemented by information from the papyrological evidence and from hieroglyphic sources. The project brings together researchers from the Vrije Universiteit Brussels, the KU Leuven, the University of Liège, the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, the University of Michigan and the University of Namur. The latter is home to the Egyptological part of the project, which is being conducted as postdoctoral research by Arnaud Delhove and Alexa Rickert under the direction of René Preys. One of the questions to be addressed is to what extent the food offering to the gods in the temple is related to the diet of the priests, since scholarship traditionally assumes the distribution of the offerings to the clergy after the ritual. The investigation on what kinds of food were present in the temple and how they were prepared raises also the question why certain dishes (e.g. fish or eggs) are absent from the offering scenes and descriptions. By highlighting these points, the poster demonstrates, in line with the aims of ICE XIII, the gains that research on Ancient Egypt can derive from collaboration with colleagues from other disciplines and across geographical borders.

Keywords: Graeco-Roman temples; Food offering; Nutrition; Diet; Priests; Food processing



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Ancient Egypt in the Peripheries: What Spanish and Portuguese Speaking Worlds Can Say?

Thais ROCHA DA SILVA (University of São Paulo/University of Oxford)

Many Egyptologists have addressed the colonial past of the discipline in the last decade. This can be noted in the large number of publications about the history of Egyptology, criticism about museum and archival practices, topics that aim to include subaltern groups, and a review of previous scholarship. Despite these efforts, mainstream academic knowledge privileges large research centres from developed countries – in particular, publications in English, which became the lingua franca of science in the last century. This situation has a direct impact on the constitution of specific debates in the field, the types of publications read, and the authors cited. However, this does not prevent non-hegemonic intellectual traditions from participating in the process of producing knowledge about Ancient Egypt, even more so because of its potential to offer other interpretations that often problematize dominant, hierarchical, and excluding approaches. It is in this sense that the articulation between the academic production in Portuguese and Spanish becomes relevant. It plays a secondary role in the international scenario despite the quantity and the quality of the research they carry out. We want to collaborate with this debate and change in a more pragmatic way, by giving greater visibility and being more attentive to what is being produced in the Spanish and Portuguese intellectual environment. MAR (Mundo Antigo em Resenha/'Ancient World in Review') is a collaborative project that aims to strengthen the movement to make the field of Egyptology – and the studies about the ancient world –, more inclusive and diverse, or at least, less unequal through the practical, rapid, and wide dissemination of the most recent publications in the Spanish and Portuguese speaking worlds.

Keywords: Global Egyptology; History of Egyptology

Co-authors: Camila CONDILO (University of Brasília) & Joana CLÍMACO (Federal University of Amazonas)



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Why is the King Touching his Speech? Layout as a Meaningful Factor in the Creation of Multimodal Compositions in Ancient Egypt

Frederik ROGNER (University of Geneva)

The entanglement of pictorial elements and writing signs in ancient Egyptian text-image-compositions not only on a semantical but also on a compositional level is well known. This interaction goes far beyond what frequently found designations such as 'label' or 'legend' suggest: Tomb owners point at their name and titles, thereby reinforcing their identity; the king offers to deities only present in the form of their written name; gods highlight sequences of a text by reaching into the inscriptions, thus providing them with new, additional meanings – the list goes on. In order to understand how Egyptian artists created meaning by correlating figures and writing signs in ever new ways, 'layout' as means not just to correlate distinct meaningful units but to create meaning by itself needs to be considered.

In my contribution I will present results of an ongoing research project that deals with different types of text-image-correlations in ancient Egyptian imagery. The project is anchored in interdisciplinary research into phenomena of multimodality in two ways: Being based on the core postulate of multimodality studies, i.e. that the majority of communicative acts is based on the co-action of several communicative 'modes' or 'channels', it approaches Egyptian text-image-compositions in a more global way than previous studies. At the same time, by studying immutable (motionless, unchanging) multimodal compositions, the research provides new insights to a field that, so far, has primarily focussed on more recent communicative artefacts, which also work with moving images, sound, etc.

Keywords: Text-image-composition; Multimodality; Relief; Wall painting; Temple; Tomb



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A Tale of Two Stories: Gender Switching in Egyptian Myths

Ann Macy ROTH (New York University)

It has long been recognized that Bata, the hero of the Tale of Two Brothers, shares many characteristics with Osiris. The fact that both are fertility deities whose genitals are thrown into bodies of water and eaten by fish is only the most startling of these similarities. This paper will argue that the mythological stories of these two characters are equally similar, in structure, incidents, and themes. Once this similarity has been established, the variations in the gender of the minor characters in the two stories allows for comparisons that illuminate our understanding of Ancient Egyptian gender roles.

Keywords: Gender; Egyptian religion; Egyptian literature; Plutarch; Tale of Two Brothers



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Studying the Inner Coffin Lid of Udjarenes from Kaunas: A Microhistorical and Microtechnical Approach

Tadas RUTKAUSKAS (Vytautas Magnus University)

Among the Ancient Egyptian antiquities now curated in several museums in Lithuania, some of the most important come from the collection of the first Lithuanian Egyptologist, Marija Rudzinskaitė-Arcimavičienė (1885-1941). The partly preserved inner coffin lid of Udjarenes, dated to the 26th dynasty and now in the National M. K. Čiurlionis Art Museum in Kaunas is one of the most important and interesting objects still awaiting a proper publication. As just one of the examples of the typology of coffins from that period, it seems not to stand out for its style, craftsmanship or ownership. However, a closer study of the lid and of its idiosyncrasies – reversed hieroglyphic signs, different writings of Udjareneses' name etc. – leads to some interesting questions regarding its decoration and text programme. Furthermore, tiny holes on the surface of the coffin lid remain a riddle relating to its state of preservation. The person of Udjarenes herself, her family and social milieu remain intriguing as well. Moreover, the coffin lid from Kaunas tells also the story of the beginning of Egyptology in Lithuania. The contacts with other Egyptologists such as G. Lukyanov or V. Golenishchev that helped M. Rudzinskaitė-Arcimavičienė to acquire not only this object, but also to build up her small collection of antiquities shed some further light on the Ancient Egyptian antiquities trade in the 1930s of the last century.

Keywords: Late Period; Coffins; Reversals; Antiquities trade; Museum collections



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Activity-Area Analysis as a Tool for Understanding Microeconomy: Case Study of the Third Intermediate Period Settlement in Tell el-Retaba

Agnieszka RYŚ-JARMUŻEK (University of Warsaw)

The following paper discusses the economic aspects of the functioning of the Third Intermediate Period settlement in Tell el-Retaba, focussing on the craft activities and the subsistence basis of households. The study has used an interdisciplinary approach combining different types of archaeological data to establish the daily behaviours of individuals. According to concepts of the activity-area analysis, several categories of archaeological sources excavated inside houses have been considered – objects (including refuse and by-products), installations, plant remains and animal bones. It has been possible to gain information about the relationship between daily household activities, domestic crafts, and agricultural and animal husbandry activities. Additionally, the reconstruction of storage practices has allowed to assess the economic wealth of individual households or the degree of their economic independence. Through this study, it is possible to determine that dwellers of Tell el-Retaba in this period lived on agriculture and fishing, but not exclusively. Households were also involved in textile and nets production, metallurgy and other craft activities which were an extension of daily subsistence works. Moreover, based on the fact that each household had its storage system, it can be postulated that they were economically independent units. On the other hand, it seems that some installations, such as ovens, were shared in the communal spaces.

Keywords: Household archaeology; Microeconomy; Activity-area analysis; Craft activities



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Pithom (?) after Exodus: Provincial Town or Important City? Tell El-Retaba in the Third Intermediate Period

Slawomir RZEPKA (University of Warsaw)

Tell el-Retaba (possibly the site of the biblical Pithom) during the New Kingdom was a place of large, strongly walled fortresses, which controlled the Wadi Toumilat route to Sinai and Canaan. With the collapse of the New Kingdom the character of the place changed significantly: Fortifications and barracks turned into ruins. But the site was not deserted: Since 2007 the Polish-Slovak Archaeological Mission in Tell el-Retaba uncovers remains of consecutive settlement phases accumulated on those New Kingdom ruins.

This paper is an attempt to summarize the current state of knowledge about the Third Intermediate Period settlement and ascertain its status. Was it only a small provincial town or rather a centre of regional or even broader significance? So far only a fragment of the settlement area was uncovered, but dozens of structures of various sizes and types (houses, stables, storage facilities) create a solid basis for comparisons with other Third Intermediate Period sites.

Not only architectural remains, but also epigraphic material can be included in the analysis. Inscriptions on reused blocks discovered during Egyptian rescue excavations (directed by Mustafa Nour el-Din) throw a new light on the question of the function and significance of Tell el-Retaba during the TIP, especially during the times of the 'Libyan anarchy'.

Keywords: Tell el-Retaba; Third Intermediate Period; Settlement



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Cultural Conservation and Site Management of the Elephantine Archaeological Site: A Case Study of an Open-Air Museum

Martin SAEHLHOF (German Archaeological Institute, Cairo), Omar KASSAB (German Archaeological Institute, Cairo) & Valentin BOYER (German Archaeological Institute, Cairo)

The site management of the Elephantine archaeological site aims to present didactically this unique archaeological area in its full complexity to the interested public, and to ensure the safeguarding and conservation of the archaeological and architectural heritage for the future.

The ruins at Elephantine reveal 5,000 years of history and cover all the periods of the pharaonic civilization, which need to be brought to life through a clear discourse and route for both local and foreign tourists.

This research project consists of a redevelopment of the archaeological site of Elephantine. The museography of a site is a crucial aspect of modern archaeological research. Highlighting cultural potential through thinking about land use planning facilitates the transmission of knowledge to visitors.

A compilation of historical, political, economic, environmental, technical and technological data was carried out in order to create a thoughtful statement on all the information panels developed, consisting of an explanatory text placing the monument in its historical, religious and political context and accompanied by a 3D reconstruction based on the most recent scientific knowledge of the site. This presentation will be an opportunity to present the many museographic tools and solutions chosen to best meet the requirements of the site.

At the crossroads of museology, museography, mediation and Egyptology, this project is the result of interdisciplinary and transversal research to serve a specific objective, namely to develop a new contextualizing museography which will highlight each of the assets of the Elephantine site according to its historical and topographical specificities by promoting inclusion and accessibility.

Keywords: Elephantine; Site management; Cultural heritage



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The Non-religious Aspects of the Temples and Priesthood in Ptolemaic Egypt

Yasmine SALLAM (Helwan University)

The Ptolemaic rulers controlled a non-Greek nation and had to rule accordingly. Consequently, the Ptolemies had to arrange a way of bringing the Greeks and Egyptians together. Religious cults became one of the answers to bringing the two cultures of Egypt together, utilizing the flexibility of polytheistic and syncretistic religious systems. They rebuilt some of the temples, increased their size and altered the internal architecture of some structures in order to demonstrate their commitment to the Egyptian gods.

Under the Ptolemaic dynasty temples continued to perform their ancient functions as the Ptolemaic kings recognized the important role the temples played in the political life of Egypt. By studying profiles, speeches, decrees and scenes, then collecting all this together, it becomes possible to expose many hidden things behind the official cover.

This leads to the question whether this belief was just a political step or started as propaganda, but turned into a real acceptance of Egyptian religious practice. My paper will be based on the data set which will treat the transition point from propaganda to belief.

This, in turn, will lead to an evaluation for the temple's non-religious role, because as we can see, the Ptolemaic period enabled the reconstruction of many temples, to strengthen their power. Thus temples and priests were the main tools for gaining the support of the population, and from this point, they were able to control taxes, economy movement and political decisions.

That was the beginning, but did it last this way or did it turn into real belief?

Keywords: Ptolemies; Temples; Ptolemaic propaganda; Political propaganda; Religion



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Expressing a Client-Patron Relationship through *ny dt/dt(y)*

Raúl SÁNCHEZ CASADO (University of Granada)

The iconography found in Old Kingdom tombs and their associated texts often refer to numerous members of the deceased's kinship group. These representations and references help us to understand that the mortuary cult played an important role in structuring social relationships, which reinforced interdependent ties within the community. The terms *dt(y)* or *ny dt* 'belonging to the state' clearly imply these relationships of dependence.

It is clear that *dt* is an ambivalent term with multiple connotations within the funerary domain in the Old Kingdom. Along with its most common use regarding 'eternity', it can also function as an abbreviation for the concept of *pr (n) dt* '(funerary) state'. As a title, *dt(y)* seems to designate a particular figure represented in a tomb scene, although some tomb owners used this expression on occasion to bond themselves with higher-ranking officials whom they served.

In this last example, *ny dt/dty* would be taken as a way of expressing a client-patron relationship that overcomes death and would still be operative in the netherworld. Furthermore, apart from the prestige of having served a high-ranking individual, the use of the term could also suggest an economic agreement for the maintenance of the mortuary cult. We can only wonder whether this emphasis on expressing this interdependent link could also be a way of stating the rights held by the dependant to a share in the reversion of offerings of their lord, as in the more explicit case of Penperu and the vizier Seshemnefer III.

Keywords: Old Kingdom; Funerary cult; Interdependent networks; Kinship



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Body Language as Expression of Mourning and Grief in New Kingdom Egypt: A Psychological Perspective

Valentina SANTINI (University of Birmingham/Center for Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies, Florence)

In New Kingdom Egypt, there is plenty of evidence concerning the public expression of mourning due to bereavement: Rituals, laments, and funerary processions are often depicted on the walls of tombs belonging to private citizens. However, despite the huge amount of these kinds of scenes, there is a critical lack of images pertaining to intimate grief.

According to modern psychology analysis of human reactions towards a loss, both public mourning and private anguish are fundamental in order to properly cope with bereavement. In fact, the process of healing after a loss basically consists of a balance between these two expressions of agony, since sharing pain with the community helps adjust, whereas private distress is pivotal to fully absorb the impact of major bereavement.

What if, by analysing tomb walls and funerary equipment, one could discern not only public expressions of mourning, but also some hints about how Ancient Egyptians intimately reacted after a loss?

Can the study of body language – as it is represented on the so-called funerary scenes – reveal any actual human reaction to pain? And, if so, to what extent had these gestures been crystallized during the course of the centuries and become proper symbols of bereavement?

A multidisciplinary approach – a fundamental tool for the future of Ancient Egypt –, where both Psychology and Egyptology are jointly used to analyse bodily expressions of sorrow and pain, will be presented as a pivotal methodology for the study and interpretation of mourning and grief scenes in New Kingdom Egypt.

In order to better comprehend the phenomenon, a series of case studies – especially from Deir el-Medina and Tell el-Amarna – will be proposed.

Keywords: Mourning; Grief; Psychology; Bereavement; Amarna; Deir el-Medina



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Digital Solutions for Polychrome Hieroglyphic Palaeography: The Case of the Book of the Dead of Nakht (BM EA10473)

Marina SARTORI (University of Oxford)

Egyptological publications have often neglected colour, with monochrome publications of tombs, manuscripts and palaeographic collections, but the use of different paints is an essential albeit understudied aspect of the ancient Egyptian script. In particular, a small number of Eighteenth Dynasty manuscripts (until now only two, P. BM EA10473, only partially published, and P. Leiden T2), feature sections written in polychrome hieroglyphs, as opposed in the standard black linear script. This is highly exceptional as polychrome hieroglyphs are characteristic of monumental contexts, and not of papyri. What to do then, in order to do justice to such an important feature? As part of a SNSF-funded Postdoc Fellowship at the University of Oxford, I plan to analyse the material and scribal characteristics of P. BM EA10473 and compare polychrome hieroglyphs from other manuscripts as well as contemporaneous media (tomb-chapels). In order to make the results of the investigation accessible, I intend to develop a freely accessible digital platform utilizing the IIIF image viewer Mirador to compare and combine information from manuscripts and other artefacts from the same period. The digital publication will make not only the full palaeography of P. BM EA10473 accessible in colour, but also feature metadata relative to the detailed analysis of each hieroglyph, divided by Gardiner sign-list code. It will also be possible to browse through all the exemplars of a sign and compare pictorial units on the basis of material parameters (colours, material, technique). Such a resource will be a valuable tool to gain access to a broad spectrum of hieroglyphic signs and to illustrate how each sign is the product of a unique performance in time and space, yet part of a broader visual culture.

Keywords: Palaeography; Polychromy; Manuscripts; Digital publication; IIIF



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Collecting and Redistributing Drugs in New Kingdom Egypt

Sofie SCHIØDT (Eberhard Karl University of Tübingen)

While the Ancient Egyptian medical corpus preserves several thousand recipes, none of these directly elucidate the process of drug acquisition. Due to the uncommunicative nature of the source material, this fundamental aspect of Egyptian medical practice has been almost entirely neglected by modern scholarship. A notable exception is LiDonnici's research on the availability of drugs in the PGM based on economic documentation. Taking this approach as a starting point, in this talk I attempt to determine how medical drugs were collected and redistributed in New Kingdom Egypt.

The medical corpus specifies the use of a wealth of drugs, some of which would have been readily acquired, but much of it consists of substances that were not easily accessible. This includes imported materials, materials collected outside of Egypt proper (e.g., through mining or quarrying), and materials otherwise difficult to access. As such, many drugs employed in the medical texts would not have been widely available. A systematic examination of textual, pictorial, archaeological, botanical, zoological, and geological evidence from Egypt and the Near East thus helps to determine the availability of drugs and consequently the representativeness of the medical texts in terms of social structures. Correlated with documentary sources, this in turn indicates how vast the materia medica network was, how it was organized, and whether it involved specialists responsible for drug collection.

Keywords: Medicine; Social history



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Digital Cultural Mediation Projects from the State Museum of Egyptian Art, Munich

Arnulf SCHLÜTER (State Museum of Egyptian Art, Munich)

Science needs active communication, and museums are ideally suited to communicating scientific findings to a broad public. To do this, specialist knowledge, methodological aspects, technical innovations and changing user behaviour must all be taken into account. The digital humanities also offer new opportunities for museums. In view of this, digital education offerings are constantly being optimized, updated, and further developed. The lecture presents digital cultural mediation projects from the State Museum of Egyptian Art in Munich. The museum is actively embracing the digital transformation and exploring new ways of cultural mediation. In the summer of 2023, a presentation on the museum's excavation project in Naga Sudan will be launched: Digital storytelling with innovative technology will allow visitors to feel as if they are directly participating in archaeological excavations in Sudan. For this purpose, large photo panoramas will be combined with a walk-through soundscape in which high-precision localization and head tracking will help create a truly immersive experience. Other projects will visualize scientific results through the digital reconstruction of museum objects. The reconstruction of a Late Period statue will be the basis for a virtual reality presentation that will also take into account alternative reconstruction possibilities and the indexing of inscriptions. The focus of another research project is ancient colorization of statues and reliefs. The results will be presented using virtual models with photorealistic coloration. The lecture will present the basic scientific work as well as the technology used and will give examples of practical applications in the museum.

Keywords: Digital cultural mediation; Digital Humanities; VR; Digital reconstruction



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The Kingmaker: Use and Meaning of the Throne in Ancient Egypt

Manon Y. SCHUTZ (University of Münster/University of Oxford)

When thinking of pharaohs in general, it is impossible to not envision their attributes at the same time, mainly the double crown, the crook and flail, but also the throne, i.e. the 'kingmakers' that optically characterise the king as such. Even current sovereigns use similar features to highlight their position and set themselves apart. For this reason, the throne in particular seems to be well-known and -understood nowadays, elevating its owner literally and figuratively above everyone else—in fact, being an emblem of kingship itself. Yet, while these properties of visualising the royal power certainly played a role in Ancient Egypt as well, one might wonder whether this piece of furniture really had the same *raison d'être* as in modern times.

The aim of this paper is to (re-)examine the meaning and symbolism of thrones in Ancient Egypt. By comparing them to examples from other cultures and eras, an attempt will be made to not only define this object group, but to also put it in its broader context. After all, the use of furniture—even items that look similar to their modern counterparts—is not universal and often has underlying connotations that are not ubiquitously recognised. For instance, there is evidence that the Egyptians placed the throne into the same category as the bed, a classification also palpable in other areas of the world. As the bed is a representative of the mother-goddess, who swallows the sun in order to give birth to it again on a daily basis, the question arises of whether the throne could likewise embody a female entity that ensures the ruler's cyclical renewal and protects him throughout the process. Could this be the reason why the pharaohs' wives and daughters are often represented in front of the arm rests, emblematising the mother-goddess?

Keywords: Furniture; Kingship; Rebirth; Mother-goddess; Solar cycle



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Herodotus' Narrative on Saite Kings and his Political Agenda

Alexander SCHÜTZE (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

The second book of Herodotus' *Histories* is still an important point of reference for research on various aspects of Late Period Egypt. Egyptologists often use isolated elements of this complex narrative without considering the overall composition and the author's agenda behind it. This is particularly problematic in the case of Herodotus' history of the 26th dynasty (Hdt. 2.147-182), which is thought to be relatively accurate compared to his chronologically awkward history of Egypt's earlier kings. In fact, it is still used as an important source for the political history of the 26th dynasty, also due to a lack of relevant Egyptian sources. This contribution will show how Herodotus' political agenda decisively shapes his history of the 26th dynasty, which itself appears to be quite disparate. Secondly, it will illustrate how Herodotus' narrative on Saite kings can be understood as a prelude to the well-known Cambyses logos at the beginning of Book 3 and how this perspective explains the themes and anecdotes chosen by Herodotus at the end of Book 2. In particular, the prominent role of king Amasis in Herodotus' narrative will be discussed in detail. Finally, it will outline how the Greek historian deliberately makes use of Egyptian realia such as the Oracle of Buto or the sacred Apis bull to prepare his Greek audience for said logos on Cambyses. The paper will show that Herodotus' logos on Egypt, like any other historical source, should be subject to profound source criticism. At the same time, it will present a research perspective that considers both the state of Egyptological research on Late Period Egypt and classical-philological research on Herodotus' *Histories*.

Keywords: Herodotus; Historiography; 26th dynasty; Cambyses; Amasis; Buto; Apis; Sais



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Linguistic Choices in Representations of Dialogues in Funerary Texts

Dina SEROVA (Humboldt University of Berlin)

Ancient Egyptian texts are an important testing ground for modern linguistic theories, with the potential to critically highlight, diversify and broaden research approaches. This is especially of greater interest for cross-linguistic and cross-cultural phenomena such as ‘register variation’, the study of which has recently become the focus of various linguistic disciplines dealing with modern and historic languages.

In the framework of register studies (Halliday 1978; Biber 2012; Neumann 2013), it is assumed that text producers have the ability and knowledge to navigate through linguistic variation (e.g., in switching between language variants) in socially recurrent situations with regard to specific communicative functions of the text. Such language choices represent a complex multivariate network of linguistic features and can be observed in texts on the levels of morphosyntax, lexis, semantics etc.

In Egyptological studies, register variation in funerary texts has not yet been systematically studied, which can be considered a desideratum for future research.

A suitable textual basis for such an approach can be found in the so-called communicative dialogues (Bickel 2012) e.g. in the often-discussed CT spell 312 and its successor BD 78. According to its title, the aim of the spell is to enable the deceased to transform into a divine falcon. However, in terms of content, this spell is rather a dramatic text implementing direct speech of different divine protagonists. The main questions here are: How can these dialogues be reconstructed and understood in their ritual and performative functionality? How do gods or god-like entities communicate in diegetic formal and informal settings? Which linguistic means are used and are there diachronic changes within a register?

Keywords: Linguistic variation; Language register; Dialogue; CT; BD



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Who's Mommy's Mummy? A Reliable Insight into Tutankhamen's Kin

Alejandro SERRANO (Complutense University of Madrid)

With the discovery of the tomb KV 62 in November 1922, Pharaonic Egypt became a worldwide phenomenon, whose flagship was and still is, the funerary mask of the king who was buried in the aforementioned grave: Tutankhamen.

A hundred years later there are still many unanswered questions – and others with too many possible answers – concerning this issue. Most of the questions are related to the kinship relationships of the young king, especially regarding his immediate ancestry, a relevant fact given the tumultuous time in which he lived. Numerous researchers from different institutions and varied opinions, have postulated their diverse hypotheses over the last century. These hypotheses have been based mainly on two cornerstones: On the one hand, the written and iconographic sources, and on the other hand, the studies of physical and forensic anthropology and more recently, DNA analyses. For this reason, the aim of this research has been to gather and study all the available material, taking the most up-to-date theories into consideration, and from this investigation obtain the most enlightening and closest results to the historical facts of this controversial period, in order to use them as support for future investigations with the hope of unravelling the family connections of Tutankhamen with the greatest success. It is necessary to reach an agreement and an understanding in the Egyptological community about this matter.

With the technology available and discarding baseless theories, this research comes to relevant conclusions about the identity of the mummies KV 35 YL and KV 55, i.e., Tutankhamen's parents.

Keywords: DNA; Kinship; KV 35; KV 55; KV 62; Tutankhamen



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Figured Ostraca with Ritual Scenes from around the Tombs of Djehuty (TT 11) and Hery (TT 12)

José M. SERRANO (University of Seville)

In 22 years of excavations in Dra Abu el-Naga North, the Spanish mission has collected more than 150 ostraca of various types, some with texts, others with images, or a combination of both. Our interest will focus on the figured ostraca, more precisely on those that present copies or sketches of funerary scenes or rituals that are included in the decorative repertoire of the tomb walls, such as the dragging of the tekenu, the *mw*-dancers or the funerary procession. Some of these documents could be directly related to the tombs of Djehuty (TT 11) or Hery (TT 12). These are particularly significant, since only rarely has it been possible to establish the relationship between figured ostraca with sketches of funerary rituals and a specific tomb (we can scarcely mention the cases of Puyemre, Senneferi, and Senenmut).

The information we extract from the study of these documents can, on the one hand, help reconstruct iconographic sequences that are incomplete or destroyed at present, as it happens in the corridor of TT 11. They can also illustrate the way the artisans work, as well as the dynamics of preparing the decoration of a tomb and its definitive materialization. Finally, these ostraca may also be copies of the decoration of a tomb, traced with the aim of transferring the decorative motifs to another funerary monument. This possibility is particularly suggestive, since the tomb of Djehuty collects rare funerary rituals that were copied in the neighbouring tomb TT 20 (Montuherkhepeshef).

Keywords: Ostraca; Funerary rituals; Djehuty; TT 11; Hery; TT 12



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Hieroglyphic Palaeography of the Sun-disc Sign in the Amarna Texts (1352-1327 BC)

Sherouk SHEHADA (Helwan University)

The King Akhenaten from the 18th dynasty represented many changes in religion, art and philology. The changes of philology represent innovations in the syntax, such as the verbal system. It also shows new ways for shaping the signs, the palaeography, including signs and determinatives. One of the most significant features is the way of writing the sun-disc, which is written according to the primary exploration in many different ways. It is represented in four words: *wbn*, *hꜥ*, *shꜥ* and *stwt* in royal and non-royal sources. This research examines the sources in Amarna texts and use the contemporary sources from its texts in Thebes and Saqqara to (a) figure out how much hand-written hieroglyphs are similar to/different from standard hieroglyphs, (b) offer insights into the organization and methods of the makers of hieroglyphics texts. The previous studies including Redford (1978; 1980) addressed the iconographic details of the sun-disc. He gave examples for the talatat inscriptions from Thebes. He made a comment on the worship of the disc, the cult and the ray-arms relation between king and disc. However, he did not investigate the palaeographical uses for this sign. My paper will tackle this sign to assess the type of material on which it is engraved and painted to focus on the aspects that affected the way of forming this sign. This study aims to examine why the sun-disc sign attested in Amarna texts in some instances with hand and on other examples written by the classical way whether in the same source types or with the same words? Is it different from the ones which are represented outside Tell el-Amarna?

Keywords: Amarna texts; Akhenaten; Palaeography



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The Unexpected Rediscovery of New Fragments of the Cairo Leather Roll

Wael SHERBINY (Independent Researcher)

More than two years after presenting my previous paper on the Cairo leather roll at the 11th ICE in Florence, and being then at an advanced stage in my preparing this document for publication, I came across an unexpected find during the process of its restoration. It is about a box kept in an adjacent safe to the cabinet where the large fragments of the manuscript were stored.

According to the museum records, the box contained 'unusable' debris of the manuscript, which was placed there by Hugo Ibscher when he unrolled the document in Cairo in the late 1930s. Since then, the box was left untouched, concealing its contents for the subsequent eighty years. Upon opening the box, it turned out that it contained all the remaining small fragments of the leather roll with some highly intriguing pieces. Contrary to the museum records, several parts of the texts are still clearly legible and beneficial in identifying more spells. Although this rediscovery proved helpful in complementing and modifying some of the previously reached results, it forced me to push back the time frame of the final publication in order to incorporate this additional material.

As pointed out in my paper in Florence, this manuscript is the seventh that bears religious texts antedating the New Kingdom, and the only one that has leather as its writing ground. The other six portable documents are all papyri. They are found now in Berlin, Chicago, London, Moscow, and Paris. In spite of the fragmentary nature of the Cairo leather roll, it contains unique pictorial elements and a large number of new and unidentified religious spells.

This paper presents some of the recent findings in addition to shedding light on some features related to the language and hieratic script of this extraordinary manuscript.

Keywords: Leather; Manuscript; Pre-New Kingdom religious texts; Hieratic; Papyri



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Seeing through the Soot: Infrared Photography and Digital Epigraphy in Theban Tomb 110

JJ SHIRLEY (TT 110 Field School/Bryn Mawr College/Journal of Egyptian History)

Theban Tomb 110, well-known for its depiction of both Hatshepsut and Thutmose III, was badly burned in the past resulting in the thorough blackening of its walls. Although conservation in the tomb was able to reveal much of the soot-covered decoration, several areas of the tomb remained largely 'invisible'. In 2021 the TT 110 Epigraphy and Research Field School began utilizing a wide array of photographic methodologies to determine the best way to record the still darkened areas of the tomb. The methods experimented with included RTI (Reflective Transformation Imaging), Photogrammetry, D-Stretch, Infrared photography, and 3D modelling. In 2022 the project invited back all of the students from the initial phases of the earlier field schools for a final 5-week season. The aims of the field school were three-fold: To provide our students with thorough training in digital epigraphy and publication documentation, and to digitally record the remainder of the tomb's painted walls. This paper will present the results of these investigations, including examples from the digital epigraphic documentation of scenes – done by field school students – that have never before been published.

Keywords: Theban tomb; Field school; Digital epigraphy; Photographic documentation



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Social Network Analysis and Visualising Women in Late Bronze Age Diplomatic Correspondence: The Amarna Letters Pilot Study

Kelee SIAT (University of Manchester)

The Late Bronze Age diplomatic interaction between Egypt and the wider Eastern Mediterranean is well recorded in surviving communications. These texts are generally viewed as correspondence exchanged between male heads of state and officials; however, women or female agents within these texts are often overlooked.

In the early stages of my PhD research, I identified potential diplomatic archives (Amarna Letters, Hittite Diplomatic Texts and Ugarit archives) to be assessed for female agents and their contribution/role within these texts. I required a method of data analysis that shows the relationship of agents and the texts that link them. As a sociological computational tool, Social Network Analysis (SNA) was considered for its ability to demonstrate networks by modelling data into a visual graph or sociogram. The increasing use of social network analysis (SNA) by Egyptologists (Cline & Cline 2015; Chollier 2020) demonstrates its recognised value as an interdisciplinary research method.

SNA was piloted early in the collection of my research data from the Amarna Letters archive (c. 1360-1332 BCE). I sampled 13 texts (EA 1-6, 8-13 and 17) where I performed content analysis to distinguish male and female agents who were either directly or indirectly identifiable within the texts. The sociogram from the SNA programme visually depicts female agents amongst male agents in the same network. This sociogram can be analysed based on its visual attributes and used to establish questions for further investigation. From this pilot study, I was able to successfully use SNA to visualise the presence of female agents within a wider diplomatic social network. Though there are limitations to SNA as a standalone method, here, SNA demonstrates itself as a valuable tool for analysis.

Keywords: Social Network Analysis; Interdisciplinary method; Diplomatic correspondence; Women



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LEIDEN 6-11 AUG 2023

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On Developing of a Virtual Publication Prototype for Digital Epigraphic Material

Ariel SINGER (Epigraphic Survey of the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago)

Within the last decade a variety of digital tools have become integral to various areas of Egyptology, but in particular they have changed the face of documentation and, more specifically, epigraphy. Epigraphic work has been revolutionized by increased accuracy, portability, and accessibility of digital tablet technology. This progress has been essential to and amplified by the ability to create layered documents with drawings atop photos and highly accurate 3D models. Yet much of the valuable information generated with these new tools cannot be captured in print publication (which will always remain a foundation of our documentation process).

In 2021 a group based at the Epigraphic Survey began to discuss a variety of ideas about how to best utilize the digital material created through this documentation process. One of the strands of this project was the development of a prototype for the digital publication of the King's Chamber at the Small Amun Temple at Medinet Habu. This prototype is an open-source web-based viewer providing a platform for displaying contextualized geospatial relationships (in 3D) and for examining their surface details (in 2D), using the open source IIIF viewer Open SeaDragon for 2D imagery and the SketchFab platform API for 3D models.

In this paper we will present the prototype that we are working on, and discuss some of the larger questions that have arisen through its development. As noted in the prototype itself, it is the beginning of the answer to one of our primary questions: can one publish a descriptive volume in a modular format that is visually cohesive, highly functional, and presents the many layers (both literal and figurative) that are created by the epigraphic process?

Keywords: Digital epigraphy; Publication; 3D model; Sketchfab; Epigraphic survey

Co-author: Owen MURRAY (Epigraphic Survey of the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago)



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Alternative Body Worlds in Ancient Egyptian Healing Texts

Reinert SKUMSNES (University of Oslo)

The Ancient Egyptians usually placed great care in differentiating between men, women and others, and the corpus of healing texts is no different from other textual and visual sources in this regard. Among the numerous prescriptions concerned with fertility and pregnancy we even find some few examples that seek to determine the quintessential question, is the child male or female? But ambiguity remains and, because our own expectations are heavily coloured with multiple associations (from other sources as well as more recent medical traditions), there is reason for caution. This article takes the concept body worlds as a lens, in an attempt to not only see through but also mediate between multiple layers of body worlds, to explore and complicate how the body/bodies was conceptualised and demarcated by the Ancient Egyptians. Instead of simply confirming the present in the past, or judge the level of truth (compared to modern Western notions), this article seeks to elicit alternative (historically and relationally contingent) perspectives of the sexed body, to contextualise sexual difference within the ontological logics of Ancient Egyptian healing texts from the Middle and New Kingdom. It takes the differential terminology of the physical body as a starting point, before adjusting the lens to the particularity of the female body (as opposed to the default form), the body as microcosmic field and the power of bodily fluids. It includes references to literary (mythological) texts, to address the generally accepted claim that fertility/creation was thought to be a male prerogative, and argues that the number of gynaecological texts, the use of contraception, together with attitudes towards menstrual blood and breast milk may suggest otherwise/diverging perspectives.

Keywords: Alternative body worlds; Sexual difference; Healing texts



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Dark Age or Transition? Recent Excavation at Tombos and Nubia after the End of the New Kingdom Empire

Stuart Tyson SMITH (University of California, Santa Barbara)

The Third Intermediate or early Napatan Period in Nubia is often seen as a dark age in the aftermath of empire. According to this model, the later Kingdom of Kush emerged out of a period of sociopolitical collapse and isolation only after re-engaging with Egypt in the mid-ninth century BCE. The notion that the former colony fragmented into a series of 'chiefdoms' after the 'withdrawal' of Egyptian personnel and resources and was isolated from broader political and economic networks is particularly persistent, in spite of the historical evidence to the contrary. Excavation at Tombos and elsewhere in Sudanese Nubia has increasingly shed light on this period, contradicting this earlier model. In particular, archaeological evidence and a series of radiocarbon dates from Tombos documents continuity over the so-called dark age. The continuous import of transport vessels from Egypt across the period along with goods from Egypt and farther abroad both attests to a thriving trade between Nubia and Upper Egypt and, points towards the need to adjust the seriation of Third Intermediate Period ceramics. The evidence from Tombos suggests a process of cultural and political reorganization and continuing cultural entanglement in Nubia rather than collapse, building on the old colonial infrastructure and centuries of previous complex political organization, not a re-engagement with Egypt sparking a re-'Egyptianization' of Kush. Understanding this complicated transition requires a nuanced approach that avoids longstanding biases against Nubian sophistication in favour of an archaeological focus on the accumulation of shifts in local and inter-regional interactions that contributed to regional change.

Keywords: Nubia; Tombos; Third Intermediate Period; Pottery; Entanglement; Collapse; Trade



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The Ahmose Cemetery: Report on New Fieldwork in South Abydos

Emily SMITH-SANGSTER (Princeton University/Abydos South Project)

South Abydos played a significant ideological role in the foundation of the New Kingdom, serving as the chosen location for Ahmose's unique pyramid complex. While prior research has discovered some New Kingdom funerary activity to the local-south of the complex, it appeared that the primary focus of elite funerary activity in the New Kingdom was the Northern Cemetery. However, recent work by the Abydos South Project (ASP), a new joint American-Egyptian project co-directed by Dr. Deborah Vischak and Mr. Mohammed Abdalbadea, shifts this narrative. Focussing partly on the area to the local-north of the Ahmose Pyramid Complex, the 2022-2023 excavations explored a previously unrecorded elite cemetery dating to the New Kingdom. This cemetery offers a significant amount of new data that can be used to help develop our understanding of the use of the site throughout this period and will assist in answering a number of research questions that have been raised regarding expressions of elite agency and identity in the cemeteries of Abydos. This paper will provide an overview of the results of these excavations and discuss future work at the site.

Keywords: New Kingdom; Abydos; Abydos South Project; Upper Egypt; Archaeology; Fieldwork



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A 17th Dynasty Offering Deposit Found at Dra Abu el-Naga North

María Soledad SOLCHAGA (University of Manchester) & María GONZÁLEZ RODRÍGUEZ (Autonomous University of Barcelona)

A Spanish archaeological mission has been working at Dra Abu el-Naga North, in and around the tomb-chapels of Djehuty and Hery (TT 11-12), dating to the early 18th dynasty. To the southwest of the open courtyard of the former, several undecorated rock-cut tombs of the early 12th dynasty have been found and surveyed. The free spaces left among them were taken by funerary shafts of the 17th dynasty and mud-brick offering chapels. The shafts were all robbed in antiquity. The sector to the southeast, i.e. in front of the entrance to the courtyard, is characterized by areas that have been heavily altered by human activity, by both ancient robbers and 19th/early 20th century excavators, and areas that remain untouched since the 17th dynasty. Among these, an offering deposit (or part of it) was found lying on what may be considered the 17th dynasty floor. It consisted of seven model pottery vessels, two doom-palm fruits and three leather balls filled with barley husk. Two of the vessels were decorated with white spots and have the mouth closed with the same mud employed for modelling their bodies. They contained loose material inside that seemed to be pebbles. Two of the leather balls were tied together by a string. The ensemble is quite uncommon and will be thoroughly analysed.

Keywords: Dra Abu el-Naga; 17th dynasty; Offering deposit; Leather balls; Model vessels

Co-author: Ana OLIVEIRA (American University in Cairo)



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New Vista on The Story of Sinuhe: A Corpus-Based Study of the Classifier System by the Digital Research Platform iClassifier

Susana SOLER (University of Barcelona)

This lecture presents a corpus analysis of classifiers in The Story of Sinuhe, a masterpiece of Ancient Egyptian literature. As different copies have been preserved from the Middle Kingdom and the New Kingdom, we can conduct a diachronic study of the classifier system, enabling us to see how the script structured reality, and how it developed during time.

This presentation introduces the pilot results from 10 texts. It is part of a wider study on the classifier system in literary texts that uses the digital research platform iClassifier (© Goldwasser/Harel/Nikolaev), designed in the ArchaeoMind Lab at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (<https://www.archaeomind.net>).

The aim of classifier studies is to have a closer look at the Ancient Egyptian universe by taking advantage of the potential of emic information provided by the hieroglyphs that play the role of classifiers (determinatives). They allow us to glimpse at the semantic categories by which the Egyptians arranged and therefore understood the world. The advanced digital tool uses extensive network analysis and community detection algorithms that present, inter alia, added information on variability, multiple classification, and constraints in the classifier system.

In addition to the linguistic and cultural nature of the study, this presentation is an example of the research possibilities offered by digital platforms in the fields of Egyptology and linguistics. Collaborative digital work enables us to share data between projects of different research institutions, facilitating the exchange of information. The Thesaurus Linguae Aegyptiae (<https://aew.bbaw.de/tla/>) Berlin-Leipzig (TLA), generously provides digitalized and tokenized texts for iClassifier, making the results obtained fully compatible with TLA.

Keywords: Digital Egyptology; iClassifier; Sinuhe; Classifier studies



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The Tomb of the High Priest Usermontu in Qurnet Murai (TT 382): Recent Research Results

Elsayed SOLIMAN (University of Basel/Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

Usermontu's tomb (TT 382) is located in Qurnet Murai, tucked in among the burials of other high-ranking officials dating from the 18th dynasty through the Ptolemaic period.

Until 12 years ago, the only remaining traces of the tomb were two articles and a red granite sarcophagus, suggested to belong to the owner of TT 382, which currently resides in The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City (MMA: 17.190.2042a–c). New archaeological and epigraphic investigations have been conducted in this New Kingdom tomb since 2010 and are still ongoing. Usermontu held multiple important titles, such as 'High Priest of Montu Lord of Armant, Overseer of Cattle, Overseer of the Two Granaries, and Overseer of the Treasury'. His father Min-mose was also a High Priest of Montu Lord of Armant. With these responsibilities, it is not surprising that Usermontu's tomb is one of the largest in the area. While the preserved wall scenes in his tomb suggest that it was built during the Ramesside period, inscribed plaster fragments recovered during cleaning of the transverse hall made the dating of the tomb to a specific reign more problematic. TT 382 was completely plastered and painted. The surviving decoration is situated almost exclusively in the long hall, rear chamber, and niche, whilst only plaster fragments are preserved from the transversal. The decoration in the tomb chapel represents religious scenes from the Book of the Dead, as well as a detailed funeral procession with a unique scene of the West goddess in front of the tomb owner.

This paper will discuss results of the epigraphic and archaeological fieldwork with a focus on the tomb's owner and his family, the scenes' iconography, and the tomb dating.

Keywords: Usermontu; TT 382; Montu; High priest; Armant; Book of the Dead



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The legacy of Amenhotep III at Thebes

Hourig SOUROUZIAN (German Archaeological Institute, Cairo)

The reign of Amenhotep III (ca. 1390–1353 BC) represents the pinnacle of artistic production of the ancient royal workshops. It was a period corresponding to the peak of Egyptian Civilization, with its largest territorial expansion, abundant wealth and an era of security and peace, when art and technical accomplishments went hand in hand. The Temple of Millions of Years of Amenhotep III at Thebes was accordingly the largest of its kind on the West bank of the Nile and the most richly equipped. Toppled by a heavy earthquake in 1200 BC, some 150 years after it was flourishing, the temple material was used as a quarry for the surrounding construction sites, starting with the neighboring mortuary temple of Merenptah until the Roman Period and even beyond. The colossal statues of Amenhotep III known today as the Memnon colossi, were the only monuments still left in place of the vast temple precinct. Despite destruction, quarrying, plundering and encroachments, the excavations in the ruins of the temple have revealed an extraordinary range of royal and divine monumental sculpture. These were recovered in pieces, reassembled and restored during the 25 years of ‘The Colossi of Memnon and Amenhotep III Temple Conservation Project’ directed by Hourig Sourouzian, under the auspices of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and the German Archaeological Institute in Cairo. This talk will present glimpses of the rich legacy of the reign and demonstrate the urgency of conservation on endangered archaeological sites.

Registration

www.rmo.nl/uw-bezoek/activiteiten/de-bouwwerken-van-amenhotep-iii



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Funerary Worlds in Ancient Egypt: Studying Imaginary Spaces

Sonja SPECK (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz)

Real space, with its readily perceptible properties and practical features, is not the only factor that plays a role in humans' interaction with space. Imagined space also influences all aspects of spatial experiences and usage. The Ancient Egyptian tomb is such a space where we sometimes gain glimpses into imaginary spatial worlds. We know that in the Ancient Egyptian conception the ba of a deceased person was able to fly through a sand-filled shaft, the massive false door permitted the contact and interaction of the deceased with the living, and the deceased were able to 'see' wall decorations even if the tomb chamber was filled with sand. Such notions of permeability and continuity connected with the tomb space cannot be experienced in the real world. They are part of an imaginary space. Imagination and spatial concepts of the Ancient Egyptians underpinned the function of tombs in a crucial way. How could we today get at that in a broader picture – especially since the clearly visible space in the tombs as we can perceive through present lighting conditions does not correspond to the original experience? Imaginary space cannot be grasped in the real world, but an analysis of the holistic experience of tombs should allow a closer look at the Ancient Egyptian imagination. In this paper a new project aiming at the development of a methodology for the study of ancient imaginary spaces will be presented. The project is essentially designed to be cross-disciplinary, exploring how Egyptology, experimental archaeology and visual psychology can be combined in a sensible way along with the integration of innovative digital and virtual reality tools to advance the study of ancient concepts and sensual experiences of spaces.

Keywords: Innovative methodology; Digital Egyptology; Cognitive archaeology; Tomb spaces



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Relinquishing Control: Towards a Shared Ownership of Archaeological Data

Neal SPENCER (Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge)

Colonial histories, power structures and relationships continue to shape much Egyptological research, particularly around access to data. The frameworks for archaeology in the Nile Valley remain problematic, with a significant proportion of projects designed by Western institutions and researchers. The inevitable delay between excavation seasons and final publications results in important data – often acquired with the support of public or charitable funding – being withheld from the wider research community for years, and in some cases decades. If a decolonial Egyptology is to be realised, the widening of access to research data will be fundamental required. This paper will explore possible approaches to mitigating this challenge, with a case study on the Amara West ResearchSpace platform, presenting data from the British Museum fieldwork at the town founded as a centre for the colonial control of Upper Nubia in dynasties 19-20. The platform makes available all data (objects, context records, field notebooks, photographs, scientific data, etc) alongside draft chapters and articles, with sophisticated search, knowledge visualisation and narrative tools. The semantic web approach embeds the relationships between data, allowing meaningful re-use by other systems. Both the data and the system architecture are open access and open source, with re-use and citation encouraged. The paper will place this case study in the context of other challenges (language barriers, digital sustainability, institutional and government restrictions), whilst advocating for a future in which fieldwork data is seen as part of the ‘creative common’, belonging and made available quickly to the Egyptology research community and beyond, to catalyse research and collaboration.

Keywords: Digital; Semantic web; Linked data; Archaeology; Excavations; Publication



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Royal Linen and Foreign Workers: Textile Production in Gurob

Chiara Serena SPINAZZI-LUCCHESI (University of Copenhagen)

Since Petrie's excavations at Gurob (in the Fayyum region), the site has become famous for the abundance of objects, mainly pottery, of foreign origins, linked in particular with the Aegean world. Subsequent excavations and studies have also proved that the site was housing a royal palace around which several settlements have developed through times. Furthermore, documents naming Maat-Hor-Neferu-Ra, the Hittite spouse of Ramses II, have raised questions about the presence on the site of the Queen and her entourage, consisting of people of Anatolic origins, and leading to a reconsideration of the materials.

Thanks to the papyrological evidence, it has become clear that the town was a key site for the textile production, in particular for the local royal palace and the royal court. The finding of a special spindle has also provided information about the provenance of the craftspeople involved in the preparation of textiles, pointing towards foreigner workers possibly from Aegean origin.

But what do the textile tools from the site actually tell us? Would they be suitable for producing royal linen? And is there enough evidence of the foreign origin of the textile craftsmanship? This paper aims to answer to these questions by presenting and discussing the available data (archaeological, textual and iconographical) of the textile industry of the site and compare them with results from detailed analysis of the textile tools and spinning tests run on an exact replica of the spindles.

Keywords: Gurob; Egypt; Textile tools; Royal linen; Experimental archaeology



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The Horus Beḥedety Project Würzburg: The Future of a Ptolemaic Temple

Martin STADLER (Julius Maximilian University of Würzburg)

Although the Horus temple of Edfu has never fallen to complete oblivion it has received its full appreciation as a prime source for all kinds of questions especially on Egyptian religion only since its excavation by Auguste Mariette from 1860 onward. Several generations of scholars have devoted their scholarly life or substantial phases thereof to this monument, and yet the temple is far from being fully researched, for too many desiderata remain. Since 2016 a new chapter of research on the temple has been begun when the Chair of Egyptology at the University of Würzburg received the orphaned concession from the Egyptian authorities for epigraphic work in the Temple of Horus, this archetypal Egyptian sanctuary. The resulting Horus Beḥedety Project is the umbrella under which Würzburg's undertakings in Edfu gather. In its first part, the paper will introduce to the general strategies and objectives of the Horus Beḥedety Project. It will present the new interdisciplinary and digital methodological approaches to the temple by briefly introducing to the current sub-projects in its first part. The second part will be devoted to examples that demonstrate what can still be gathered from supposedly well researched sections in the temple. Indeed, we found to our own surprise how much potential still lies in the parts that seem to have already been revised or translated with the claim of ultimate validity. For the latter the example will be the books 'Guarding the body' (*mk.t ḥꜥ.w*) and 'Protection of the House' which the speaker plans to study in an interdisciplinary setting. Thus, the talk partly serves as an introduction to Victoria Altmann-Wendling's paper that will go into more details.

Keywords: Horus temple of Edfu; Epigraphy; Digital approaches; Temple and magic



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Biography of an Ancient Egyptian Cultural Landscape: Saqqara through the New Kingdom

Nico STARING (Fund for Scientific Research-FNRS/University of Liège)

This paper presents the latest results of research into the structure and development of the New Kingdom (1539-1078 BCE) necropolis at Saqqara, the burial ground of the city of Memphis. It addresses questions fundamental to understanding the site's development through time. For example, why were certain areas of the necropolis selected for burial in certain time periods; what were the tombs' spatial relations to contemporaneous and older monuments; and what effect did earlier structures have on the positioning of tombs and structuring of the necropolis in later times? This study introduces landscape biography as a useful conceptual tool to study the long-time interaction between people and landscapes in the shaping of a cultural geography. Writing a biography of any landscape is all about examining how a landscape and its dwellers created and reshaped each other through time. It also involves producing a (not the) story about the landscape, and this story produces an account of life and dwelling in the Memphite region in the 2nd millennium BCE for present-day society. This makes the study itself a form of heritage practice, which also enables one to critically evaluate heritage practices at the Saqqara archaeological site.

Keywords: Landscape; Archaeology; Necropolis; Biography; Heritage



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HIEROGLYPHS, Studies in Hieroglyphic Writing: Introducing a New E-journal

Andréas STAUDER (EPHE, PSL University)

As we celebrate the 200-year anniversary of Champollion's foundational decipherment of Egyptian hieroglyphs, the study of hieroglyphs remains scattered across all Egyptological publications. This dispersion is paradoxical, considering the centrality of hieroglyphic writing in ancient Egyptian high culture and in Egyptology. It is also highly unfortunate in view of the rich diversity of research currently undertaken in relation to the many aspects of hieroglyphic writing. Addressing the gap, Hieroglyphs will provide a dedicated home for studies of hieroglyphs in all their semiotic, linguistic, aesthetic, cultural, and material aspects. An internationally peer-reviewed e-journal, Hieroglyphs aims promote the academic study of hieroglyphs in all its dimensions in Egyptology and with a comparative angle.

Hieroglyphic scripts span time and space, and they also include Mesoamerican scripts, Anatolian hieroglyphs, and others. We are interested further in the iconic aspects of Cuneiform and Chinese writing in their earlier stages. Hieroglyphic scripts represented a major cultural investment on the part of societies and served for thousands of years as the most advanced experimental laboratory for the relations between spoken, written, and visual realm. This interdisciplinary analysis may also highlight the relevance of pictorial scripts for disciplines such as cognitive linguistics, neuroscience, and communication studies.

Keywords: Hieroglyphic writing; Digital dissemination of knowledge



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The e(bers)Classifier: A Digital Analysis of Papyrus Ebers

Svenja STERN (Free University Berlin) & Tanja POMMERENING (Philipps University of Marburg)

This poster presents some results of the e(bers)Classifier project that started in October 2020 in cooperation with the iClassifier project, ArchaeoMind Lab, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Goldwasser, Harel, Nikolaev). The aim is to study the entirety of the semantic classifiers in papyrus Ebers, the longest and best-preserved medical text from Ancient Egypt. Today, the papyrus is housed at Leipzig University Library, which supplied us with digitized images of the hieratic text. A digital edition with hieroglyphic transcription of the hieratic text and annotated translation made by Lutz Popko was provided by the project of the Saxonian Academy of Sciences in Leipzig 'Structures and Transformations of the Egyptian Lexicon: Culture of Text and Knowledge in Ancient Egypt' (SAW-project). These data were imported directly into the iClassifier platform, while some revisions were proposed to the SAW project. The first author's task was to mark the classifiers appearing in the text. The corpus includes 1940 different lemmas, 26,903 words (11,118 classified) and 17,893 classifiers. The platform provides different reports for each classifier and each lemma and gives additional information such as the classifier's position, co-occurrences, and combinations with other classifiers. Thus, we are using the described digital research tool to identify the medical wor(l)d classification in this specific text.

The poster will present new insights that we can gain by using a community detection algorithm, reflecting the centrality of some important categories like plants and complaints or the role to be questioned of the divine.

Keywords: Papyrus Ebers; Medical papyrus; Classifier; Digital Egyptology; Network analysis



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A Reassessment of Persian Period Material in Egypt

Marissa STEVENS (University of California, Los Angeles)

The two periods of Achaemenid dominion over Egypt, the 27th (526-404/1 BCE) and 31st dynasties (340/39-332 BCE), are essential for our understanding of the mechanisms of Achaemenid imperial rule, but still remain severely understudied, in spite of recent valiant and valuable forays to foreground these periods of Egyptian and Ancient Persian history. As the effort continues to reassess these materials, this paper aims to present an overview of the materials at hand and to provide examples of how a reassessment and recontextualization can take place. The material, text, environment, and iconography studied should be treated as critical evidence to address how the Persians governed Egypt in terms of political, religious, economic, and military policy. Furthermore, the conclusions from this form of inquiry should be extrapolated in order to study the similarities and differences regarding Persian governance in other parts of the Achaemenid empire. Highlighting a series of examples, including the Hibis Temple, the naoforo vaticano statue of Udjahorresnet, the recent excavations at Mit Rahina, and the canal stelae of Darius, this paper will showcase how text, image, and monument can come together to shed light on Achaemenid governance and Egyptian culture during Egypt's Persian Period.

Keywords: 27th dynasty; 31st dynasty; Persian Period; Cultural identity; Hybridity



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The Author Takes a Bow: A Possible Self-portrait in Assistenza in the Temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari

Anastasiia STUPKO-LUBCZYNSKA (University of Warsaw)

In art history, a self-portrait in assistenza is when an artist inserts their own image into a larger scene. In Renaissance-era art, more than ninety examples have been noted, famously including Botticelli's 'Adoration of the Magi' (c. 1478/1483). In it, Botticelli glances out, making direct contact with the viewer, a feature that appears in other embedded self-portraits.

In Ancient Egypt, it was not commonly accepted to claim authorship of artworks. This does not mean that artists or designers would not have wanted to express pride in creation—for example, by interweaving subtle indicators of their involvement in the work.

At the Temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari, it is acclaimed that its main architect was Senenmut, the court's preeminent figure, whose images are present behind many doors in the temple. Other officials potentially involved in the construction were Djehuty, Overseer of the Treasury, and Puiemra, the Second Prophet of Amun. The scale of work on the temple, however, required delegating tasks to be performed, and to what extent these people participated in designing the temple's decorative programme remains an open question.

In this paper, I will present evidence discovered during my epigraphic work in the Chapel of Hatshepsut that can be interpreted as a self-portrait in assistenza, and points to one of these three candidates for the lead role there. If such an interpretation is valid, the room's decoration gains an additional layer of meaning and may be 'read' in terms of that ancient artist-designer's message to the viewer, comparable to Botticelli's gaze out from his 'Adoration of the Magi'.

Keywords: Artists; Design; Author-viewer interaction; Hatshepsut; Deir-el Bahari; Temple



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Conservation Works of Idout's Murals at her Burial Chamber, Saqqara Area, Egypt

Hiroshi SUITA (Kansai University)

In 2003, Kansai University started conserving mural paintings of Idout (24th century BC) in her burial chamber on the Saqqara plateau. Her mastaba is located in the Unis's pyramid complex, showing beautiful reliefs. The murals of our target are painted on gypsum plaster applied directly on marly mother rock. Due to the degradation during four thousand years, about two thirds of the murals have been peeled off when we started working there.

The mission has decided to detach the peeling murals by facing on the west, the north, and the east walls, to back them, to return them on their original location. The south murals were conserved in situ in virtue of the good quality of mother rock.

The burial chamber measures 4.5m east-west, 10.5m north-south, and 3m high, connected through a vertical shaft. The temperature and relative humidity is ideal and stable all the year round. The mission adopted mainly a Japanese technique: Funori (a kind of sea weed) adhesive, and rayon and Japanese papers in addition to cotton cloth.

The Japanese method has the advantage not to use much organic solvents in the enclosed space of the burial chamber of Idout, controlling the risk that fungi may form on papers and natural adhesive.

We collected many fragments from the floor. Puzzling them is difficult work. Fragments are usually broken when they were peeled off and fell to the ground. The place where we collected them cannot help us to confirm their original position as a result.

The restored fragments are placed on their original position by small metal plate tentatively. This method will be improved to make them look better and to increase the stability on the walls. We are planning to complete our works in 2023.

Keywords: Idout; Saqqara; Murals; Conservation

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Lived Experience of the Environment at the Workmen's Village of Deir el-Medina

Deborah SWEENEY (Tel Aviv University)

Ancient Egyptian culture was attuned to the natural world in which the Egyptians lived and on which they depended: The rhythm of the year, plants, animals and migrating birds were reflected throughout their beliefs, artefacts and texts.

The village of Deir el-Medina, home to the workers and artists who built the New Kingdom royal tombs (15th to late 11th centuries BCE), was exceptional: It was built in the desert, near the tomb-builders' worksite. The dry climate preserved vast amounts of texts and artefacts, allowing us, to some extent, to access the emic viewpoint of this exceptionally articulate community about their lived experience within their unusual environment.

Unlike most of their contemporaries, they did not experience the inundation directly; they were far away from the riverside plants and birds. Yet they made the local desert landscape their own by marking it with graffiti. Rock formations, such as the scarp of Meretseger and the waterfall in the Valley of the Queens, were recognized as sites of numinous presence, fissures in the rock became points of communication with the gods, and animals appearing in the Valley of the Kings might be understood as manifestations of the gods themselves.

But did the tomb-builders miss the lush landscape of the Nile? They brought flowers and bouquets into their worship and ceremonies, the artists sketched animals and plants in their spare moments, surrounded new mothers with greenery, and their tombs featured beautiful trees and verdant fields for the afterlife. However, I will argue that they envisaged these natural features which their own environment lacked, not so much as ends in themselves, but as a background for their interaction with other human beings and/or the gods.

Keywords: Deir el-Medina; Interaction with the natural world



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Djehutihotep's Lost Singers

Toon SYKORA (KU Leuven)

The detailed wall paintings in the funerary chapel of Djehutihotep in Dayr al-Barsha remain a valuable iconographic source for the Egyptian Middle Kingdom. Some of the most informative representations in the tomb once adorned the wall opposite the famous colossus scene. These depicted the extended household of the governor and several of the activities being preformed there, including scenes of agriculture, viticulture, gardening and textile production. Due to the collapse of the wall in antiquity, much of its content was lost, however. Several Egyptologists have since attempted to reconstruct the hundreds of decorated wall fragments into their original configuration. Despite their praiseworthy efforts, a full missing register in the original epigraphic publication of the tomb has thwarted any truly reliable solution.

Through a renewed digital epigraphic study of the tomb, it now becomes possible to retrieve part of the missing register. The preserved fragments show several female vocalists, accompanied by a lavish collection of offering goods. Thematically, they fit into a coherent, but poorly known group of partially preserved musical scenes from Dayr al-Barsha. By reintroducing the scene into its appropriate position on the wall, some of the issues inherent in its previous reconstructions can be resolved. Accordingly, Djehutihotep's singers may provide the key to realign one of the vital iconographic sources for several activities of manufacture during the Middle Kingdom.

This poster showcases the benefits of digital epigraphy, when compared to traditional documentation methods. As such, it can serve as a case study to illustrate some of the advantages gained through digital Egyptology.

Keywords: Djehutihotep; Dayr al-Barsha; Middle Kingdom; Music; Digital epigraphy



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The Concept of Liminality in Ancient Egypt and its Potential Uses in Interdisciplinary Research

Dániel Viktor TAKÁCS (University of Warsaw)

Staying highly engaged in contemporary research, Egyptology might study topics which are of great interest to other disciplines through its own material, thereby broadening the possibility of interdisciplinary discourse on these topics.

One such point of interest is the concept of 'liminality' increasingly used in various fields such as anthropology, comparative religious studies, and archaeology, but also in architecture, landscape studies, psychology, political sciences and even in biotechnology suggesting that it is present in diverse fields of human thinking and therefore worthwhile to study.

By liminality is meant (as a short, working definition here) an in-between shapeless status that connects two more distinct states or spaces and has a particular role in transitions as it was characterised by Arnold van Gennep and Victor Turner.

In the course of this paper features of liminality are highlighted as a result of research on Ancient Egyptian material where its use in space (spatial aspect) and in processes (temporal aspect) was examined. The spatial aspect was studied with the help of Egyptian tomb architecture while the processual aspect was observed in tomb decorations depicting festive scenes suggesting the involvement of Hathoric rituals.

Comparing the results drawn from research on these two aspects not only helps contributing towards an understanding of liminality inside the Egyptian cultural sphere but it also can provide a basis of comparison for other scientific disciplines also using this notion.

The results can highlight potential ways of cooperation between Egyptology and other disciplines, a few of which will be discussed during this paper.

Keywords: Liminality; Interdisciplinary research; Tomb architecture; Hathor



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The Painted Pottery Vessels with Deliberate Breakage from the New Kingdom Cemetery at Dahshur North

Kazumitsu TAKAHASHI (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science)

The cemetery at Dahshur North, where the Japanese mission has been working since 1995, is situated approximately 2 km northeast of the Red Pyramid in the Dahshur area. Thus far, the excavations have uncovered over 200 tombs dating to the Middle and New Kingdoms. The discoveries include simple burials, shaft tombs, and tombs with superstructures. One of the most prominent tombs is the tomb of Ipay, which dates to the post-Amarna periods, and was subsequently reused by Mose during the reign of Ramesses II.

The painted pottery vessels, especially the polychrome painted pottery and stone imitation pottery vessels that date to between the late 18th dynasty and the 19th dynasty, have been found at Dahshur North. The polychrome painted pottery and stone imitation pottery vessels are known to have been widely used as containers for commodities. In the burial context, they were thought to be used to contain items for the deceased. However, some polychrome painted pottery and stone imitation pottery vessels from the tombs at Dahshur North show signs of intentional breakages and would, of course, not have been suitable for containing commodities. This paper aims to present the polychrome painted pottery and stone imitation pottery vessels with intentional breakages from Dahshur North and discuss the possible meaning behind the breakages.

Keywords: Painted pottery vessels; Deliberate breakage; New Kingdom; Dahshur



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The Social Identity and Life Course of Women in Pre-pharaonic Egypt and Nubia: An Interdisciplinary Methodological Approach

Veronica TAMORRI (Leiden University) & Sarah SCHRADER (Leiden University)

Women are noticeably underrepresented in narratives on the transition to complex society in 4th–3rd millennium BC Nile Valley, compared to men. This may be due to a prevailing research focus on Egypt's unification and state formation processes, traditionally considered as achievements of elite men and investigated from a male-centred perspective.

WOmen-PRO, a EU funded project under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions programme, aims to tackle this long-standing research gap on women's lives and gender dynamics in the region. It does so, via an interdisciplinary, biocultural-based methodology that combines bioarchaeological and archaeological approaches with statistical analysis. The project draws on skeletal/dental and funerary evidence of ~1500 adult individuals of both sexes, from early Egypto-Nubian sites (e.g. Quena).

The first part of the presentation will outline the project and detail how methodologies such as the measurement of enthesal changes, palaeopathology, dental health analysis (in view of diet) and archaeoethnology are used to explore the social role, identity and life course of women in the pre-pharaonic Nile Valley.

In the second part we will discuss the preliminary results of the project on the health, nutrition, level of physical activity and burial rituals of the sampled women compared to men. The comparison of male and female data will provide initial answers to long-overdue questions such as: Were gender roles clearly defined in this period? Were health status, access to resources including food and burial provisions, and the level of physical activity contingent upon biological sex (or gender identity)?

Focussing on women and past gender dynamics, the presentation aims to contribute to the proposed congress theme of diversity and inclusiveness.

Keywords: Female; Women; Bioarchaeology; Social identity; Pre-pharaonic Egypt/Nubia



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Some Problems with the Notion of Propaganda in Egyptology

Filip TATERKA (Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures of the Polish Academy of Sciences)

The idea that Egyptian artistic and literary production was an expression of the royal propaganda seems to have been for the first time explicitly formulated by Torgny Säve-Söderbergh back in 1950 and from that moment on it became very popular in Egyptology. Although recent studies have stressed the etic rather than emic character of the notion of propaganda, pointing out its limitations with respect to applying it to the Egyptian culture, these discussions do not seem to have outreached the narrow circle of specialists, often being overlooked both inside and outside of Egyptology. The aim of the paper is to analyse the origins of the 'propaganda' interpretation in Egyptological works in order to demonstrate that the notion was introduced to Egyptology, as well as to the other disciplines studying ancient cultures, as a consequence of the negative experience of the 20th century Europe (particularly both world wars and the cold war experience). Basing on the recent development in related disciplines, where the common notion of propaganda has been widely criticised, it will be argued that we should try to find a new interpretative approach, which will be less centred on comparing Ancient Egypt to modern European or American politics, and more open to include other and diverse perspectives in search for a better understanding of a culture that was not necessarily better or worse than our own, but simply different.

Keywords: Propaganda; Etic/emic concepts; Egyptian art; Historiography of Egyptology



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The Tomb of Ptahemwia: Painting on Mud in Saqqara

Tarek Sayed TAWFIK (Cairo University)

In the excavation season of 2021 a team from the Faculty of Archaeology of Cairo University headed by Ola el-Aguizy with the speaker as deputy director rediscovered the 'lost' tomb of Ptahemwia in Saqqara south of the Unas causeway. Ptahemwia had several titles, providing evidence for his positions mainly at the Ramesseum, the mortuary temple of Ramses II. Ptahemwia was a high official during the reign of Ramses II and his titles include king's scribe, great overseer of the cattle in the temple of Usermaatre-Setepenre in the House of Amun (the Ramesseum) and overseer of the treasury of the Temple of Million of Years of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Usermaatre-Setepenre in the House of Amun in Memphis. The doorway to Ptahemwia's tomb had been photographed by Théodule Devéria in 1859 but the location of the tomb was then lost until its rediscovery in 2021 which revealed surprising finds unique to this tomb in the necropolis of high officials of the Ramesside period in Saqqara. When clearing the first hall of the 'temple-like' freestanding tomb a wall decoration painted on a thin layer of plaster on a mud brick wall came to light showing offering bearers and a calf slaughter in bright colours.

The location and architecture of the tomb provide further aspects that are out of the ordinary for this part of the New Kingdom necropolis in Saqqara also possibly connected to Ptahemwia's granite sarcophagus discovered only in 2022.

Keywords: New Kingdom; Saqqara; Archaeology



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Approach of Pottery Transition during the Late Saite-Early Persian Period in Syene/Old Aswan: The Case of a Domestic District in Area 3

Charles THIRY (Free University of Brussels/Sorbonne University)

The Swiss-Egyptian mission directed by C. von Pilgrim and W. Müller in Aswan discovered an important domestic sector in the protected area of the Temple of Domitian (so-called Area 3). Beneath the Ptolemaic strata, the excavation revealed two main occupation phases of the Late Period. In this communication I will present the preliminary results of the studies on the ceramic in this area during the transition between Late-Saite to Early Persian period. Syene's case illustrates some disparities with a few sites in Lower Egypt (among others Tell el-Herr). Differences can also be seen with the contemporaneous material from Elephantine Island.

Not so many sherds have been discovered for the first strata, but the Nile clay productions form the majority. There are two characteristics. The first looks like Saite tradition: Red Nile Silt or Marl Clay with whitewash on the outer surface, while the second contains polished red fabric, similar to those known from Persian period workshops. We can also find productions imported from the fringes of Egypt, like sigas and flasks typical of the Western Desert. The first layer in the Late Period of Area 3 does not present many foreign importations. Due to the extreme fragmentation of the vessels, it is difficult to have a precise idea of these imports. However, one import is uncommon: The so-called eggshell ware, an Assyrian production evidenced in Syene during the whole Late Period occupation. With the classical foreign container from the Aegean Sea and Levantine coast, and some Attic fine tableware, we have other imitations and copies of this vessel. Consequently, identifying copies (make the same vessel) and imitations (taking some specific part of foreign pots to create a new vessel) became one of the main objectives of my work.

Keywords: Pottery; Late Period; Archeology; Persian Period



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A History of Metallurgical Analyses of Egyptian Artefacts at the British Museum

Elizabeth THOMAS (University of Liverpool)

Within a long-standing institution such as the British Museum, extensive scientific analyses have been carried out on metal artefacts in the collection, including the Department of Egypt and Sudan. Due to the number of people involved, the variety of contexts in which work has taken place (projects, analytical requests, external examinations, etc.) and the variety of techniques that have been used over time, there is no good overview of work carried out on the collection and overall consistency in the record keeping.

In order to conceive relevant new projects and valorise work that has been done previously, there was an urgent need to compile a comprehensive overview of analytical work carried out on Egyptian and Sudanese metal artefacts in the past. This represents a major gap where archival work can contribute significantly to a better interpretation of existing datasets and the overall valorisation of the collection.

This paper presents an overview of metal artefact types registered in the British Museum collection, analytical programmes carried out over the past decades, and the main alloys identified for different periods of pharaonic history. It questions our current understanding of metal use throughout the Nile Valley over time and discusses the key role for scientific analysis of artefacts in museum collections towards obtaining novel insights on this major ancient industry.

Keywords: Metallurgy; Archive; Overview



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The Medium and the Message: Evidencing Aspects of Ancient Egyptian Life during Early Dynastic Egypt

Susan THORPE (University of Auckland)

Prompted by a person's need to communicate in writing to a recipient at a distance, over the years private letters have been an important additional source of social and historical information. The personal correspondence from Ancient Egypt has exemplified the extra knowledge such letters provide. From an Early Dynastic perspective this knowledge can be discerned from visual and textual evidence found on the medium chosen, such as palettes, stelae, labels, stone, jar sealings. This paper will discuss a range of these representations, looking at the relevance of the differing mediums on which they have been chosen to appear, together with their dating and provenance. It will provide interpretation of their message, with comment and analysis of the visual together with any related textual inscription. Overall, it will show how they evidence aspects such as the king's actions in overpowering his enemies, military organization, religious practice, daily life – that with regard to the Early Dynastic timeframe it is this focus on the medium itself, its relevance to the message and on the content and meaning of the message, which is how insight is enabled into the events, life and custom of this particular period.

Keywords: Medium; Message; Interpretation; Visual; Textual



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Decolonizing the Early Egyptian State

Jessica TOMKINS (Wofford College)

Following Champollion's decipherment of hieroglyphs, our understanding of Egyptian society advanced at lightning speed with every new text published. However, this rapid pace of scholarship also caused certain early ideas to become engrained in the field as facts rather than interpretations or opinions. In recent decades, scholars have begun to question and break down some of these perceived 'truths' such as that of a highly centralized government and the redistributive economy model for early Egyptian society. In doing so, it became clear that these earlier interpretations were based on Eurocentric understandings of the monarchy model of government. This paper traces how and why the nascent Egyptian state was understood through this Eurocentric lens and the subsequent impact colonialism and Eurocentric modes of thinking have had in understanding the Egyptian political state, from the period of state formation through the Old Kingdom. This paper will contribute to the dialogue on replacing our Eurocentric understanding of early Egyptian kingship, statehood, and government with one based on African models, with an aim to place our interpretation of Ancient Egypt back into its original African context.

Keywords: Statehood; Kingship; Historiography



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Enter Translation Studies: The Case of Ptolemaic Priestly Decrees and Untranslatability

Giulia TONON (University of Liverpool)

This paper credits interdisciplinarity with widening Egyptology's appreciation for linguistic diversity. Specifically, it offers a methodological reflection which refines our approach to texts by allowing the dynamic relations between individuals and their linguistic and semiotic resources to take centre stage. To do so, it crosses the boundaries between Translation Studies and Egyptology in the investigation of Ptolemaic priestly decrees.

The corpus dates to the 3rd and 2nd centuries BCE. Its distinctive trilingual nature reflects the polyglot, multicultural features of the Ptolemaic period. Each script mirrors its social influence. Greek is a constant reminder of foreign rule. Hieroglyphs represent the pharaonic power, supported by the priesthood whom the Ptolemies looked to please and control. Demotic meets the need to communicate with elite Egyptians throughout the country. Thus, the concept of translation, viewed as a form of intra- and intercultural communication, becomes key to the discussion of the corpus and its composition.

I here bring into play a much-debated topic in the history of translation: The notion of untranslatability. According MacIntyre (*Relativism, Power, and Philosophy*, 1985: 383) "some degree of partial untranslatability marks the relationship of every language to every other." Focussing on the interaction between the Egyptian and Greek languages, I discuss cases of lexical and cultural voids present in the corpus. I identify the strategies (including borrowing, calque, and paraphrase) used in the elaborate deconstruction-reconstruction process by which the message made it adequately through to the audience. The aim is to showcase how effectively an interdisciplinary approach revitalises Egyptological research on multilingual communication.

Keywords: Linguistic diversity; Untranslatability; Translanguaging; Ptolemaic Egypt



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Middle Kingdom Female Figurines: A Case of Dots and Dashes

Angela TOOLEY (Independent Researcher)

The increasingly popular research topic of female figurines remains, at least in part, influenced by Western 19th and 20th century outdated terminology and by skewed and biased interpretation. Even more recent scholarship, preferring to use the term 'fertility figurine', imposes upon the many and varied types of figurine a predetermined function without decisively taking into consideration the multiplicity of differences each type of figurines exhibit.

An approach, which neither prejudices function nor imposes functional terminology, examines some of the decorative schemes composed of dots and dashes found on Middle Kingdom truncated type 1 figurines and paddle dolls alongside comparative material to better understand these enigmatic objects.

Keywords: Middle Kingdom; Paddle doll; Truncated figurine



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Materia Magica from Ancient Egypt: A Digital Catalogue Raisonné of Magical Artefacts in Spanish Collections

Núria TORRAS-BENEZET (University of Barcelona)

In this poster we present the development of a digital catalogue raisonné of specific artefacts related to Ancient Egyptian magical practices. The main goal of our project is to identify and reference the magical objects preserved in Spanish museums and private collections, and to analyse parallels to interrelate objects with the same function. The search engine of the digital catalogue makes it possible to access all data in cross-referencing by date, dimensions, technique, materials, handling, function, inscribed spells, archaeological context, and certain physical features. The digital catalogue raisonné will be useful to researchers, and it will also be a tool for museums, which will be able to make use of it in order to improve the museology and museography of these objects. Disjunctions between the preserved spell manuals instructions and the magical artefacts suggest that the ritual practitioner took some licenses to suit circumstance, a process that can be termed 'stereotype appropriation'. In this sense, we are developing a methodology that will provide us with the tools and techniques to study magical materials both as a manifestation of 'institutional' habitus and as an expression of individual agency. This study is the first step of an upcoming larger research project concerned with identifying and classifying the specimens of the pharaonic period around European museums. The research on the material side of Egyptian magic would allow us to discover some real complex apparatus combining multiple means and strategies to activate the magical power-heka.

Keywords: Magical practices; Egyptian artefacts; Catalogue raisonné; Spanish collections



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Models as Miniatures: Ancient Egyptian Funerary Models Reconsidered

Inês TORRES (Centre for the Humanities, Nova University Lisbon)

Funerary models were important items in elite burial assemblages from the end of the Old Kingdom to the mid-Middle Kingdom (c. 2345-1870 BCE). These objects have been the subject of several studies on their meaning and function, but none has focussed on the fact that funerary models are, in fact, miniatures. Miniatures can be defined as small-scale objects that are reminiscent of 'normal'-sized objects or worlds. Since miniatures are common to most human cultures around the world, from Pre-History to this day, studies on miniaturization practices (i.e., the process of miniature-making) provide interesting interdisciplinary insights on the importance of small-scale objects for human beings and the impact these have on our perception of the world(s) or the object(s) they represent.

This paper attempts to understand funerary models through the lens of miniaturization, showing how miniaturization studies bring new insights into the manufacture, use, and symbolism of these objects. Miniaturization practices provide a framework to understand models in their essence, focussing on their materiality, in order to better understand their function as key elements of ancient Egyptian funerary culture. As such, this study suggests that the often simplified and synthezized nature of funerary models was a conscious choice, characteristic of miniatures worldwide, and not, as previously suggested, a consequence of technical difficulties in the depiction of complex three-dimensional scenes. The small, synthezized nature of miniatures allowed the deceased to have control over the known and the unknown, giving him/her power over death itself. As such, the significance and importance of ancient Egyptian funerary models stemmed, precisely, from the fact that they were miniatures.

Keywords: Funerary models; Miniatures; Miniaturization studies; Materiality



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Under the Same Sun: Reconsidering the Cult of Aten in an Interdisciplinary and Interreligious Approach

Benedetta TORRINI (Direzione regionale Musei della Toscana/National Archaeological Museum, Florence)

Although much has been said about it, the so-called revolution brought about by the break of religious and political tradition with the centralization of the cult of Aten during the Amarna Age is still a subject of interest, and a debated one.

Taking into account the material evidence on one side, including less widely known artifacts hosted in the Egyptian Museum of Florence, and the written sources on the other side, this contribution aims to focus on some aspects of the cult of Aten from both the points of view of Egyptology and Anthropology of Religions.

Some key features and issues related to this topic will be discussed, such as the reception of the cult outside Egypt in ancient times and its legacy, in an attempt to reassess to which extent it played a role in the process of formation of the concepts of henotheism and monotheism.

Keywords: Cult; Amarna; Henotheism; Belief; Public; Private



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Egyptian Mortuary Landscape: Revisiting the Pharaonic Cemetery of Dendara (Egypt)

Yann TRISTANT (KU Leuven)

The monumental landscapes of Egypt are the archaeological legacy through which we have traditionally understood the political and ideological transformations of one of the world's most celebrated early civilisations. On the western bank of the Nile River, at a wide bend in the river 590 km south of Cairo, the site of Dendara is very well known today for its temple dedicated to Hathor, goddess of love, joy and beauty, always depicted as a woman with cow-like features. A new research project set around the expertise of KU Leuven in collaboration with the Institut français d'archéologie orientale aims to investigate the large cemetery where Dendara's inhabitants have been buried during almost three millenia. The preliminary results of the new archaeological investigation on the necropolis already bring new light to the origins of Dendara at the dawn of the Pharaonic period and the socio-cultural development of its community until the Graeco-Roman period.

Keywords: Dendara; Cemetery; Funerary customs



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You Know It When You See It: The Identification of Private Religious Activity through a Study of Desert Shrines

Michael TRITSCH (Yale University)

Religion involves repetitive, performative ritual acts with cultural-specific meanings performed in a designated setting, often done with the aid of various accoutrements, in order to interact with preternatural entities. Religious environments can be detected by recognizing the reuse of a specific setting that can be associated with ritual action(s) in the same place over time or by the observation of the same, structural pattern across numerous sites. Utilizing the analysis of shrines in non-Nilotic contexts from the Middle through New Kingdoms, this paper focusses on developing a basis for the identification of sites of private religious activity within the archaeological record, while at the same time shedding new light on the significance and function of such foci of private devotion in relation to private religious practices. Appearing throughout the desert, especially mining sites, desert shrines share significant similarities in design and provide an established framework upon which the archaeology of private religion can be evaluated. They may involve only a slight modification of the natural setting or may incorporate circular or semicircular, dry-stone walls, often integrating part of the living rock into their construction. In addition, cultic material, including texts and images inscribed on the living rock, is commonly found in and around these installations. This investigation involves a comprehensive study of these environments, combining archaeological data and the relevant textual records, along with a utilization of anthropological models of religion, to gain a better understanding of their purpose and how private religion can be more reliably identified in an archaeological setting.

Keywords: Private religion; Desert shrines; Anthropology of religion



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Ancient Egypt: The Ride

Julia TROCHE (Missouri State University)

“Digging your nails into the safety rail, you’ll hold on tight...fleeing from the evil Mummy Imhotep,” notes the Universal Orlando website for its ‘Revenge of the Mummy’ ride, while its Los Angeles theme park assures visitors of the ride’s ‘historicity’, explaining “many of the Egyptian hieroglyphics on the walls spell out real words and ancient warnings”. In reality, Imhotep was an Old Kingdom official, credited for engineering Egypt’s first pyramid for King Djoser at Saqqara. Imhotep was famous for millennia after his death, being memorialized as a folk hero for over one-thousand years until he was, in the New Kingdom, deified and worshipped among the other gods in the Egyptian pantheon. Thereafter, his fame only grew, taking on unique forms throughout different moments in world history. This is the foundation for my next book project—an investigation of understudied aspects of Egyptomania through the lens of Imhotep—wherein, I argue Imhotep has become, for many, synonymous with ‘Ancient Egypt’.

Specifically, this paper analyzes the reception of Imhotep and ancient Egypt in North American amusement parks, using as case studies the ‘Revenge of the Mummy’ rides at Universal Studios (Orlando and Los Angeles), and the ‘Dark Continent’ region at Busch Gardens (Tampa). Amusement parks and roller coasters are often left out of Egyptomania scholarship, despite them being described as the ultimate representation of American amusement (e.g. Anderson 2004, 1). I argue that their framing as ‘Ancient Egyptian’ for popular amusement speaks to a particular manifestation of Egyptomania, entangled with Orientalism (e.g. Said 2004), colonialism, racism, and xenophobia. This paper, thus, offers novel, interdisciplinary analyses relating to the theme of ‘The Future of Ancient Egypt’.

Keywords: Imhotep; Apotheosis; Reception of Ancient Egypt; Roller coasters; Amusement park



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The Tale of Apophis and Seqenenre: Genre and Intertextual Considerations

Huw TWISTON DAVIES (University of Manchester)

The fragment of the beginning of the Tale of Apophis and Seqenenre on P. Sallier I has been considered in numerous lights: As a kind of puzzle-contest, as a metaphor for the Amarna period, or as the prelude to a straightforward battle narrative. This paper seeks to understand the story's meaning by examining its context on its papyrus, just before the beginning of a Miscellany-text, and in the broader context of the archive in which it is found. Making use of close textual reading, and a consideration of other narratives belonging to the same genre, the central question of the text is argued to be one of literary competence, drawing on the mobilisation of similar motifs in the Satirical Letter, and contextualising key phraseology in broader Ramesside discourse. On this basis, it is argued that Seqenenre is not the hero of the tale, and is in fact shown to lack literary competence, as is Apophis. It is proposed instead that the protagonist may have been a scribe, who remained unmentioned in the part of the text which now survives.

Keywords: Apophis and Seqenenre; Literature; Material philology; Intertextuality; Genre



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Only One ‘Philadelphus’ in the Ptolemaic Dynastic Cult during the 2nd Century BCE?

Lorenzo UGGETTI (University of Salento)

At the beginning of legal agreements drafted during the Ptolemaic period, dating protocols enumerate the ancestors and the actual members of the royal family included in the dynastic cult of the two Greek cities of Alexandria and Ptolemais. Whereas in Alexandria they were usually worshipped in couples, eponymous priests in Ptolemais were generally appointed for the cult of individuals.

Before the appearance of the standard list of all the previous rulers in the middle of the 2nd century BCE, a group of Demotic papyri from Upper Egypt, dated to the first half of the century, show a transitional phase in Ptolemais. Other than the canêphoros, five priests were nominated there: For the city’s founder Ptolemy I Sôtêr, for the incumbent king Ptolemy VI Philomêtôr, for his mother Cleopatra I, for his sister Cleopatra II and for another Ptolemy. In the already published papyri, the epithet of the latter has been transliterated and translated as ‘Philopatôr’.

The paper aims to show internal palaeographical comparisons which point to the new reading ‘Philadelphus’, to propose an identification with a member of the Ptolemaic dynasty different from Ptolemy II, and to suggest reasons for the introduction of this cult, taking into account both the political context and the royal propaganda.

Keywords: Ptolemies; Demotic; Dynastic cult



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The Paintings from the Temple of Amenhotep III at Wadi Es-Sebua in the Egyptian Museum Cairo: Recent Results

Martina ULLMANN (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

The paper shall present the recent work of the Wadi es-Sebua project, that deals with the conservation, documentation, and analysis of a group of temple paintings from Wadi es-Sebua in Northern Nubia. These unique paintings from the reign of Amenhotep III have been kept in the magazines of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo (EMC) since their removal from the temple in 1964 during the so-called Nubian Campaign. Due to lack of information about this rescue operation and the submergence of the temple building, the knowledge about this important archaeological site had gradually declined over the years. The Wadi es-Sebua project aims at the preservation of these rare paintings and their re-contextualization by a virtual reconstruction of the now lost temple building.

Currently, the seven paintings are undergoing a thorough conservation treatment in cooperation with the EMC. The paper will focus on the results of this conservation work and on the various multimodal imaging techniques that were applied by us to the paintings. Based upon this work, the very complex stratigraphy of the numerous paint layers shall be discussed briefly.

Keywords: Wadi es-Sebua; Temple New Kingdom; Amenhotep III



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The Virtual Light Table: A Digital Tool for the Reconstruction of Fragmented Objects

Stephan UNTER (University of Basel)

The Virtual Light Table (VLT) is an open-source software developed to support the 2D reconstruction of fragmented objects from multiple digital images. It is a stand-alone software, running on all common operating systems (Windows, MacOS, Linux). This paper provides an overview of the VLT's main features and some implementation details, exemplified on fragmentary Egyptian papyri.

The application has been designed for both one- and two-sided objects that can be selected from local or internet images. Tools are provided to bring all uploaded images to scale and – in the case of two-sided objects – register front and back sides to each other. With this information, the user can make measurements and flip single objects or the whole reconstruction to check its validity on both sides. Additional graphical enhancers add to the visibility or legibility of details on the objects.

For knowledge exchange with other scholars, users are able to add commentary to their reconstruction. The work is saved to files in JSON format and can thus be read and processed by other applications. With a convenient export and import function, the current state of work is easily shared with other users. Alternatively, the reconstruction can be rendered as an image file (jpg, png, and tiff), for example for publication.

Originally designed for fragmentary papyri, the VLT makes use of current research on machine learning for this object group. For example, the VLT can automatically find, crop and register papyri in images, or suggest the best possible matches for a given fragment. It also provides a direct access to a collection of New Kingdom hieratic fragments from Deir el-Medina studied by the Crossing Boundaries project (Basel/Liège/Turin) and stored at the Museo Egizio in Turin.

Keywords: Software; Machine learning; Reconstruction; Fragmented objects; Egyptian papyri



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Depicting Monkeys in Bronze Age Aegean Islands: African Primates, Ancient Egypt, and the Minoans

Bernardo URBANI (Center for Anthropology, Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Research/German Primate Center, Leibniz Institute for Primate Research, Göttingen)

This research examines primate iconography in the Minoan civilization as related to ancient Egyptian history. In Minoan material culture, we identify two African primates, baboons (*Papio* spp.) and vervet monkeys (*Chlorocebus* spp.). To reach this identification, we closely observed frescoes from Knossos (Crete) and Akrotiri (Santorini) and 3D depictions of primates from various localities in Crete, present-day insular Greece. In the Minoan frescoes, baboons, at that time deified in Egypt, act as subjects in ritual contexts while vervet monkeys are linked to leisure contexts. In both cases, Minoans appear to have directly observed these African monkeys or painted them after narratives mediated through Egypt. Our comprehensive study is also consistent with previous reports that claim an extensive cultural exchange between Egyptians and Minoans and that African monkeys reached the Minoan imagery in two periods: 2200-2000 BCE and 1600-1400 CE. The evidence seems to suggest that these events likely occurred during the rules of the 11th Dynasty (c. 2130-1991 BCE; Mentuhotep I/Mentuhotep reigns) and the 18th Dynasty (1550-1295 BCE; Ahmose I/Thutmose III reigns). In sum, material culture, representing primates in Minoan contexts, stands as a very early exotica transmission from Egypt to a European civilization.

Keywords: 11th/18th Egyptian dynasties; Archaeoprimatology; Baboons; Exotica; Vervets

Co-author: Dionisios YOULATOS (School of Biology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)



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Reframing Museum Collections through Contemporary Art: Sara Sallam at the Royal Museums of Art and History in Brussels

Elisabeth VAN CAELENBERGE (KU Leuven/Royal Museums of Art and History, Brussels)

Expedition Egypt (March-September 2023) is an exhibition at the Royal Museums of Art and History in Brussels, telling the history of Belgian Egyptology. It offers a chronological overview of how the museum's Egyptian collection has grown and evolved over the past two hundred years. The political, economic, and social contexts in which the collection was assembled are highlighted, with many insights being the outcome of the research project Pyramids and Progress. Belgian expansionism and the making of Egyptology, 1830-1952.

To build bridges between scholarly discourse and today's world, the museum commissioned a contemporary artist to contribute. A dozen works by Sara Sallam (Giza, 1991) are presented as an integral part of the exhibition, interacting directly with the displayed artefacts. By analysing how Sallam's interventions engage with the exhibited museum collection, this paper demonstrates how contemporary artistic vision can contribute to the future of Egyptology.

Sallam's multidisciplinary, research-based practice investigates past and ongoing attitudes in archeological and museum contexts. Recurring themes in her work are the reception of Ancient Egypt, the appropriation of Egyptian imagery, the display of Egyptian artefacts, and the treatment of human remains. Combining Egyptological and autobiographical material into collages that weave the past and the present, Sallam explores the multiple meanings of identity and ancestry. Lending a voice to ancient artefacts, she experiments with notions of embodiment and displacement, creating counter-narratives that propose new thinking and reflection on the Egyptological discipline.

Keywords: Contemporary art; Historiography; Decolonisation; Ethics; Museology; Exhibitions



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A Tomb with a View: Reflections on Landscape and Climate Change in Funerary Art

Nicky VAN DE BEEK (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz)

The elite tombs of the Old, Middle and New Kingdom are known for their vivid rendering of scenes of daily life. Marshlands, deserts, pastures and cultivated land form the backdrop against which the tomb owner spearfished, hunted, counted his cattle and inspected his fields. Various landscapes, animals and plants that are depicted can no longer be found in Egypt today: Extensive papyrus marshes that once surrounded the capital of Memphis, desert game that has since gone extinct, and hippos that have been pushed back to the far south by overhunting and a changing environment.

Recent studies from a natural science perspective are increasingly showing the severe impact Nile flow failure could have on the stability of the land. As we know too well today, climate change is not a smooth transition but rather accompanied by extreme weather conditions such as droughts, excessive rain and flash floods. These 'climate fluctuations' have been known to occur at the end of the Old Kingdom and during the second half of the New Kingdom. This, combined with the more gradual drying of the Sahara since the end of the Holocene climatic optimum (c. 5000 years ago), leads to the situation we see today, forming a biased picture of the ancient situation.

The present study is an analysis of landscape scenes in Old to New Kingdom tombs from an emic perspective, using criteria and terminology employed by the ancient Egyptians themselves. Thus we find that 'desert scenes' are not a reflection of the desert at all, there were different types of marshland, and species were identified using a non-Linnaean system. Only then can we start to understand how the ancient Egyptians viewed and categorized their environment, and how they responded to changes in the landscape with innovation and resilience.

Keywords: Tomb scenes; Landscape; Climate; Emic



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The Beginnings of Hieratic: Hieratic from the Early Dynastic to the First Intermediate Period in the AKU Project

Kyra VAN DER MOEZEL (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz)

Since 2021, one of the foci of the AKU Project is Hieratic of the Early Dynastic period, the Old Kingdom and the First Intermediate Period. The sources obtained so far are divided into administrative texts on the one hand and funerary texts on the other. Among the sources that are currently being traced, analyzed and requested are inscriptions from Saqqara, Abydos and Elephantine, papyri from Gebelein and Abusir, builders' inscriptions, tablets from Balat, and several administrative papyri as well as letters to the dead. Key questions in the analysis are:

- Can we speak of a standardization of the hieratic repertoire during the Old Kingdom and the First Intermediate Period, or are we rather dealing with a dynamic complex of temporal and local developments?
- What are the characteristics that led to cursive characters in the early phases of writing?
- Which differences and developments can be observed in texts from the center versus texts from the periphery?

The contribution will be an update on the palaeographic and analytic work on the oldest hieratic texts carried out with help of the digital means offered by the AKU Project: The processing and presentation of sources and hieratograms in the open access tool AKU-PAL contributes to the dissemination of knowledge on the earliest cursive writing. The contribution informs in more detail on organizational and content aspects of the work including first results. It is furthermore hoped that the contribution is a call to colleagues to make more old material available, either as traced hieratograms or as high-resolution photographs/scans.

Keywords: AKU; Early cursive script; Palaeography; Database; Digital analysis



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Uniting the Separated: A Multifocal Contextualization of the Saqqara Execration Figurines from the Brussels and Leiden Collections

Athena VAN DER PERRE (KU Leuven)

Approximately 130 unfired inscribed clay figurines (late Middle Kingdom) originating from Saqqara are kept in museums outside Egypt. The figurines represent bound prisoners and are covered with execration texts in hieratic, mentioning the name of Egyptian individuals, or long lists of potential, often foreign, enemies. While discovered in 1922 in a closed archaeological context, these figurines show a clear typological variation and the palaeographic study of the inscriptions on their surfaces suggest different scribal hands. Ca. 80 years ago, they were divided between Brussels (105 at Art & History Museum), Tel Aviv (8 at Eretz Israel Museum) and Leiden (12 at National Museum of Antiquities). An unknown number remained at Cairo (Egyptian Museum). Since, the object lives of these figurines no longer run parallel, leading to challenges and opportunities for further research.

By documenting, assessing and comparing the current physical conditions of these objects, this paper aims to understand how different environmental conditions and conservation strategies can be detected and influence contemporary philological, art-historical and archaeometric research. Therefore, for each of the figurines in Brussels and Leiden standardized condition reports were made. Archival research tracked down the history of their condition over the course of 100 years, pXRF measurements characterized their chemical composition. Multi-light reflectance scans documented their physical appearance and multi-spectral imaging maximized the readability of the remaining inscriptions. For both the Brussels (Delvaux et al. 2017: DOI:10.13140/RG.2.2.10989.28649) and Leiden group the same procedure has been applied, allowing a full comparison to understand their nature and their divergent object lives.

Keywords: Execration figurines; Unfired clay; Non-destructive analysis; PXRF; Object lives

Co-authors: Vanessa BOSCHLOOS (Gent University), Hendrik HAMEEUW (KU Leuven) & Dennis BRAEKMANS (Leiden University)



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Generic You and Verbal Tense in Egyptian

Jacques VAN DER VLIET (Netherlands Institute for the Near East, Leiden/Leiden Institute for Area Studies, Leiden University/Radboud University Nijmegen) & Ewa ZAKRZEWSKA (University of Amsterdam)

In the Coptic Gospel of Judas, it is said about Jesus: “Often he did not show himself to his disciples, but you would rather find him (ⲩⲁⲕⲉⲣⲟⲩ: šakhe erof) in the midst of the children” (33:18-21; cf. Brakke 2020). The masculine second person singular subject of this sentence, -k-, ‘you’, does not address a specific ‘you’, but a generic person, a ‘one’ (cf. Quirke 1985: par. 6.21). Generic you cross-linguistically attracts generic verbal tenses, that is tenses without a specific time reference, while it excludes others (Gruber 2017). In Coptic, generic you is typically used with the habitual (ⲩⲁⲥ / ⲩⲁⲣⲉ-: ša=/šare-), as in the example above. The correlation of pronominal and verbal genericity is equally found in earlier Egyptian, for instance in the recipes of Papyrus Ebers, but has hardly ever been studied. This paper investigates tense selection in relation to generic you diachronically, from a functional-typological perspective, in order to get closer to the structure of the Egyptian tense and aspect system.

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GRUBER, B. 2017. ‘Temporal and atemporal uses of ‘you’: indexical and generic second person pronouns in English, German, and Dutch’. *Journal of Comparative German Linguistics* 20: 199-227.

QUIRKE, R., et al. 1985. *A comprehensive grammar of the English language*. London / New York.

Keywords: Egyptian language; Genericity; Verbal tense/aspect



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The Future of the Family: Studying Egyptian Family Structure Through a Comprehensive Method

Steffie VAN GOMPEL (Leiden University)

The study of 'the Egyptian family' and its preferred and dominant family traditions has slowed down in the last few decades. It is often held that the Egyptian family was predominantly nuclear or simple in form, with some wealthier and notable families taking on more complex forms. However, although some aspects of Egyptian family and household structure are well-researched (marriage and inheritance traditions come to mind), others have received far less attention or remain mostly unknown. This is primarily due to a lack of directly informative sources, as well as persistent misconceptions about the form and domestic cycles of historical families.

This presentation advocates for the use of the 'family systems' method to study Egyptian families. This method views historical families as comprehensive systems that include both family practices (e.g. marriage, household formation, and inheritance patterns) and family ideology (how one should ideally form, live in, and reproduce a family). By viewing the Egyptian family as comprehensive system with its own internal logic dependent on both practice and ideology, new possibilities for research and deduction arise and a clearer picture of daily family life in the past emerges.

Keywords: Social structure; Daily life; Family structure; Households; Private documents



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Textile Production in Egypt from the Old to the Middle Kingdom: Reconstructing the Chaîne Opératoire

Veerle VAN KERSEN (KU Leuven)

Textiles were fundamental to ancient societies, yet they are under-represented in archaeology. Even in Egypt, where the dry desert has created exceptional preservation conditions for organic materials, very few of these surviving textiles have been studied in detail. In the last few decades Egyptian textiles have seen some increase in interest. There is, however, much that remains unknown, especially regarding textiles from the Old to Middle Kingdom. This gap in our knowledge cannot be explained by a lack of evidence, since there are many large pieces of fabric from this period preserved in museums. Moreover, this period has produced a number of iconographical depictions of textile workshops. These models and paintings form the base of our current knowledge of Ancient Egyptian textile production, and have been generally interpreted through the lens of West-European production methods. Yet the extant material reveals that the production process would have looked completely different in Egypt.

This PhD project aims to reconstruct the chaîne opératoire by comparing the attributes of the physical textiles with the iconographic evidence. The study comprises collections of OK-MK textiles housed in museums, complemented by data from recently excavated material found in dated contexts. By combining this data with iconography and experimental archaeology, I expect to gain significant new insights into an understudied period of textile history.

Keywords: Textile; Craft production; Archaeology; Object study



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Democratizing Egyptology: The Theban Mapping Project at the American Research Center in Egypt

Bianca VAN SITTERT (American Research Center in Egypt, Cairo) & Sally EL SABBAHY (American Research Center in Egypt, Cairo)

The Theban Mapping Project (TMP) website first debuted online as KV5.com in 1998 and immediately redefined the way that Egyptological information could be accessed. Created by an interdisciplinary team of Egyptologists, architects, archaeologists, web developers, and professional photographers, the website provided interactive, up-to-date, and comprehensive data on the Valley of the Kings and Ancient Egypt to the public. After crashing in 2010, the website was brought back online in 2020 by the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), with the joint objectives of making the archival data available online and expanding the scope of the website to other geographic areas in the Theban necropolis.

Through this planned expansion, the TMP website presents a unique opportunity to act as a 'democratizing' platform whereby data typically relegated as applicable or relevant solely to Egyptologists can be interpreted, presented, and curated to benefit a multitude of audiences, both scholarly and laymen. The website also allows for expanding the study of Egyptology from a purely classical field to one where a more contemporary analysis of the history and practice of Egyptology in the West Bank of Luxor can be explored. This paper and presentation will discuss the shifting understandings and approaches to Egyptology, as represented through the current and planned growth of the TMP website.

Keywords: Democratization; Digital Egyptology; Open access; Metadata; Website; Database



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Preliminary Results from the 2022-2023 Excavations in Zawyet Sultan, Middle Egypt

Bart VANTHUYNE (University of Cologne)

In September 2015 renewed research began at Zawyet Sultan by the joint multidisciplinary archaeological mission of the Universität zu Köln, Pisa University and the Minya inspectorate. Additional survey work in 2017 and 2019 identified promising areas for investigation of early and late Old Kingdom remains. In 2022 excavations led to the discovery of several early Old Kingdom rock-cut shaft tombs and multiple late Old Kingdom/early First Intermediate Period shaft tombs, as well as a near-surface cemetery for the non-elite early Old Kingdom local inhabitants of ancient Hebenu, in zone 5, located in the south end of the site escarpment. In 2023 traces of early and late Old Kingdom remains within the rubble of the Graeco-Roman town in zone 1 will be investigated, and the investigation of the Old Kingdom settlement will be initiated. Preliminary excavation results will be presented to discuss the Old Kingdom burial customs and settlement remains documented at Zawyet Sultan.

Keywords: Zawyet Sultan; Early and Late Old Kingdom cemetery and settlement; Hebenu



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From Sacred Spaces to the Spatial Anatomy of an Area in the Theban Cemetery

Zsolt VASÁROS (Hungarian Archaeological Mission in Thebes, South Khokha Project)

The topic of this paper is the evolution of the site of Theban tombs from an architectural point of view, most of them dating between the Early New Kingdom and the Antonine Period, summarizing the results of 40 years of work. In 1983 the Dept. of Egyptology in Budapest headed by Prof. László Kákósy chose a small tomb in the necropolis of Thebes for its field of operations. The excavation uncovered the spatial structure of a monumental Ramesside temple tomb (TT 32) originally owned by Djehutymes and his wife Iset, built during the reign of Ramesses II among other Early New Kingdom (TT 179 and TT 64) and Ramesside tombs (TT 400). The paper offers a summary of the digging activities carried out in these tombs on the southern slope of the el-Khokha. A slightly sloping terrain is the most characteristic feature in the foreground of the hill. It is the space for the temple tombs, i.e. the pylons and courtyards of the mortuary complexes. The reuse of New Kingdom tombs became a widespread practice from the Third Intermediate Period in most parts of the necropolis, particularly in the el-Khokha area. This phenomenon is, of course, not surprising given that the el-Khokha hill lies in close vicinity of Deir el-Bahari, i.e. the final destination of the Beautiful Feast of the Valley. Besides the documentation of the New Kingdom monuments and their predecessors, i.e. the 18th dynasty tombs, our mission has laid much emphasis on spatial recording and comprehensive survey of secondary burials, which provide the bases for the reconstruction of the site's rich architectural history. Based on the reconstructed morphology of the hillock our current interdisciplinary project aims to reconstruct the whole flow of the spatial alteration of this section of the Theban Sacred Landscape.

Keywords: Thebes; Tomb architecture; Spatial analysis; New Kingdom



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The Discovery of New Melting Furnace Types at Ayn Soukhna (Early Middle Kingdom) and Intentional Arsenic Alloying for Metal Casting: An Interdisciplinary Approach

Georges VERLY (UMR 8167, Sorbonne University)

The 2019-2022 excavations have uncovered previously unknown melting furnaces for the production of arsenical copper alloys. In contrast to those already known from Ayn Soukhna, these furnaces provide a completely new perspective on metallurgical traditions inherited from the late Old Kingdom.

This unique technical ceramic type stands out from the revised Ayn Soukhna crucible typology. Interdisciplinary archaeology and the study of Old Kingdom metallurgical scenes identify this flared cylinder as a portable furnace for secondary metallurgy.

Furthermore, a second exceptional discovery provides evidence of deliberate arsenic alloying at the very end of the chaîne opératoire at Ayn Soukhna and at Wadi el-Jarf. Archaeological excavations combined with in situ p-XRF analysis have demonstrated that all raw copper was highly pure, yet arsenic was added during certain melting operations to create an alloy. These discoveries are a crucial first towards understanding the production of efficient stone and woodworking tools.

This deliberate addition has become a fundamental issue, to be explained in relation to the technological contributions of arsenic. Our holistic method gathers archaeological evidence (working spaces, forced ventilation methods, material selection...) to reconstruct as closely as possible the working conditions of the ancient metallurgists.

In 2022, experimental archaeological research create successfully alloys – varying between 1 to 8% arsenic content – from metallic copper and arsenic ores. These alloys were cast to produce chisels in sandstone moulds. Such technological studies of the mechano-physical properties of arsenical copper and its impact on casting are challenging our understanding of Old and Middle Kingdom metallurgy.

Keywords: Interdisciplinarity; Metal; Melting; Arsenic; Copper; Ayn Soukhna; Wadi el-Jarf



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Towards an Encyclopedia of the Reception of Ancient Egypt: The Role of Material Culture

Miguel John VERSLUYS (Leiden University)

The intellectual and material presence of Ancient Egypt is at the heart of many societies around the world from Antiquity to the present. Scarcely any other culture produced a repertoire of ideas, objects, forms, and styles that is so recognisable and that produced such a long afterlife.

After some hesitant beginnings, the study of the reception of Ancient Egypt has now become a fruitful perspective in Egyptology. It is no longer dismissed as a collection of misunderstandings but has been transformed through new orientations in cultural studies and is taking shape in numerous research projects. The historicist narrative of the emergence of scientific Egyptology from the abyss of Egyptomania is slowly replaced by an analysis of their overlap and interaction in terms of mnemohistory. It is against this background that an international group of scholars is currently designing an Encyclopedia of the Reception of Ancient Egypt.

This lecture will briefly present that project and thereby focus on the role of material culture. The Egypt that is such an important and enduring part of Western culture is not only made up of cultural, religious or artistic concepts but consists also, or perhaps even primarily, of objects that have oriented and shaped many processes and events throughout history. However, the reception of Ancient Egypt is most often a story of ideas and not of objects. What can we say about the intersections between history, mnemohistory and material culture with regard to Egypt? And what role should objects play in the new Encyclopedia; in particular in relation to the ideas about Ancient Egypt?

Keywords: Reception; Egypt; Material culture



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Buried Twice: New Perspectives on the Substitute Coffin Sets from Bab el-Gasus

Jaume VILARÓ FABREGAT (Scuola Superiore Meridionale, Naples)

Yellow coffins are omnipresent in Egyptological collections around the world today. The corpus of objects increased by more than 250 examples in 1891, thanks to the discovery of the tomb of Bab el-Gasus. However, the subsequent development of new understanding of these materials has been hindered by insufficient documentation as well as their haphazard diffusion across the globe.

Contemporary analysis of Bab el-Gasus coffin fragments rediscovered in the Cairo Museum suggests a rather unique burial practice for at least some of the interments. Meritamun and Tashedkhonsu, who were linked to the family of the High Priest of Amun, each owned two coffin sets. Their earlier, gilded, sets were partially destroyed at some unknown point in time. When their mummies were subsequently transferred to Bab el-Gasus, non-gilded coffin sets were substituted for the damaged originals.

Using computer-aided comparative analysis, the iconographical and textual models featured on these second coffin sets have been identified on other non-gilded coffin sets from the same tomb. This suggests that all of these objects were contemporaneously decorated by the same network of craftspeople. The funerary equipment contained in all of these coffins associates the owners with the family of the High Priest of Amun. This paper suggests that all of these materials correspond to second coffin sets, substitutes of the owners' originals, in a manner consistent with the burial history of Meritamun and Tashedkhonsu.

This contribution develops new insight into some of the unique funerary practices detected at Bab el-Gasus, addresses some of the knowledge gaps regarding the organization of the tomb and its archaeological context, and points to new perspectives and future trends for the study of this tomb.

Keywords: Yellow coffins; Bab el-Gasus; Burial practices; Workshops; Craftspeople



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Paratextuality as a Method for Contextualisation: Reconstitution and Analysis of Ancient Egyptian Categories in the Graeco-Roman Production of Funerary Texts

Sandrine VUILLEUMIER (University of Basel)

Although it has developed since the dawn of Egyptology, attention to Graeco-Roman funerary compositions has mainly focussed on their content or on some important owners and their families, often neglecting other aspects of the rich and varied documentation that has come down to us. By focussing not only on compositions as such but also on the manuscripts that transcribe them, it is possible to adopt contextualising methods that take greater account of the social, material, and historical contexts in which they were produced. The study of these texts from the perspective of transtextuality, which encompasses intertextuality, paratextuality, metatextuality and hypertextuality, constitute one of the interdisciplinary approaches developed by the Beyond the Text project. This paper intends to focus more explicitly on the analysis of paratextual elements, such as titles, subtitles, rubrics, notes, instructions, glosses and colophons, in order to show how they can contribute to a deeper understanding of funerary documents as scribal and cultural productions and to a coherent reconstruction of underlying links between manuscripts. In this way, these funerary productions can be considered not only as sets of different compositions but also as the result of creative processes associated with evolving burial practices that can more broadly illustrate the socio-cultural context that generated them. Moreover, the taxonomy of paratextual elements and the analysis of the type of information they provide allow the recovery of original Egyptian categories that could advantageously replace modern Egyptological classifications.

Keywords: Funerary texts; Transtextuality; Contextualisation; Cultural productions



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Transferring Online Museum Communication into Teaching Formats about Ancient Egyptian Objects and Their Acquisition Contexts

Nina WAGENKNECHT (Georg August University of Göttingen)

The focus of my PhD project is the transfer of methodological strategies from museum pedagogy on possible teaching formats about Ancient Egyptian objects and their acquisition contexts in online museum communication. To this end, I develop an exhibition concept for the Aegyptiaca of the ethnological collection of the Lübeck museums. Based on this concept, the objects will be presented in an online exhibition on the website and the mobile format of the ethnological collection, as they are not physically exhibited.

The methodological approach is derived from historical didactics. The didactic analysis correlates the Egyptological interpretation with the objectives of museum communication. The objects are thematically selected related to everyday life in Ancient Egypt. This selection bases on defined criteria as the topic level, the time level, the space level, the material level and the reflection level. The methodology can be summed up in three steps:

- (1) The didactic analysis I: Exhibition theme, target group and the communication objectives
- (2) The technical analysis: Egyptological examination of the objects and their acquisition context
- (3) The didactic analysis II: Digital implementation of the objects

In the exhibition a separate topic is dedicated to the acquisition context of the objects. About one third of the Aegyptiaca are acquisitions of private individuals from the city of Lübeck. Citizens of Lübeck bought the objects mainly on their trips to Egypt during the 19th century.

The learning materials will mainly be implemented as image and text materials as well as short video units and audio contributions. The method aid to examine the exhibition objects is Microsoft Access.

Keywords: Aegyptiaca; Digitalisation; Museum communication; Exhibition concept



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Constructing and Archiving Archaeological Knowledge

Chloë WARD (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

The aim of this paper is to consider the construction of archaeological knowledge within excavation records and archives. Excavation records present incomplete and sometimes contradictory narratives of archaeological fieldwork and evidence uncovered, including restrictions and emphases, often intentional, on which, how, and why knowledge is included in a collection. As well as considering specific examples from excavation archives and the methodologies used, this paper will suggest further considerations and thoughts on the potential of these often problematic archives in the 21st century.

Drawing on examples from the British School of Archaeology in Egypt's excavations at Abydos in between 1921 and 1922, often referred to as the Tombs of the Courtiers, directed by Flinders Petrie, this paper will suggest new ways of conducting archival research. Based in part on archival theory and interdisciplinary approaches to archival research this paper will consider how the processes of archival documentation produce, transform, and construct archaeological knowledge. This includes the many different agents and agencies which are crucial to the construction and representation (or lack thereof) of archaeological knowledge in the archive. The crucial element of how archival records continue to be used in Egyptology, often uncritically and without a deeper understanding of how this archival encounter shapes perceptions and narratives of both the distant and more recent past, will also be considered.

A more detailed analysis of the creation, curation, and use of excavation records can reveal crucial aspects of many of the methods and processes still used in Egypt today, as well as on the history of Egyptology as a discipline.

Keywords: Archives; History of Archaeology and Egyptology; Construction of knowledge



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Excavated Artifacts as Big Data: Data Collection, Analysis, and Sharing

Leslie Anne WARDEN (Roanoke College)

An excavation uncovers an abundance of common artifacts, often with little visual appeal, that can be daunting to record and study. Their quantity strongly suggests we view them as representing a common substratum of Egyptian cultural activity. Treating these finds as Big Data and organizing the data so that trends, patterns, and insights can be quickly and effectively visualized, enables both qualitative and quantitative analyses of these artifacts, enriching our cultural knowledge of the Ancient Egyptians.

This paper introduces one approach for studying abundant artifacts in this manner: A business intelligence solution we have named InfoArch. Written in Squirrel365, a no-programming software, InfoArch supports a data-rich collection methodology that encompasses all ceramic materials from two current excavations: Elephantine (under the auspices of the Realities of Life Project of the German Archaeological Institute) and Kom el-Hisn (as the Kom el-Hisn Provincialism Project, Roanoke College). This paper will explore how InfoArch can be used for data collection in the field and instant analysis through graphical dashboards. Most importantly, InfoArch can reside on the cloud, on-premise, or even offline, allowing the data to be easily accessed by other team members. It can be broadly shared in support of publications, allowing ceramic data to be further mined and theories tested by others. Due to the no-code nature of Squirrel365, this solution can be easily adapted to accommodate different collection and analysis methods employed by different Egyptologists.

Keywords: Digital archaeology; Databases; Ceramics; Settlement archaeology; Big data

Co-authors: Paul GRILL (InfoSol) & Tirzah KOZLOWSKI (InfoSol)



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Egyptians Outside Egypt: The Case of Assur in the 7th Century BCE

Melanie WASMUTH (University of Helsinki/University of Basel/Gerda Henkel Foundation)

In the 7th century BCE many persons with Egyptian names and some explicitly designated Egyptians (miṣirayyu) are prominently visible in the private archival records in the ancient metropolis of Assur. Though not the Assyrian capital anymore, the town remained a major cross-regional urban centre characterised by a culturally diverse society and continued political importance, e.g., as the place of coronation and burial of the Assyrian kings. Fortunately, its residential areas received uncommonly systematic attention throughout the 20th century CE. The result is a widespread sampling of stratigraphic and material evidence throughout the town, which allows exceptional glimpses into the lived realities in the early 'globalized' world of the 7th century BCE. Many of these have been obscured throughout the last century: By the separation of archaeology and philology in Ancient Near Eastern Studies, by the major political changes in Europe and Southwest Asia since 1914, and by Zeitgeist-based scholarly assumptions on the living conditions of foreigners. This is especially the case for the so-called Egyptian community, which shows close in-group ties, but is – despite the prevailing scholarly perception – not primarily organised as a separate community. Instead, the texts and their stratigraphic distribution show a distinct spread of contexts and connections within and beyond the group. By combining cultural theoretical, cartographic, and network analytical approaches, an in-depth study of the available textual and archaeological data, furthermore elicits important new insights into the social composition of Assur and the Egyptians' agency and standing within. In my paper, I present the most pertinent final results of my current Gerda Henkel research fellowship on the topic.

Keywords: Community interaction; Cross-regional mobility; 7th century BCE; Egyptians in Assur



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A Life in the Field: Sociological Study about Dangers and Issues Faced by Egyptologists

Kimberley WATT (Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

This research is the result of a sociological study on the archaeologists and Egyptologists working in the field, following a survey conducted in person and online. For most Egyptologists, the field, whether it being in the African deserts or the storage magazines of a museum, holds a large appeal. Despite the administrative issues, financial strains, Egyptologists return. However, the dangers faced in this context need to be taken further into consideration. Universities have more and more drastic insurance policies for their members, while companies want to assess their liability.

This study is the first of its kind to present the issues archaeologists and Egyptologists have faced, whether due to a disease – personal or global –, an evacuation for health, natural or political concerns, an injury onsite or during transportation, among others. The results and statistics are presented for field directors and managers to take into account, to prepare for the worst, and protect more than Ancient Egyptian heritage. This will be a stepping stone to pave the future of researching Ancient Egypt.

Keywords: Sociology; Historiography; Egyptology; Fieldwork; Interdisciplinary; Health



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The New Thesaurus Linguae Aegyptiae: Current State and Near-term Prospects

Daniel A. WERNING (Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences), Peter DILS (Saxon Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Leipzig) & Dominik Blöse (Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences)

The ‘Thesaurus Linguae Aegyptiae’ (TLA), currently the largest online collection of digitally edited hieroglyphic, hieratic, and Demotic Ancient Egyptian texts, was repeatedly updated between 2004 and 2014 (<https://aaew.bbaw.de/tla/>). As part of the ongoing German Academies’ project ‘Structure and Transformation in the Vocabulary of the Egyptian Language: Texts and Knowledge in the Culture of Ancient Egypt’ in Berlin and Leipzig (2013–2034), the editorial software (Berlin Text System, BTS) and notably also the web app of the project, i.e., the TLA proper, were reprogrammed completely new. A first beta version of this new TLA (v2) was released online on the occasion of Adolf Erman’s 168th birthday celebration in late October 2022. New features are going to be added peu à peu in new releases of the web app.

This presentation, on the one hand, will summarize the set of newly published texts in the TLA corpus, and, on the other hand, will demonstrate the new web app, highlighting new contents and new (and still missing) functions as compared with the 2014 legacy TLA and mention near-term prospects. Furthermore, we will elaborate on the citability and replicability of the TLA content, outlining the publication strategy concerning TLA raw data. Last but not least, we will explain the current possibilities to contribute to the TLA text corpus as an individual collaborator or as a collaborating project.

Keywords: Text corpus; Dictionary; Unicode; Database; Earlier Egyptian; Demotic



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Conical Cups of the Third Intermediate Period at Tell el-Retaba: A Statistical Analysis

Ania WEŻRANOWSKA (University of Warsaw)

In recent years, the Polish-Slovak Archaeological Mission working at the site of Tell el-Retaba in the Wadi Tumilat unearthed a large portion of a Third Intermediate Period settlement. One of the most common types of pottery vessels found during the excavations consists of small, roughly made, mass-produced conical cups. These cups have already been recognized as quite characteristic for the period. The scale of their occurrence makes them particularly suitable for statistical analysis, the results of which will be presented in this paper.

The main goal of the analyses was to seize the chronological evolution of the cups in terms of quantities, dimensions, and shape, as well as to understand their role in daily life. To do so, their chronological and spatial distribution was investigated. A particular emphasis was also put on the evolution of their geometrical features (rim diameter, vessel index, wall angle, capacity). In addition, the cups of Tell el-Retaba were compared with those found at other sites in Egypt in order to better understand their function as well as to seize their geographical range.

While establishing the significance of the numeral occurrence of cups in time and space proved to be difficult, the metrical analyses yielded interesting results. It was possible to seize a chronological evolution of the shape of the cups, which contributes to making them a useful dating tool, especially as they occur throughout all of Egypt in the Third Intermediate Period.

Keywords: Third Intermediate Period; Settlement; Pottery; Statistical analysis



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Drivers for Change in Mid to Late Middle Kingdom Burial Customs

Emily WHITEHEAD (Emory University)

In the mid to late Middle Kingdom, a transition began in burial customs with innovations from the court cemeteries overtaking the varied provincial cemeteries' approaches. During the reigns of Senwosret I to Senwosret III, these changes created several innovations resulting in homogeneity in the burial assemblages, particularly in the rectangular box coffins. The late 19th century CE narrative of the Middle Kingdom was that, at the behest of Senwosret III, there was a recentralisation of power to the king, with power understood as being dragged away from the local nomarchs. Since then, scholars have argued that the change from a more dispersed to a centralised administration was reflected in a variety of changes in art and texts, and more specifically changes in burial practices. In recent years, the narrative has shifted to reflect the more gradual change in power dynamics, with Senwosret III's reign marking the cementation of these changes. Despite the shift in focus to gradual change, the idea that a recentralisation of power caused the change in burial practices continues. This paper will explore this time of transition and change in burial assemblages. By discussing the innovations, overlaps, and variance in selected burial assemblages, it will question possible drivers for changes in burial customs, offering us a window to understand how and why burial customs transitioned at this time.

Keywords: Burial customs; Middle Kingdom; Coffins; Change



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AI Workshop:

ChatGPT and other Large Language Models (LLMs) in Egyptology

Chair: Heleen WILBRINK (Aincient; The Utrecht Archives)

Speakers:

So MIYAGAWA (National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics)

Rita LUCARELLI (University of California, Berkeley)

Heleen WILBRINK

What can ChatGPT and other Large Language Models (LLMs) contribute to the study of Ancient Egypt? How can these AI tools be utilized in daily work? What are the advantages and disadvantages? Can Egyptologists train an LLM specifically for Egyptology? These questions will be explored in an interactive AI workshop featuring esteemed speakers with hands-on experience:

- Heleen Wilbrink will provide an introduction to ChatGPT and open-source LLMs. She will discuss their use cases in Egyptology, as well as the advantages, disadvantages, recommended prompts, and future prospects.
- So Miyagawa will present his research on training an LLM for Ancient Egyptian and Coptic. He will share his initial findings and outcomes.
- Rita Lucarelli will share her experiences of utilizing ChatGPT and other OpenAI tools in her DH & Egyptology classes.

Join us in this engaging AI workshop to delve into the potential contributions of ChatGPT and LLMs in the field of Ancient Egypt, learn about their implementation in daily work, and gain insights from experts who have explored these technologies within the realm of Egyptology.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence; AI; ChatGPT; Large Language Model; LLM; Workshop



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Aromatic Substances as Offerings for the Gods: Multi-disciplinary Approaches to Exotic Ingredients in the Temple Cult

Heike WILDE (Institute of Philosophy, Czech Academy of Science)

Incense and perfume are well-known to be among the offerings made to the gods in ancient Egyptian temples. Iconographic as well as written sources attest them. In pharaonic Egypt, inscriptions portray scented resins that are burned in censers for fumigating the sanctuary or cooked to make scented ointments for anointing the statuary. Later, we find unguent recipes and ingredient lists recorded in Ptolemaic temples, the most complete coming from the so-called laboratory of the temple at Edfu, dedicated to Horus. For scholars, it remains an open question why the particular substances named in these inscriptions were so important for the temple cult. One reason for this is that most of the substances have not been reliably identified. This contribution presents a novel, interdisciplinary approach to identifying such aromatic substances. Using cross-cultural study of the written and iconographic sources (Egyptology, textual criticism, linguistics, ancient Graeco-Roman studies) together with experimental methods of organic chemistry and botany, it looks at two examples from the Edfu 'laboratory'. The 'laboratory' records the names of 22 resins and aromatic woods, 14 of which are described as necessary for the making of unguents to anoint the limbs of the gods (the statuary). The study proceeds in two parts: first, a linguistic and cultural analysis provides possible candidates for two of the ingredients, which seem to have foreign names; second, experiments with those candidates offer additional evidence for their identification with one of the candidate materials.

Keywords: Incense; Perfume; Temple cult; Interdisciplinary; Late Period; Ptolemaic period



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Artificial Microcrystals Help in Pyramid Research

Peter-Michael WILDE (Leibniz Institute for Crystal Growth)

During the building process of the second pyramid for king Snofru about 4650 years ago heavy building damages occurred. The hypothesis was that the ground area was not prepared as stable enough to carry the enormous weight of the pyramid under construction. To confirm this at a scientific basis, crystal growth experiments were done in a laboratory scale at the Institute for Crystal Growth, Berlin. First, we found that the slope angles of the side walls at the low part of the Bent Pyramid can be expressed by the relation: $\tan(54.73^\circ) = 1.414 = \sqrt{2}$. And the slope angle at the upper part of the Bent Pyramid is related as: $\cot(43.35^\circ) = 1.0595 = 12\text{th root of } 2$. From crystallography it is known that the angle in the first relation is typical for the cubic crystal system. Because the elements silicon and germanium have cubic structure, we chose them to grow SiGe crystals as a model substance using Liquid Phase Epitaxy (LPE), with bismuth as solvent. The main advantage of LPE is the stable connection of the grown crystals on the crystalline silicon substrate. At carefully adjusted temperature gradients, the SiGe crystals exhibit straight four-sided pyramidal shape, with basic length of 0.001 cm and 0.0007 cm in height. A uniform slope angle of 54.5° was estimated at the microcrystals. After a fictive geometrical upscaling by a factor 10,000,000 we present here – for the first time – the scientific proof that a perfect pyramid would be completed in the Old Kingdom when the building ground would be prepared perfectly stable. Using simple geometrical relations, we find that this Snofru pyramid could achieve a height of 133.3 m. The famous Bent Pyramid near Dahshur, however, in this case did not come to an end.

Keywords: 54.7° ; Egypt; LPE; Microcrystal; Pyramid; Silicon-germanium; Snofru; $\sqrt{2}$

Co-authors: Eva BOER (DACHSER SE, Schönefeld), Christian GÜNTHER (Orthopaedic clinic Schwarzach), Paule KÉRIBIN (Lycée Perpignan), Mohamed EL-MADARSI (University of Greifswald), Siegfried SCHULZ (University of Greifswald) & Herbert WAWRA (Leibniz Institute for Crystal Growth)



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The Role of Egyptian Documentary Evidence in the Research on Temple Personnel in Ptolemaic Egypt

Joanna WILIMOWSKA (University of Warsaw)

This paper presents an overview and the results of an interdisciplinary research project on priests in Ptolemaic Egypt. The project focusses on the non-religious activities of temple personnel and their social and economic role within the Ptolemaic monarchy. To obtain the complete picture of this group, the project combines data provided by different categories of sources: Greek and Egyptian documentary papyri, ostraca, inscriptions, and archaeological material. The main aim of this presentation is to discuss the significance of Egyptian (primarily Demotic) evidence for studies on temple personnel. The fundamental publication on priests and temples in Hellenistic Egypt by W. Otto (1905-1908) has been based mostly on Greek texts. The growing body of Demotic evidence that have been published in recent decades significantly broaden our knowledge on the history of Graeco-Roman Egypt. J. Quaegebeur was the first to stress (OLA 6, 1979) the value of Egyptian texts to research on the socio-economic role of priests in the Ptolemaic era. The overwhelming proportion of Demotic papyri dated to this period was produced by the temple administration. As my research reveals, Demotic texts provide us with a wealth of information on priestly titles and occupations, temple hierarchy, and socio-economic status of priests. These details do not appear in Greek texts. Based on analysis of specific examples, this presentation states that Egyptian texts form the most important source body for the research on priests and temples under the Ptolemies. However, this paper also argues that the most comprehensive results in research on Graeco-Roman Egypt can be obtained only by involving several disciplines: History, Egyptology, Classical Philology, Papyrology, Epigraphy, and Archaeology.

Keywords: Priests; Temples; Ptolemaic period; Demotic studies



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Power in Ancient Egypt? A Cross-Disciplinary Examination for Future Scholarship

Jacquelyn WILLIAMSON (George Mason University)

This paper presents not a definition of power, designed to describe a specific phenomenon, but a diagnostic tool to locate power in antiquity. It will review significant sociological and anthropological works on social power and will discuss their downfalls. Modern studies of power influence historians and archaeologists, but these studies assume that only individuals who hold official positions (king, president, etc.) have power. This approach assumes power is symmetrical, when in fact it is asymmetrical: Power holders are not only those at the top. By dismantling colonialist Western assumptions about how power functions, we can examine ancient evidence with new eyes. While those older models precluded women from having power, I argue that new critical perspectives allow us alternate modes to understand women's roles in Ancient Egypt.

Keywords: Power; Women; Theory



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Macro- and Microcosm in Egyptian Science and Art: A Pictorial Horoscope for the Hereafter?

Andreas WINKLER (Free University of Berlin)

The entry of the zodiac into Egyptian art accompanied the integration of zodiacal astrology in Egyptian science, part of wider currents of knowledge transfer in the Mediterranean world and Mesopotamia, sometime in the late Ptolemaic or early Roman period. The most familiar results of this innovation are the representations of the zodiac signs on temple ceilings, as at Dendera. A pictorial horoscope on papyrus recovered from mummy cartonnage found at Abusir el-Melek (now P.Berol. 13102; publication: P.Kramer 17), which proves to be the earliest original 'horoscope' with Greek text, datable to 56/55 BCE, is a witness to the circulation of zodiacal motifs on a more individualized scale. For in addition to notations of positions of planets, it pictures a lunging dog at the centre of the zodiac-circle, which alludes to the rising of the Dog Star, the Egyptian Sothis, and demonstrates the inclusion of Greek iconographic motifs in Egyptian art. The document is likely a draft for the painted decoration of a coffin or a tomb ceiling; this would be the earliest evidence for the zodiac in such a place. In conjunction with renewed study of zodiacs in funerary monuments, the Berlin horoscope allows a reconsideration of the development of astral imagery in Egyptian funerary art of the Graeco-Roman period.

Keywords: Astral sciences; Zodiac; Sothis; Funerary culture; Graeco-Roman Egypt

Co-author: Michael ZELLMANN-ROHRER (Free University of Berlin)



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Pottery Production and Politics: Third Intermediate Period Ceramic Fabrics, View from Lower Egypt

Anna WODZIŃSKA (University of Warsaw)

The aim of the paper is to present pottery fabrics from the Third Intermediate Period known from sites across Egypt but especially from the Delta. The fabrics can help us to identify possible trade routes during the period. The potential effects of politics on the exchange of goods within Egypt as well import from abroad will also be discussed.

Pottery from Lower Egypt seems to be very homogenous with very few variations. The examples come from Kom Firin, Sais, Tanis, Tell el-Retaba, Tell el-Maskhuta, and Memphis. In this paper a comparison will be drawn between Delta material and the fabrics from Upper Egypt – Luxor and Aswan areas. So far, the pottery from Lower Egypt seems to have been locally produced, with some possible trade within relatively small perimeters. There is very little evidence of goods exchange between Lower and Upper Egypt. Some imported vessels can be traced, coming from the Levant, marked by the presence of the so-called torpedo-shaped amphorae.

This paper is the first step in the new project being conducted in Tell el-Retaba. Petrographic analyses are intended for the 2023 season, in order to have a better picture of the local pottery production.

Keywords: Third Intermediate Period; Pottery; Fabrics; Lower Egypt; Upper Egypt; Trade



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Antiquity in the Archive: Theorising the Development and Cultural Effects of a Digital Archaeological Archive

Alexandra Woods (Macquarie University)

Recent discussions on historic and future relationships between Egyptian archaeology and museums, libraries, and archives have called for (re-)contextualization and confrontation of the colonial legacy of excavation in Egypt (Stevenson 2019). In Egyptology there remains a tendency to approach institutional archives primarily as storehouses and sources of documentation on Egypt in antiquity. Archive users seldom engage in critical, reflexive analysis of knowledge production in the study of Egypt's archaeological past and archives are rarely viewed as colonial sites of encounter where Western voices are privileged at the expense of indigenous visibility and participation (Riggs 2019).

The paper introduces a newly-established collaborative venture between the Griffith Institute (GI), Oxford, and Macquarie University (MQ) – Antiquity in the Archive: The Collection & Curation of Archaeological Archives in Egyptology – which aims to theorise and critique the development of an archaeological archive through the digitisation of Beni Hassan documentary material in the GI. Complementing the epigraphic work undertaken at the site by MQ: benihassan.com, the project will view the archive as 'subject' and treat the documentation as historical artefacts with complex conditions of production. Photographic and print documentation is analysed both as historical sources, and as remnants of broader political, theoretical and societal circumstances and/or conditions that influenced the archaeological recording processes. The paper offers an early view of public, digital tools and outcomes to be produced in the course of the research.

- RIGGS, C. 2019. *Photographing Tutankhamun*. London.
- STEVENSON, A. 2019. *Scattered Finds*. London.

Keywords: Archaeology; Egyptology; Archive; Digital archive; Anti-colonial

Co-authors: S. HANY ABED (Independent Researcher), Julia HAMILTON (Macquarie University) & Nicolle LEARY (University of Vienna)



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Jewelry in the Funerary Ritual since the Middle Kingdom

Seria YAMAZAKI (Waseda University)

The future of Ancient Egypt is based on understanding the past from different perspectives. It is important to study each period closely; however, they should be also examined from a diachronic perspective, rather than being tied to a specific period. This study elucidates how jewelry pieces were used in the funerary ritual during the Middle Kingdom and after. The object friezes on early Middle Kingdom coffins contained depictions of jewelry presented during the offering ritual. These were retrieved from tombs as grave goods and categorized into three groups: Jewelry associated with the private object ritual; jewelry associated with the royal object ritual; and jewelry associated with the royal insignia offering. The royal object ritual and the royal insignia offering were originally listed in the Pyramid Texts.

The object friezes on 89 coffins and burials with three-dimensional jewelry were investigated. The findings reveal that the royal object ritual and the private object ritual were especially important in the Middle Kingdom. We also focussed on the period after the Middle Kingdom since the object offering ritual did not disappear. We found that jewelry for the ritual is also represented on the rishi coffins from the Second Intermediate Period and on the wall paintings from the New Kingdom tombs; however, the assemblages of objects seem to be altered from the object friezes in the Middle Kingdom. Specifically, jewelry pieces associated with the royal insignia offering were not common during the Middle Kingdom, but they became very important in the Second Intermediate Period and the New Kingdom as evidenced in the rishi coffins, wall paintings, and real grave goods. Therefore, it is possible that each society changed the ritual as needed.

Keywords: Jewelry; Object offering ritual; Object friezes; Rishi coffins



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The New Kingdom Tomb-Chapels at the Teti Pyramid Cemetery and the Bubasteion in Saqqara According to the Recent Discoveries

Mohammad M. YOUSSEF (Supreme Council of Antiquities)

The Teti Pyramid Cemetery and the Bubasteion in Saqqara are considered two of the important cemeteries in Saqqara, which contain New Kingdom tomb chapels. Some of these tombs were discovered recently, in the form of remains of a relief block or a stela in situ, but most materials were discovered between 1980 and 2010 and stored in the Saqqara storerooms. Scholars have collected some of them and reconstructed gates and walls belonging to some of the chapels, but still awaited their publication. However, this lecturer has started to study all of these monuments and has divided them as follows:

1. New Kingdom tomb-chapels in the Teti Pyramid Cemetery from the time of Thutmose IV and the Pre-Amarna period. Here we find the tombs of *Nfr-ḥr*, *ḥry-ḥb n 'Imn* (The chief priest of Amon). While in the Bubasteion we have the tomb of Menkheper, *w'ḥ kdš*, (priest of goddess Kadesh).
2. New Kingdom tomb-chapels in the Teti Pyramid Cemetery from the Amarna period. To these belong the chapels of *ḥwy*, *šwtj/šwy ḥry (n) ḥwt p3 itn* (the chief merchant in the temple of the Aten) and his wife *Ndmt mn-nfr*, the stela of *ḥr-nḥt*, *idnw n prw-nfr* (deputy of (the harbour of) Peru-nefer), and the pyramidion of *tnr*, *sš n pr-ptḥ* (scribe of the temple of Ptah).
3. New Kingdom tomb-chapels in the Teti Pyramid Cemetery from the post-Amarna period. To these belong the chapels of *ḥ3t-izy*, *ḥryw ḥmww n ptḥ* (chief of the craftsmen of Ptah), and the tomb of *ḏhwtj-m-ḥb*, *sš-nsw ḥsyt n ntr-nfr* (royal scribe praised by the Good God), the pyramidion of *ḥwy*, *sš nsw* (royal scribe), the tomb of *ipy*, *sš nsw ḥry-bity n pr-imn*, (royal scribe, supervisor of the honeybees of the estate of Amun), and of *ḥwy*, *ḥmw wryt* (craftsman of the chariot).

Keywords: Amenemone; Apuia; Mose; New Kingdom tomb chapels; Saqqara



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A Passage to the Beyond: Imhet as a (Super)natural Bridge between Worlds in Egyptian Sources

Silvia ZAGO (University of Liverpool)

Natural as well as built landscapes in Ancient Egypt were imbued with specific cultural meanings derived from complex religious and mythical ideas, which were implemented through ritual practices. Real and imaginary landscapes were highly symbolic constructions, within which the cosmos of the Egyptians took shape and acquired meaning. This paper will analyse the conceptual and material interactions with a particular aspect of the Ancient Egyptian environment: The necropolis domain, the sacred land that was perceived to embody divine and cosmic agency on earth and therefore represented a bridge towards the otherworld. In particular, it will focus on the notion of Imhet, which, originating in the physical Nilotic environment of Lower Egypt, gradually took on mytho-cosmological associations. The goal of the discussion will be to explore the characterisation of this elusive notion by surveying its attestations in the funerary literature of the Middle and New Kingdoms on the one hand, and by analysing its occurrences in inscriptions found in New Kingdom non-royal burial complexes on the other, while also occasionally drawing on evidence coming from later sources. The paper will show how Imhet, traditionally thought to be a cavern wherefrom the Nile originated in the north of the country, came to be conceptualised as a supernatural conduit between the sphere of human existence on earth and the otherworldly realm lying beyond death (Duat). It will moreover illustrate how the partial overlap between the domains of Imhet and Duat underscores the conflation of geographical and imagined landscapes – endowed with many layers of mythical and cosmological symbolism – that characterised the Egyptian culture down to its demise.

Keywords: Imhet; Sacred landscape; Otherworld; Funerary religion; Religious texts; Tombs



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Egyptian Laws of Antiquities before Law No. 117 of 1983

Reham ZAKY (Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Egypt)

The Egyptian Law of Antiquities Protection no. 117 of 1983, and its following amendments, is best known as the main legal frame for tangible cultural heritage protection in general, and specifically Egyptian antiquities protection. There is a lack of knowledge about the earlier Egyptian laws of antiquities protection, particularly laws no. 14 of 1912 and no. 215 of 1951. Despite the fact that both laws are crucial in the development of the Egyptian legal framework regarding the antiquities protection, little attention has been paid to them; law no. 117 of 1983 is considered to be the main and current legal Egyptian law.

The importance of studying these earlier laws is unquestionable, as they signify the legal protection of Egyptian antiquities during the early 20th century, and the development of the legal texts regulating the antiquities protection and the related matters (e.g. systematic excavation regulations, protection of archaeological site borders, and antiquities trade, etc.), even before leading international conventions (e.g. UNESCO Paris 1970, 1972).

This research aims to highlight Egyptian legal texts related to antiquities protection before law no. 117 of 1983, specially both Egyptian laws: no. 14 of 1912 and no. 215 of 1951, and their regulations such as systematic excavation, protection the archaeological sites, and, with more focus, antiquities trade and exportation.

Keywords: Antiquities Egyptian laws; Antiquities trade; Legal protection; Egyptian regulations



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Egyptology and Globalization (Past and Present): A Comparative Approach to Egypt and Ugarit

Federico ZANGANI (Independent Researcher)

Egyptological debates have taken place in recent years to address the role of our discipline in the current phase of contemporary globalization. The study of the New Kingdom may offer a particularly significant contribution in this regard, as it was the period in which Egypt was a constituent part of the first phase of globalization in world history, the Late Bronze Age. In particular, Egypt conforms to a Westphalian territorial state both from an etic and an emic perspective, this conceptualization being the product not only of the Eurocentric nature of Egyptology, but also of the Ancient Egyptian worldview and ideology. As such, it may yield valuable insight into the opportunities and challenges that territorial states and their institutional authorities face under conditions of globalization. Chief among these is the agency and increasing prominence of specific localities and private citizens and the networks of political and economic power that they generate, which might play a pivotal role in sustaining state authority and projecting it globally, but might also be detrimental to it and cause its progressive erosion. Global cities such as the Syrian port of Ugarit, on the other hand, experience analogous dynamics but from a seemingly more privileged position and with a more advantageous configuration of power. This paper, therefore, sets out a proposal for a comparative study of New Kingdom Egypt and Ugarit to investigate how citizens and society in two different polities experienced, sustained, and responded to processes of globalization in their political, economic, and intellectual lives. This kind of analysis should also demonstrate how comparative Egyptology can address topics of great relevance to the contemporary humanities and social sciences.

Keywords: New Kingdom; Ugarit; Globalization; Westphalian state; Global city; Comparison



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The Boundary between Funerary Cones and Stamped Bricks

Kento ZENIHIRO (University of Nagano)

The distinction between funerary cones and stamped bricks has been unclear, with some scholars referring to the artefacts as 'stamped bricks', 'funerary bricks', or 'funerary cones'. While some scholars consider bricks with unique seal impressions to be separate from funerary cones, there are instances where seal impressions are found on both cones and bricks, and some objects have characteristics of both. This poster proposes clear definitions for both funerary cones and stamped bricks.

To determine whether an object is a funerary cone or a stamped brick, we must consider whether the brick was fired or sun-dried. Funerary cones were typically fired and were originally used to imitate wooden beams for stable roofing. Soft, sun-dried bricks do not have the necessary strength to stabilise architectural structures.

We must also consider the visibility of the seal impressions in situ. Typical funerary cone seal impressions were visible to tomb visitors. Therefore, if the impressions were visible to tomb visitors, it is possible that the object is a variant of a funerary cone.

The above two features can distinguish cones/bricks, and if so, we must exclude some seal impressions from the Davies-Macadam catalogue of funerary cones. These seal impressions were only stamped on bricks that had not been fired and were not visible to tomb visitors.

Keywords: Funerary cones; Stamped bricks; Definition



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Moving Objects: Futuring and Enhancing Ancient Egypt through Modern Art

Katharina ZINN (University of Wales Trinity Saint David)

This paper focusses on interdisciplinary and cross-cultural dialogues between Egyptologists, heritage professionals and artists of several genres happening over un-provenanced and misplaced Ancient Egyptian museum objects resulting in modern creative responses to Ancient Egyptian material culture. They form part of a unique activity called The Museum of Lies within a wider project of literal and cultural (re-)discovery of neglected ancient Egyptian artifacts kept in Cyfarthfa Castle Museum, Merthyr Tydfil, Wales.

It widens the discussion beyond Egyptology and offers new ways of understanding and interpretation. Creative outcomes are exhibited/performed together with the objects and their academic descriptions as simultaneous types of cultural representations in annual pop-up exhibitions. The emotional power and imagination connected with artistic representations allows to invoke and capture a potential which is inherent to the objects, but otherwise not detected. This shows the level of conjecture present in these creative works to be of advantage rather to be un-academic speculation as often critically pointed out. This also opens new ways of interpreting heritage in cross-cultural exchanges and tracing different heritage interpretation in Egypt and Western countries.

This paper includes videos/interviews of Julie Davis/Catrin Webster (painters), Samantha Wynne-Rhydderch (poet) and Friederike Zinn (choreographer/dancer). It describes the commission of the artwork, the creative process and ways in which art can enhance the Egyptological and archaeological exploration by overcoming the still accepted divide between traditional forms of research and audience related activities. It also hopes to offer first outcomes of running similar activities with Egyptian partners.

Keywords: Painting; Poetry; Ballet; Dance; Pop-up museum; Object biography



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The Ankh-Hor Project: From Excavation to Full Documentation – A Conservator's Perspective

Antje ZYGALSKI (Independent Conservator and Researcher) & Julia BUDKA (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

The new Ankh-Hor Project, directed since 2018 by Egyptologist Julia Budka, is exemplary for the rich potential of a reassessment of finds from former excavations. The project focusses on the analysis, conservation and publication of all finds excavated from the Saite Theban Tomb 414 by the Austrian mission (directed by Manfred Bietak, 1971-1979).

Since these finds have been stored since the 1970s in a nearby tomb at the site, one of the main working steps belongs to the field of conservation. According to the European Standard EN 15898 this field is divided into the subfields of 'preventive conservation' (e.g., pest management), 'remedial conservation' (e.g., consolidation) and 'restoration' (e.g., loss compensation). A close look at the measures carried out in the Ankh-Hor Project shows that all three fields are addressed. The important fact to mention here is that these measures are not just carried out by conservators. Although the named standard lists defined measures as part of the conservator's work, this poster will visualize that several measures/tasks are conducted by team members of various specializations and hence being not exclusively the responsibility of conservators. The aim of this poster is therefore to show how interdisciplinarity is needed for adequate results even within one specific field.

This poster gives an overview of the subfields of conservation sciences and lists examples of measures that were carried out. Short explanatory texts will focus on the question which knowledge is needed for the single working steps and, where possible, will address the adequate profession. The accompanying images will also give an insight in the practical side of the fieldwork.

Keywords: Preventive conservation; Remedial conservation; Restoration on-site



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