

## RESEARCH

**Peter F. Dorman**

In the course of the last year, **Peter F. Dorman** completed a chapter for a book on the reign of Tuthmosis III, to be published under the editorship of Benedict Davies of Liverpool's School of Archaeology and Oriental Studies. Entitled "An Unorthodox Mantle of Coregency," Dorman's contribution focuses on the early reign of Tuthmosis III and its central puzzle: the assumption by the queen regent, Hatshepsut, not only of the throne of Egypt but of an elaborate and fictional iconography as male ruler. A good deal of his research time was further spent in the proofing of plates and editing of the manuscript for the Epigraphic Survey's second volume on Luxor Temple, *The Facade, Portals, Upper Registers, Columns, Marginalia, and Statuary of the Colonnade Hall*, which is in press at time of writing and is expected to appear in the fall. He also composed three entries for the Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Egypt, including a lengthy submission on the history and methodology of epigraphy and its application in pharaonic monuments.

Dorman also continued the writing of a monograph entitled *Faces in Clay*, a typological analysis of ceramic canopic jar lids that includes a lexical study of a wonderfully versatile verb, *qd* "to build, to turn pots, to create." The volume also examines the imagery of the potter's wheel, associated very early on with the potter god, Khnum, as the instrument by which he creates individuals, and later employed as a potent symbol of regeneration by the solar deity in the eastern horizon of heaven. These images become unified in the Late period as Khnum becomes a creator god in his own right, and the lowly potter's wheel achieves the status of a sacred symbol of ritual.

Speaking on the topic of "The End of Dynasty: The Enigmatic Life and Death of Tutankhamun," Dorman participated in the Oriental Institute's December symposium commemorating the 75th anniversary of Howard Carter's discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings. In April 1998 he delivered a paper at the annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, held in Los Angeles, on a relief block in the Oriental Institute Museum. This fragment can be recognized as part of the facade of the Giza mastaba of Ptahshepses, now in the British Museum, and its inscription assists in shedding additional light on the biography of the tomb owner and on the chronology of the Fifth Dynasty.

---