

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE NEWS & NOTES

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TREASURES FROM THE ROYAL TOMBS OF UR

KAREN L. WILSON, *Museum Director, Oriental Institute*

Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur, a major traveling exhibition that has drawn record-breaking crowds at each of its previous venues, will open at the Oriental Institute on 21 October. The exhibition features 157 Sumerian objects that were excavated by the British archaeologist Sir Leonard Woolley, director of the joint excavations of the British Museum and the University of Pennsylvania Museum at ancient Ur in the 1920s and 1930s. Items to be displayed include jewelry fashioned from gold, silver, carnelian, and lapis lazuli; elegant vessels made of precious metals, stones, and shell; and a variety of utensils — such as a gold drinking tube, silver and gold cosmetic sets, and weapons — fit for royal use. Most of the items in *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* have never been exhibited outside the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, which organized the exhibition drawn from the masterpieces that were the museum's share of the division of the finds.

During more than 150 years of archaeological work in what is the modern country of Iraq, probably no excavation has received more public attention than Sir Leonard Woolley's work at ancient Ur in the 1920s and 1930s. (Much of the initial excitement was generated by the fact that the city was the legendary birthplace of the patriarch Abraham (Genesis 11:31), and the fires of public interest soon were fanned by Woolley's discoveries of rich tombs containing evidence of animal and human sacrifice.)

Woolley's first four seasons of work at Ur concentrated on the remains of the temple complex, with its massive and amazingly well-preserved ziggurat, dedicated to the Sumerian moon god Nanna, and to an area just outside that precinct that contained private houses of the early second millennium BC. However, in the middle of the fifth season, while digging in the southeast portion of the sacred enclosure, Woolley encountered burials, uncovering some 600 in less than three months. Over the next several seasons, the expedition excavated intact burials that eventually totaled well over 1,850.

Of the 660 graves that date to the Early Dynastic IIIA period (ca. 2600–2500 BC), the majority were simple inhumations in which a single body, wrapped in reed matting or placed in a coffin, rested at the bottom of a small rectangular pit. In these burials, the deceased was accompanied by a few personal possessions, such as jewelry or weapons, as well as vessels, presumably to hold food and drink.

Sixteen burials, however, were distinguished from the others by their wealth and by the evidence they contained indicating that the deceased had been accompanied to his or her grave by a number of other individuals. Woolley assumed that these interments contained the deceased kings and queens of Early Dynastic Ur and dubbed them "royal tombs." The discovery in the cemetery of cylinder seals whose inscriptions refer to "Mes-kalamdug, the king," "Akalamdug, king of Ur," and "Puabi, the queen" supported Woolley's suggestion.

Each royal tomb (see, for example, figs. 1–2) had a stone-built chamber with a vaulted or domed ceiling that lay at the bottom of a deep pit, approached from above by a ramp. A body, presumed to be the main burial, lay in the chamber, accompanied

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PERSIAN GALLERY REOPENS

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From the Director's Study

The lead article in this issue is about a unique event in the history of the Oriental Institute — the traveling exhibition of the Royal Tombs of Ur. Nothing like this has been possible before, and nothing, at least quite of this scope, will be possible again. Up until the completion of the building project we would not have had the climate controlled galleries that are a *sine qua non* for hosting an exhibition of such an unparalleled collection. Thanks to the successful completion of the Legacy Campaign we now have state-of-the-art gallery environment control that allows us to display not only the full range of our own collections, including some of the most delicate and perishable, but also objects for temporary exhibit from peer collections throughout the world. We will also have a worthy dedicated temporary exhibit space — the Doris and Marshall Holleb Temporary Exhibit Gallery. But the Royal Tombs of Ur exhibit is so large that only the permanent exhibit gallery destined for the Mesopotamian Gallery can accommodate it. With the Egyptian and Persian Galleries now reinstalled, we have a brief window of opportunity to use this space for this unique traveling exhibition, before proceeding with the reinstallation of the Mesopotamian Gallery. The traveling exhibition of the Royal Tombs of Ur is a unique exhibit of the principal objects from what is arguably the most spectacular Mesopotamian archaeological find of the twentieth century — I invite you to come and take advantage of this truly unique opportunity.

by an immense wealth of goods. In some cases, what appear to have been attendants, both male and female, lay in the chamber and/or in the pit adjacent to it, often accompanied by vehicles pulled by oxen or equids. Woolley referred to these pits as “death pits” because of the large numbers of animals and humans contained within.

Many of the most spectacular items exhibited in *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* come from two of these royal tombs: PG 789, which is considered to have been the burial of a king (fig. 1), and PG 800, which was the final resting place of a queen named Puabi (fig. 2). Although it is possible that PG 789 and 800 actually comprise parts of three royal tombs, they are generally treated as two interments, as Woolley saw them.

The chamber of PG 789 had been robbed in antiquity and was nearly empty, containing only two model boats (one made of silver and one of a copper alloy) and an elaborately inlaid gaming board. However, the death pit remained intact. Six soldiers wearing copper helmets and carrying spears “guarded” the

pit at the base of the ramp. Within were two wagons, each drawn by three oxen and each fitted with a silver rein ring, one of which appears in the exhibition. Each wagon was accompanied by the bodies of what might have been a groom and two drivers. The bodies of fifty-four other retainers littered the floor of the pit. Some were men who appeared to have been carrying weapons; others were richly adorned women accompanied, in two cases, by elaborate lyres.

The great lyre from PG 789 is one of the masterpieces of the exhibition (figs. 3–4). Most of the lyre was made of plain wood, but the front bore a magnificent bull’s head above a series of shell plaques decorated with figures of heroes, animals, and composite creatures. The bull’s head (fig. 3) was made of precious materials fashioned over a wooden core. A gold sheet had been used to form most of the head and horns. The curls of hair on the forelock, the tips of the horns, and the magnificent curls of the beard were fashioned of lapis lazuli, which, in the case of the beard, was set in a silver backing. The eyes were made of shell set in lapis with lapis pupils.

The front of the sound box is trapezoidal in shape and decorated with shell plaques showing lively mythological and animal scenes (fig. 4). The background of each plaque has been cut away and then filled with bitumen, so that the ivory-colored figures stand out against a black background. At the top of the panel

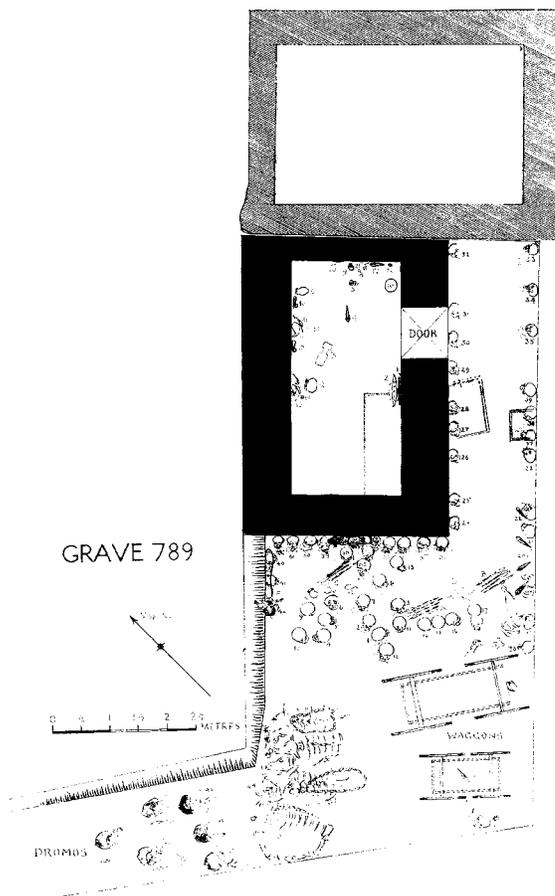


Figure 1. Plan of PG 789 as recorded and published by Woolley

is a “master of animals” scene of a type extremely common in Mesopotamian art. In the center a heroic figure, naked except for a braided belt, grasps a rearing human-headed bull in each arm. Some scholars identify this figure as Lahmu (“Hairy”), a protective and beneficent deity who is often associated with bull men. In the next register, a hyena and a lion, both of which assume human postures, bring in provisions for a banquet. The hyena, a knife in his belt, brings in a table laden with animal parts; the lion carries a large jar and a cup or pouring vessel, presumably to hold and serve some liquid refreshment. The cup carried by the lion is identical to vessels of silver and copper alloy from other graves that appear in the exhibition. In the register below, a seated ass plays a lyre with a bull head of the same type as this lyre itself. A standing bear seems to steady the lyre, and a little seated animal rattles a sistrum. In the bottom register, a scorpion man holds undefined objects in his raised hands. Behind him is a gazelle carrying two beakers that are similar to the gold, electrum, and silver tumblers from Puabi’s tomb, discussed below, which are also featured in the exhibition. Presumably the tumblers have been filled from the large vessel behind the gazelle. Although representations of a nude bearded hero dominating wild animals and mythical creatures are ubiquitous in the art of Early Dynastic Mesopotamia, representations of animals acting as human beings

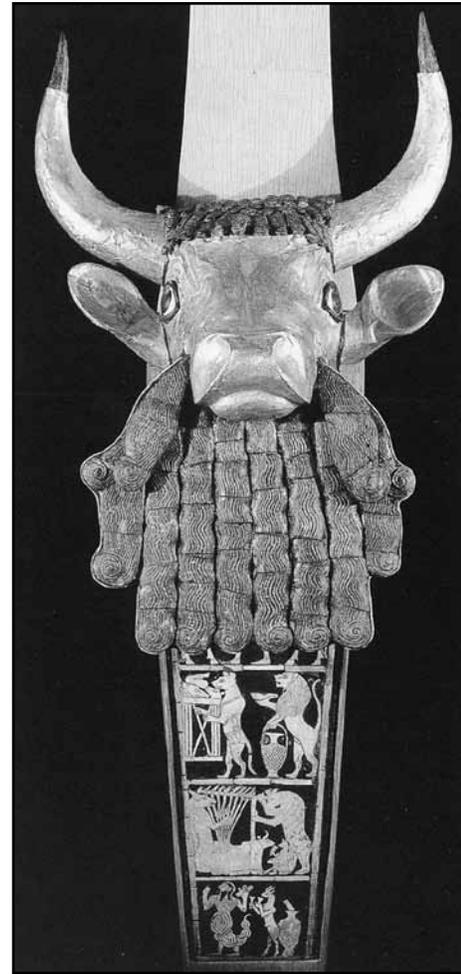


Figure 3. Front view of the great lyre from PG 789

are not, and the meaning that these scenes would have held for the Sumerians remains a mystery to us.

The second royal burial that figures prominently in *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* is PG 800 (fig. 2). The chamber of this burial contained the body of a woman, identified by the inscription on a lapis lazuli cylinder seal that lay on her right shoulder as “Puabi, the queen.” Woolley judged her to have been just under five feet tall and about 40 years old at the time of her death. She lay on her back on a wooden bier, with female attendants crouched at her head and her feet. The queen wore an elaborate headdress and beaded cape, both of which are featured in the exhibition, as well as other adornments made of precious stones and metals. The chamber held a wealth of other material as well as the bodies of additional attendants, one identifiable as male and one as female.

Puabi’s death pit contained the remains of more than a dozen retainers, most of whom were women. The approach to the pit appeared to have been guarded like that of the king, in this case by five men with copper daggers. The vehicle here was a sled, pulled by two oxen, and accompanied by four grooms. Other attendants within Puabi’s pit included ten women, all wearing

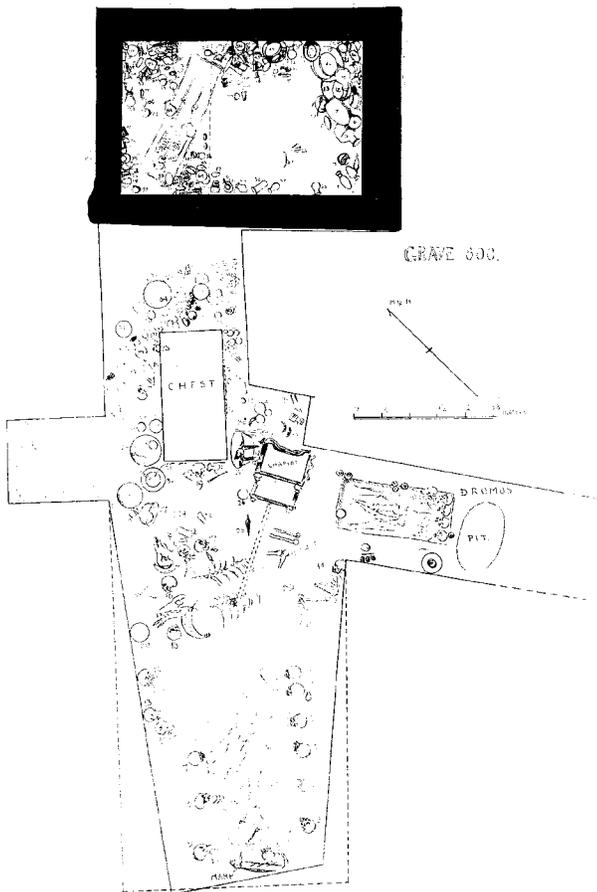


Figure 2. Plan of PG 800 as recorded and published by Woolley



Figure 4. The front of the sound box of the great lyre

elaborate headdresses, positioned in two rows “facing” one another and accompanied by musical instruments.

Roughly one-third of the objects in *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* come from Puabi’s burial. The queen had been adorned with the finest jewelry found in the Royal Cemetery. Her headdress (fig. 5), a less elaborate version of which was worn by her female attendants, was constructed from hundreds of individual pieces fashioned from gold, lapis lazuli, carnelian, and white paste. A gold band was wound several times around the queen’s head and over it was placed a frontlet of lapis lazuli and carnelian beads supporting gold ring pendants. This in turn was overlaid by a band of lapis lazuli cylindrical beads and pendant leaves fashioned from sheet gold, each with a carnelian bead at its tip. Another band of pendant leaves, different in form, comprised the next layer. These leaves were separated by gold rosettes with petals inlaid with lapis and white paste. At the back

of her head, Puabi wore a gold comb surmounted by rosettes. A pair of large double-lunate earrings were given added support by four spiral twists of gold wire set in locks of hair somewhere close to the ears.

Puabi’s burial included numerous vessels of gold, electrum, and silver with elaborate chased decoration as well as an elegant gold drinking straw. Cosmetic containers, some made of precious metal and some of shell, still contained the pigment that would have beautified the queen. Stone vessels occurred in a variety of forms. Dozens of these sumptuous vessels are featured in *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur*.

One of the most famous objects from the Royal Cemetery, however, comes not from PG 789 or 800 but from PG 1237 — a burial which Woolley referred to as the “Great Death Pit” because of the large number of retainers (73) buried within. Elaborately fashioned from gold, silver, lapis lazuli, copper, shell, red limestone, and bitumen, this object (fig. 6), and its counterpart in the British Museum, show a goat standing upright with its forelegs resting on the branches of a flowering plant — a common motif in ancient Near Eastern art. Soon after their dis-



Figure 5. Queen Puabi's headdress and earrings

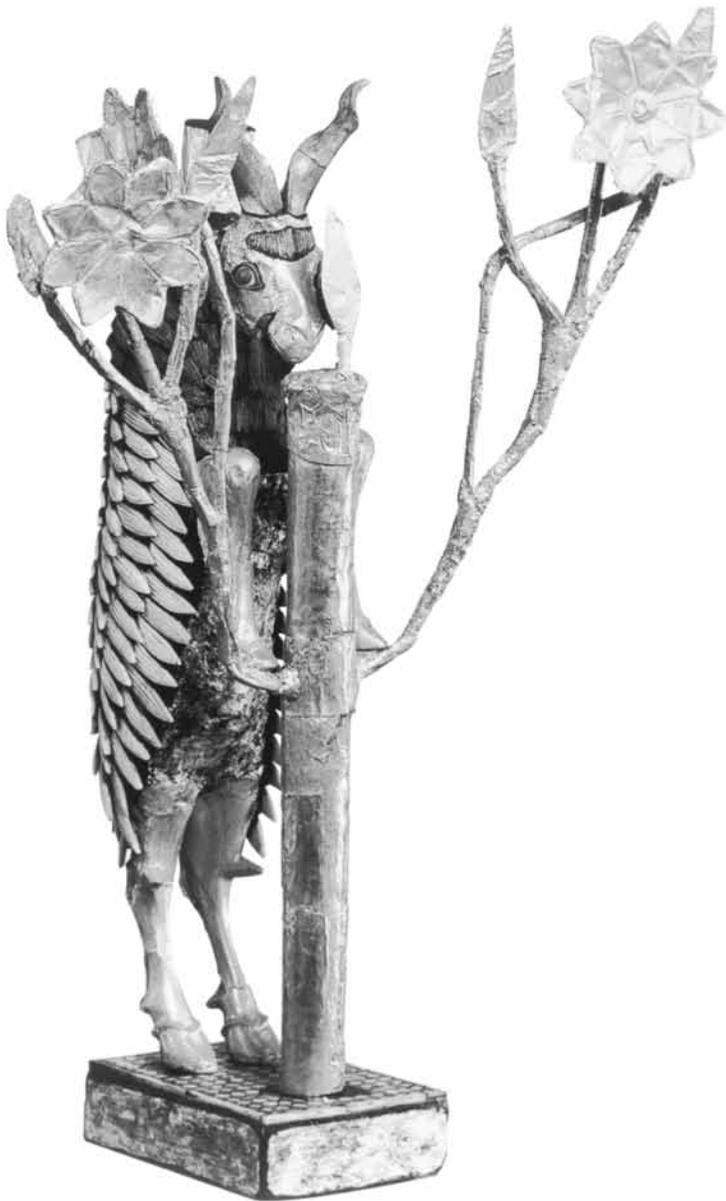


Figure 6. The “Ram Caught in a Thicket” from the Great Death Pit

covery, these sculptures came to be referred to as “Ram Caught in a Thicket” because they recalled the biblical image of the ram which Abraham found and sacrificed in place of his son Isaac (Genesis 22:13). These figures have become so well known that the Pennsylvania statue is the only ancient Near Eastern work of art illustrated in color in H. W. Janson’s *History of Art*, the standard introductory college art history text.

Woolley considered the deaths of the retainers and their burial with kings and queens to be an integral element of the royal tombs and vividly described scenes of feasting and music making followed by ritual suicide as the kings and queens of Ur were laid to rest. The media and the public, of course, seized

upon the appeal of this mass evidence of human sacrifice. However, scholars have failed to come to any consensus concerning the exact beliefs and practices behind the royal tombs at Ur. Later literary texts such as *The Death of Gilgamesh* and *The Death of Ur-Namma* indicate that kings could have underworld palaces and that the burial of a retinue may have been intended to enable royalty to continue living in the style to which they were accustomed, which could be used to explain the multiple burials in the earlier royal tombs at Ur. In addition, two administrative texts — probably lists of grave goods to be buried with high-ranking members of society and dating to within a century of the tombs themselves — include lists of items that are in many ways identical to what was found at Ur, including jewelry, chariots, donkeys, and, in one case, a slave girl. However, as Richard L. Zettler, one of the curators of the exhibition, writes in the exhibition catalog, “No particular explanation of the Royal Cemetery of Ur is completely convincing in our state of ignorance about early Mesopotamian society.”

Although the exact belief systems and practices behind the royal burials at Ur are not yet known to us, what is apparent is the high level of technical and artistic sophistication that produced the artifacts that they contain. The array of raw materials from which the objects are made all had to be imported into the resource-poor Mesopotamian floodplain, and their variety attests to the far-flung trading network of which Ur was a part. These materials include gold that must have come from Afghanistan, Iran, Anatolia, Egypt, or Nubia, and etched carnelian beads from the Indus Valley, as well as many stones that perhaps made their way primarily from eastern Iran. With few exceptions, however, these imported materials were worked into final form in southern Mesopotamia by craftsmen who created some of the most spectacular works of art preserved from ancient Sumer.

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalog edited by Richard L. Zettler and Lee Horne, *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, 1998) and a special edition of *Expedition: The Magazine of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology* (Volume 40, No. 2, 1998). Both are already available for purchase in the Suq.

Karen L. Wilson is Museum Director and Research Associate at the Oriental Institute.

PERSIAN GALLERY REOPENS

One of the nation's premier archaeological collections of artifacts from civilizations that flourished in what is now Iran is on display in the newly renovated Persian Gallery.

Several hundred items, many of them never before seen by the public, demonstrate the range of artistic styles that flourished in the area from the seventh millennium BC through the tenth century AD. Items on display for the first time include elaborate bronze and bone votive pins from the isolated mountain shrine at Surkh Dum-i-Luri (ca. 1000–500 BC) and richly painted pottery from Istakhr, an important city in the plain of Fars during the early Islamic period (seventh–tenth centuries AD).

Roughly half the gallery is devoted to artifacts from the Achaemenid palace complex at Persepolis, which flourished from about 520 BC until it was destroyed by Alexander the Great and his troops in 330 BC. This portion of the gallery is dominated by a series of colossal sculptures made of polished black limestone, including

the head of a stone bull that once guarded the entrance to the hundred-columned Throne Hall, and column capitals in the form of both bulls and composite creatures. The gallery also displays examples of the world's earliest coinage, part of the treasury of the vast Persian Empire, which at its height stretched from the Indus Valley to the Aegean.

The gallery also places special emphasis on the work of Oriental Institute archaeologists, who began exploring the region in the 1930s. Their work has ranged from air reconnaissance in 1935–1937 to archaeological expeditions up until 1978. One of the special displays based on Oriental Institute field projects features the site of Chogha Mish, in southwestern Iran, excavated between 1961 and 1978. The site yielded important evidence for the development of administrative record-keeping systems that eventually led to the invention of writing.

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EGYPT 2001

1–17 February, 2001

The Oriental Institute is delighted to offer *Egypt 2001*, escorted by Associate Professor of Egyptology Robert K. Ritner.

Cost per person double occupancy \$5,795; land only \$4,445; single supplement \$810; tax-deductible contribution to the Oriental Institute \$400 per person. For more information or to reserve space please call the Development Office at (773) 702-9513.

ITINERARY

Thursday 1 February: USA/CAIRO – Depart Chicago on Lufthansa flight 431 at 4:45 PM. (Meals in flight)

Friday 2 February: CAIRO – Arrival in Cairo at 3:30 PM. Transfer to Mena House Oberoi Hotel, located at the foot of the great pyramids. Welcome dinner this evening. (Meals in flight/D)

Saturday 3 February: CAIRO – We begin our touring with an exploration of Memphis and Sakkara, the necropolis of Memphis. At Sakkara we tour the Step Pyramid complex of Djoser; the smaller Pyramid of Unas, a Fifth Dynasty king whose burial chamber is covered with Pyramid Texts to ensure the survival of his soul; the tombs of the nobles Ti and Ptahhotep; the tomb of Mereruka; and the Serapeum (if open). In these catacombs we will see numerous huge sarcophagi used for the burials of the mummified sacred Apis bulls of the god Ptah. Time permitting, enjoy a visit to the Wissa-Wassef carpet factory on the drive back to the hotel. (B/L/D)

Sunday 4 February: CAIRO – After a breakfast lecture, our touring today brings us to the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx. We also stop at the museum where the remarkably preserved remains of the Solar Boat of Cheops are displayed. Private evening visit to the Cairo Museum, where you have two hours to tour the Museum on your own, without the daily crowds. (B/L)

Monday 5 February: CAIRO – The focus of this day is the Egyptian Museum where we will view the highlights of its huge collection including the new mummy room and the objects from the tomb of Tutankhamun. Touring continues to Islamic Cairo beginning at the Citadel, famed as the stronghold of Salah al-Din, and the Rifai Mosque, dedicated as a tomb to Sheikh Ali al-Rifai, the head of an order of dervishes. Lastly we cross the street to visit the Madresa of Sultan Hasan, considered to be one of the masterpieces of Mamluk architecture in the city. (B/L)

Tuesday 6 February: ASWAN – Today we fly via Aswan to Abu Simbel, where the rock-cut temples of Ramesses II and his favorite queen Nefertari have been saved from the rising waters of the Nile resulting from the Aswan High Dam. Returning to Aswan we visit the new Museum of Nubian Civilization. Overnight at the Oberoi Hotel. (B/L/D)

Wednesday 7 February: ASWAN/CRUISE – Touring begins at the Kalabaha Temple built in the reign of Augustus on the site of an earlier sanctuary founded by Amenhotep II. The temple, which was later converted to a church, was originally dedicated to the Nubian god Mandulis who was associated with Isis. In the same antiquities park we visit the relocated Graeco-Roman kiosk of Qertassi and the shrine of Ramesses II from Beit el-Wali. Our lunch will be on board the new deluxe Nile Cruiser *Shaharezad*, our floating hotel for the next four days. In the afternoon we

will sail by felucca to Elephantine Island to visit the excavations and its small museum. (B/L/D)

Thursday 8 February: EDFU/CRUISE – Our morning touring includes the Quarries where an unfinished obelisk remains embedded in its native stone; the High Dam; and the Ptolemaic temple dedicated to Isis, known as Philae for the island on which it was originally built. We then set sail for Kom Ombo, which is often called the acropolis of Egypt for its spectacular site overlooking the Nile. It is also unusual in being dedicated equally to two gods, Horus the Elder and the crocodile god Sobek. After visiting the temple we continue sailing to Edfu where we dock for the night. (B/L/D)

Friday 9 February: LUXOR/CRUISE – After visiting the Temple of Edfu, a completely preserved Ptolemaic temple of the falcon god Horus, we sail for Luxor. We will have several hours to enjoy the sun deck and pool, as well as the ever-changing panorama of life along the Nile. (B/L/D)

Saturday 10 February: LUXOR – This morning we cross the Nile to visit the tombs in the Valleys of the Kings and Queens. Among the tombs to be visited are those of Tutankhamun and three other pharaohs, selected from the tombs opened to the public today. We also visit the newly opened tomb of Nefertari, as well as the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahri, one of the most spectacular monuments in Egypt. Late afternoon visit to Luxor Temple. (B/L/D)

Sunday 11 February: LUXOR – The full morning is spent touring the magnificent sanctuary of Amun-Re at Karnak Temple with its maze of monumental gateways, obelisks, pillared halls, and subsidiary shrines. Disembark before touring. Luggage is transferred to the hotel during morning touring. Free afternoon to visit Chicago House. Overnight at the Sheraton Hotel. (B/L/D)

Monday 12 February: LUXOR – We return to the West Bank and continue our touring with the Colossi of Memnon and the temples and chapels of Medinet Habu, the largest built by Ramesses III, and the Ramesseum. We conclude the morning with the rarely visited tombs of Kheruef and Ankh-Hor returning to the East Bank. Afternoon visit to the Luxor Museum. (B/L/D)

Tuesday 13 February: LUXOR – Our last visit to the West Bank of the Nile includes some of the hundreds of tombs of the Nobles, spread over two square miles. These tombs are of special interest for their naturalistic murals which give us an intimate view of life in ancient Egypt. We also stop at the ancient village of the artisans, Deir el-Medina, one of the best preserved town sites in Egypt and the subject of the television series "Ancient Lives." After lunch we visit Esna. (B/L/D)

Wednesday 14 February: LUXOR – Morning visit to Dendera, then continue to Abydos. (B/L/D)

Thursday 15 February: LUXOR/CAIRO – Morning at leisure in Luxor. After lunch flight to Cairo. Gala farewell dinner at the Hilton Hotel. (B/L/D)

Friday 16 February: CAIRO – Full day leisure. (B)

Saturday 17 February: CAIRO/USA – Depart on Lufthansa flight at 3:50 AM connecting in Frankfurt and arriving in Chicago at 12:15 PM. (Meals in flight)

AN ORIENTAL INSTITUTE/GRAHAM SCHOOL OF GENERAL STUDIES SYMPOSIUM

Masterpieces and Mystique: Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur

Saturday 18 November, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

Breasted Hall

Continental Breakfast and Private Exhibit Viewing, 9:00–10:00 AM

Closing Reception

Ancient masterpieces rivaled only by the splendors of King Tut await you at a one-day symposium presented in conjunction with *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur*, a landmark exhibition on loan to the Oriental Institute from the renowned collections of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

Ancient Ur, once a flourishing city of 30,000 people, was a major urban center in Mesopotamia — today's Iraq. Archaeologists excavating at the site of Ur in the 1920s and 1930s made a discovery that remains one of the greatest events in ancient Near Eastern archaeology. They unearthed a series of royal tombs built ca. 2600 BC and were stunned to discover that these burials contained some of the world's most spectacular examples of ancient treasure. Finds included jewelry of gold, lapis lazuli, and carnelian; vessels of silver and alabaster; exquisitely decorated musical instruments; and the magnificent headdress of a Mesopotamian queen. Other objects hinted at burial rituals never before or again seen at Mesopotamian sites. Royal attendants dressed in elaborate finery may have gone to their deaths in the tombs of Ur, believing they would be able to serve their fallen rulers in the afterlife.

This symposium explores the significance of the excavations, the mysteries surrounding the burials, and how the treasures from the tombs opened the world's eyes to the glory and mystique of ancient Mesopotamian civilization as it existed over 4,000 years ago.

Symposium presenters include:

Richard L. Zettler, Associate Curator-in-Charge of the Near East Section, The University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, on the discovery and excavation of the royal tombs, highlighting the remarkable work of celebrated archaeologist Leonard Woolley.

Karen L. Wilson, Oriental Institute Museum Director, University of Chicago, on the exceptional artistry of the tombs' treasures and the insights they provide on ancient Mesopotamian culture and society.

Anne Draffkorn Kilmer, Professor of Assyriology and Ancient Mesopotamian Civilization, University of California at Berkeley, on the Great Lyre and other musical instruments found at Ur, what they teach us about ancient melodies, and how they testify to the importance of music and dance in Mesopotamia and other ancient societies.

McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago, on royal burial practices in the ancient world, with special emphasis on the tombs at Ur and other Mesopotamian burial sites.

Fee: \$55 for Oriental Institute members; \$62 for non-members. Fee includes tuition, packet of materials, continental breakfast, wine and cheese reception, and private viewing of the *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* exhibition. Pre-registration is required. Optional box lunches will be ordered upon request.

See page 12 to register.

AN ORIENTAL INSTITUTE/MOSTLY MUSIC, INC. EVENT FOR FAMILIES

The Magic Carpet: Stories, Songs, and Ancient Art

Sunday 12 November, 2:00–4:00 PM

LaSalle Banks Education Center, Oriental Institute Lower Level

Take a magic carpet ride to ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia to learn how tales like *Star Wars* and *Harry Potter* got their start. You'll sit on rugs and cushions as master storyteller Judith Heineman introduces you to Gilgamesh, the world's first superhero, and to the gods and goddesses of ancient Egypt. You'll be spellbound as you learn of ancient quests, miracles, magic, monsters, villains, and epic battles between good and evil. After the stories enjoy hands-on art activities inspired by the tales and take a treasure hunt to discover the stories that are told by the ancient art on view in the museum. This program is co-sponsored by Mostly Music, Inc., the Hyde Park organization that has been presenting emerging young talent and prize-winning artists to the community for twenty-eight years.

Fee: \$9 for Oriental Institute members; \$11 for non-members. This program is recommended for children ages 5 to 10 accompanied by an adult. Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

See page 12 to register.

OCTOBER 2000

1 Sunday

**Egypt: The Habit of Civilization**

1:30 PM, Breasted Hall

See page 12 for more information

4 Wednesday

**A Living, Breathing Tomb**

Theo van den Hout

8:00 PM, Breasted Hall

See page 11 for more information

7 Saturday

**Before the Bible: The Archaeology of Prehistoric Israel and the Levant**

Aaron A. Burke

Continues through 9 December

10:00 AM–12:00 NOON, Gleacher Center

See page 13 for more information

7 Saturday

**Egypt in the Islamic Period (AD 641–1952)**

Frank Yurco

Continues through 9 December

10:00 AM–12:00 NOON, Oriental Institute

See page 13 for more information

8 Sunday

**Alexander the Great: The Battle of Issus**

1:30 PM, Breasted Hall

See page 12 for more information

14 Saturday

Before the Bible (cont.)

See 7 October

14 Saturday

Egypt in the Islamic Period (cont.)

See 7 October

15 Sunday

**Mummies Made in Egypt**

1:30 PM, Breasted Hall

See page 12 for more information

15 Sunday

**Make an Ancient Egyptian-Style Book**

2:00–4:00 PM, Oriental Institute

See page 15 for more information

21 Saturday

**Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur**

Oriental Institute

Continues through 21 January 2001

See lead article for more information

21 Saturday

**Public Opening Celebration: Treasures from the Tombs of Ur**

10:00 AM–4:00 PM, Oriental Institute

See page 15 for more information

21 Saturday

Before the Bible (cont.)

See 7 October

22 Sunday

**Public Opening Celebration: Treasures from the Tombs of Ur**

12:00 NOON–4:00 PM, Oriental Institute

See page 15 for more information

22 Sunday

**Ancient Mesopotamia**

Shown continuously from 12:30 to 4:00 PM, Breasted Hall

See page 12 for more information

23 Monday

**Hieroglyphs by Mail**

Stephen Parker

Continues for sixteen weeks

See page 14 for more information

28 Saturday

Before the Bible (cont.)

See 7 October

29 Sunday

**Ancient-Inspired Adornment**

1:00–4:00 PM, Lill Street Art Center

See page 15 for more information

29 Sunday

**The Mole People**

1:30 PM, Breasted Hall

See page 12 for more information

NOVEMBER 2000

1 Wednesday

**Ancient Sumer: Cities of Eden**

Clemens Reichel

Continues through 13 December

7:00–9:00 PM, Oriental Institute

See page 14 for more information

4 Saturday

Before the Bible (cont.)

See 7 October

4 Saturday

Egypt in the Islamic Period (cont.)

See 7 October

5 Sunday

**Treasures to Go**

1:00–4:30 PM, Oriental Institute

See page 15 for more information

5 Sunday

**Iraq: Cradle of Civilization**

1:30 PM, Breasted Hall

See page 12 for more information

8 Wednesday

**Women of Ur: Gender and Sexuality in Ancient Mesopotamia**

Jerrold S. Cooper

8:00 PM, Breasted Hall

See page 11 for more information

8 Wednesday

Ancient Sumer (cont.)

See 1 November

11 Saturday

Before the Bible (cont.)

See 7 October

11 Saturday

Egypt in the Islamic Period (cont.)

See 7 October

- 12 Sunday  **Out of the Fiery Furnace**
1:30 PM, Breasted Hall
See page 12 for more information
- 12 Sunday  **The Magic Carpet: Stories, Songs, and Ancient Art**
2:00–4:00 PM, Oriental Institute
See page 8 for more information
- 13 Monday  **Egypt at the Dawn of History: The Predynastic Period**
Frank Yurco
Continues for sixteen weeks
See page 14 for more information
- 14 Tuesday  **Anemurium: Roman City in Southern Turkey**
James Russell
8:00 PM, Breasted Hall
See page 11 for more information
- 15 Wednesday  **Egypt and Israel During the Time of the Hebrew Monarchy**
Kenneth Kitchen
8:00 PM, Breasted Hall
See page 11 for more information
- 15 Wednesday **Ancient Sumer (cont.)**
See 1 November
- 18 Saturday  **Masterpieces and Mystique**
10:00 AM–4:00 PM, Oriental Institute
Breakfast and viewing, 9:00–10:00 AM
See page 8 for more information
- 18 Saturday **Egypt in the Islamic Period (cont.)**
See 7 October
- 19 Sunday  **Gilgamesh: Tablet XI**
1:30 PM, Breasted Hall
See page 12 for more information
- 19 Sunday  **Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur**
Richard L. Zettler
3:00 PM, Breasted Hall
See page 11 for more information
- 26 Sunday  **Ancient Treasures of the Deep**
1:30 PM, Breasted Hall
See page 12 for more information
- 29 Wednesday **Ancient Sumer (cont.)**
See 1 November
- 2 Saturday **Before the Bible (cont.)**
See 7 October
- 2 Saturday **Egypt in the Islamic Period (cont.)**
See 7 October
- 6 Wednesday  **The Craft Specialists of Power and Prestige**
K. Ashihan Yener
8:00 PM, Breasted Hall
See page 11 for more information
- 6 Wednesday **Ancient Sumer (cont.)**
See 1 November
- 9 Saturday **Before the Bible (ends)**
See 7 October
- 9 Saturday **Egypt in the Islamic Period (ends)**
See 7 October
- 10 Sunday  **Iraq: Cradle of Civilization**
1:30 PM, Breasted Hall
See page 12 for more information
- 13 Wednesday **Ancient Sumer (ends)**
See 1 November
- 17 Sunday  **Gilgamesh: Tablet XI**
1:30 PM, Breasted Hall
See page 12 for more information
- 26 Tuesday  **Free Activities for Children**
Continues through 29 Friday
12:00 NOON–2:00 PM, Oriental Institute
See page 16 for more information
- 27 Wednesday **Free Activities for Children (cont.)**
See 26 December
- 28 Thursday **Free Activities for Children (cont.)**
See 26 December
- 29 Friday **Free Activities for Children (cont.)**
See 26 December
- 1 Thursday  **Egypt Tour**
Robert K. Ritner
Continues through 17 February 2001
See page 7 for more information
All programs subject to change

DECEMBER 2000

KEY TO SYMBOLS

-  ADULT EDUCATION COURSES
-  CORRESPONDENCE / INTERNET COURSES
-  DINNERS/LUNCHEONS
-  FAMILY/CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS
-  MEMBERS LECTURES
-  SPECIAL EVENTS
-  FILMS
-  TRAVEL PROGRAMS

**A LIVING, BREATHING TOMB: SOME THOUGHTS
ON THE CONTINUITY OF ANATOLIAN CULTURE IN
THE LATE BRONZE AND IRON AGES**

Theo van den Hout

Wednesday 4 October

8:00 PM, Breasted Hall (Reception Following)

Shortly after 1200 BC the Hittite Empire fell and seems to have disappeared almost without a trace. Apart from a certain cultural and historical continuum in the Neo-Hittite city-states of Eastern Anatolia and Syria there seems to have been a serious break between the second and first millennium in Western Anatolia. Yet one regularly comes across phenomena in Western Iron Age Anatolia which recall Hittite cults and customs. Can we connect the two and support a cultural continuity there too?

**WOMEN OF UR: GENDER AND SEXUALITY
IN ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA**

Jerrold S. Cooper

Wednesday 8 November

8:00 PM, Breasted Hall (Reception Following)

Professor Cooper uses the perspective of gender studies to examine the women of Ur, and of Mesopotamia more broadly, in their social, political, and historical contexts. Working women, as well as royal and elite women, are discussed, as are family structure, prostitution, and sexuality.

Jerrold S. Cooper received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1969 and is Professor in the Near Eastern Studies Department of The Johns Hopkins University, where he has taught since 1968. Professor Cooper's main research interests are Sumerian literature; Mesopotamian history, gender, and sexuality in the ancient world; and the early history of writing systems.

ANEMURIUM: ROMAN CITY IN SOUTHERN TURKEY

James Russell

Tuesday 14 November

8:00 PM, Breasted Hall (Reception Following)

Held in conjunction with the Archaeological Institute of America

The first lecture of an endowed lectureship in honor of Robert Scranton, University of Chicago Professor and archaeologist from 1935 to 1975

Anemurium, located on the southernmost promontory of Asia Minor, has been under investigation by a Canadian archaeological team since 1966. Professor Russell will present a selective account of the excavations and their results. In particular, how the team has been able to apply their discoveries, including architecture, mosaics, inscriptions, pottery, coins, and small artifacts, to reconstruct the history, economy, and social life of a city for which there is virtually no literary testimony.

James Russell, former president of the Archaeological Institute of America, received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1965 and is Professor of Classics at the University of British Columbia.

EGYPT AND ISRAEL

DURING THE TIME OF THE HEBREW MONARCHY

Kenneth Kitchen

Wednesday 15 November

8:00 PM, Breasted Hall (Reception Following)

Kenneth Kitchen, Brunner Professor Emeritus of Egyptology at the University of Liverpool, will speak on the issues of chronology in Egypt and Israel.

Widely recognized for his expertise in Egyptology, Professor Kitchen is also known for his contribution in other areas of Near Eastern Studies, including Ugaritic, Hebrew, Hittite, South Arabian, and Chronology.

TREASURES FROM THE ROYAL TOMBS OF UR

Richard L. Zettler

Sunday 19 November

3:00 PM, Breasted Hall

Held in conjunction with the Archaeological Institute of America and the Art Institute's Classical Arts Society

View the temporary exhibit, Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM after the lecture

Richard L. Zettler, Curator for the traveling exhibition *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur*, currently on view at the Oriental Institute, will speak about the work involved in maintaining the traveling exhibit as well as the history behind the beautiful objects on display.

**THE CRAFT SPECIALISTS OF POWER AND
PRESTIGE: TRADERS, JEWELERS, AND
METALLURGISTS
OF THE THIRD MILLENNIUM BC**

K. Aslihan Yener

Wednesday 6 December

8:00 PM, Breasted Hall (Reception Following)

Recent research by K. Aslihan Yener has revolutionized understanding of metallurgy and metals trade responsible for the great treasures at Ur. Through intensive survey and archaeological work, she has successfully identified countless ancient mines, the likely sources for a bustling metals industry stretching back into the earliest periods of the region and Iraq's history. By using high-tech materials analysis to examine scores of metal objects, she has also been able to follow the movement of metals from Anatolia in and around the ancient Near East in the form of finished goods.

Professor Yener will provide a rare glimpse into the lives and methods of some of the world's first miners, metallurgists, merchants, and artists, and suggest that the ancient inhabitants of modern Turkey, much like their Sumerian neighbors at Ur, were key players in a far-flung network of international trade that constituted Iraq's, and the world's, first global economy.

SUNDAY FILMS

Each Sunday afternoon, you can enjoy the best in documentary and feature films on the ancient Near East at the Oriental Institute. Films begin at 1:30 PM. Running time ranges from 30 to 50 minutes unless otherwise noted. Admission is free, and docent-led guided tours follow each film showing.

1 October *Egypt: The Habit of Civilization* — From the PBS *Legacy: Origins of Civilization* series hosted by Michael Wood, who seeks reminders of the ancient past in the present. *Archaeology* magazine called this series “entertaining and highly educational.”

8 October *Alexander the Great: The Battle of Issus* — This film from the Arts & Entertainment *The Great Commanders* series highlights the famed military encounter that took place in 334 BC between the forces of Alexander and the mighty Persian army.

15 October *Mummies Made in Egypt* — A film for the whole family, this animated and live action movie stars LeVar Burton of “Star Trek: The Next Generation.”

22 October *Ancient Mesopotamia* — The entire family will enjoy the adventures of Arizona Smith and his team of young archaeologists-in-training as they explore ancient Mesopotamia in this film from the award-winning *Ancient Civilizations for Children* series. This film will be shown continuously from 12:30 to 4:00 PM in conjunction with the public opening of the *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* exhibition.

29 October *The Mole People* — Get set for Halloween with this 1956 horror film that presents an on-beyond-camp view of the

ancient Sumerians. This film will be introduced by Matthew W. Stolper, John A. Wilson Professor of Assyriology, who has a special interest in ways the ancient world is depicted in the movies. (78 minutes)

5 November *Iraq: Cradle of Civilization* — From the PBS *Legacy: Origins of Civilization* series. Narrated by Michael Wood, this film explores the great civilization of ancient Mesopotamia, which gave the world its earliest cities, the first epic literature, and the earliest evidence of the rule of law.

12 November *Out of the Fiery Furnace* — This acclaimed PBS film on the discovery and use of metal highlights ancient processes like those used to create the magnificent metal objects in the *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* exhibition.

19 November *Gilgamesh: Tablet XI* — Live and computer imagery deluge the screen in this film that introduces the story of the Mesopotamian Noah and the Great Flood as it is told in the *Epic of Gilgamesh*. This fascinating film is presented in Akkadian, the language of the original text, accompanied by English subtitles.

26 November *Ancient Treasures of the Deep* — From the PBS *Nova* series, this documentary on the underwater excavation of a fourteenth century BC shipwreck shows how the ancient world from Africa to the Baltic was united by trade.

10 December *Iraq: Cradle of Civilization* — See 5 November

17 December *Gilgamesh: Tablet XI* — See 19 November

EDUCATION OFFICE REGISTRATION FORM

	Members	Non-members	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> Archaeology Before the Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> \$160	<input type="checkbox"/> \$180	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Egypt in the Islamic Period	<input type="checkbox"/> \$135	<input type="checkbox"/> \$155	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Ancient Sumer: Cities of Eden	<input type="checkbox"/> \$109	<input type="checkbox"/> \$129	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Hieroglyphs by Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> \$185	<input type="checkbox"/> \$205	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Beginner <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate			
<input type="checkbox"/> Egypt at the Dawn of History: The Predynastic Period	<input type="checkbox"/> \$225	<input type="checkbox"/> \$245	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Masterpieces and Mystique Symposium	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55	<input type="checkbox"/> \$62	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Optional box lunch with beverage for \$11.95			
Box lunch choices: <input type="checkbox"/> Grilled chicken on croissant <input type="checkbox"/> Roast beef <input type="checkbox"/> Veggie-wich			
<input type="checkbox"/> Treasures to Go: Jewelry Design Workshop for Adults	<input type="checkbox"/> \$26	<input type="checkbox"/> \$29	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> The Magic Carpet: Stories, Songs, and Ancient Art	<input type="checkbox"/> \$9	<input type="checkbox"/> \$11	<input type="checkbox"/>
		TOTAL	<input type="checkbox"/>

I would like to become a member of the Oriental Institute. Enclosed is \$50 for an annual membership, \$40 for seniors, UC/UCH Faculty and Staff, and National Associates (persons living more than 100 miles from Chicago within the USA). Memberships may be in two names at the same address. **Please send a separate check for membership donation.**

I prefer to pay by Check Money order MasterCard Visa

Account number: _____ Expiration date: _____ Signature: _____

Name: _____ Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Daytime phone: _____

Send to: The Oriental Institute Education Office, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago IL 60637

Call the Museum Education Office at (773) 702-9507 for the adult education registration and refund policy.

BEFORE THE BIBLE: THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF PRE-HISTORIC ISRAEL AND THE LEVANT

Aaron A. Burke

Saturdays

7 October–9 December

10:00 AM–12:00 NOON

The Gleacher Center

450 North Cityfront Plaza Drive, Chicago IL

As the land at the center of biblical archaeology, Israel inspires awe and wonder in layperson and scholar alike. Far less well known are the archaeological remains from earlier eras in Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria. Here, a fascinating record exists from the first presence of human populations from about one million years ago to the widespread development of cities marking the beginning of the Old Testament age, ca. 2000 BC. Discoveries from these periods vie with the grandeur of contemporary cultures elsewhere in the ancient world, presenting a rich arena for investigation and discussion. This eight-session course uses the archaeological record to explore the innovations and contributions of early peoples in ancient Israel and the Levant. Special attention is paid to cultural and settlement patterns that enhance our understanding of the historical context of the Bible, as well as the latest methods archaeologists use to study prehistoric times.

Instructor Aaron A. Burke is a graduate student in Syro-Palestinian Archaeology in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. He is a staff member of the Harvard University's Ashkelon Excavations in Israel, where he has worked for the past four years, and this year he joined the Oriental Institute's Early Bronze Age excavation at Yaqush, near the Sea of Galilee.

This course meets at the Gleacher Center on Saturday mornings from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON beginning 7 October and continuing through 9 December 2000. The Gleacher Center is the University of Chicago's downtown center, located at 450 North Cityfront Plaza Drive, just east of Michigan Avenue along the Chicago River. There will be no class sessions on 18 November and 25 November.

Required text

The Archaeology of Ancient Israel. Amnon Ben-Tor. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1992

OR *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible 10,000–586 B.C.* Amihai Mazar. New York: Doubleday, 1990

Recommended text

The Archaeology of Society in the Holy Land. T. E. Levy, ed. New York: Facts on File, 1995

See page 12 to register.

EGYPT IN THE ISLAMIC PERIOD (AD 641–1952)

Frank Yurco

Saturdays

7 October–9 December

10:00 AM–12:00 NOON

The Oriental Institute

The eighth and final installment in a series on the history of Egypt, this course concentrates on the Islamic age, beginning with the Muslim conquest of Egypt in 639–641 and ending with the revolution that proclaimed Egypt a republic in the early 1950s. Topics covered include Egypt under the Fatimids, the impact of the Crusades, the rule of the Mamluks, the Ottoman conquest of 1517, the Napoleonic invasion, and the emergence of Muhammed Ali and the dynasty he founded, which lasted from 1805 until the military revolt that overthrew King Farouk in 1952.

Instructor Frank Yurco is an Egyptologist who has taught numerous courses on topics of ancient Near Eastern history, culture, and language, both at the Oriental Institute and The Field Museum.

This course meets at the Oriental Institute on Saturday mornings from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON, beginning 7 October and continuing through 9 December 2000. There will be no class sessions on 21 October, 28 October, and 25 November.

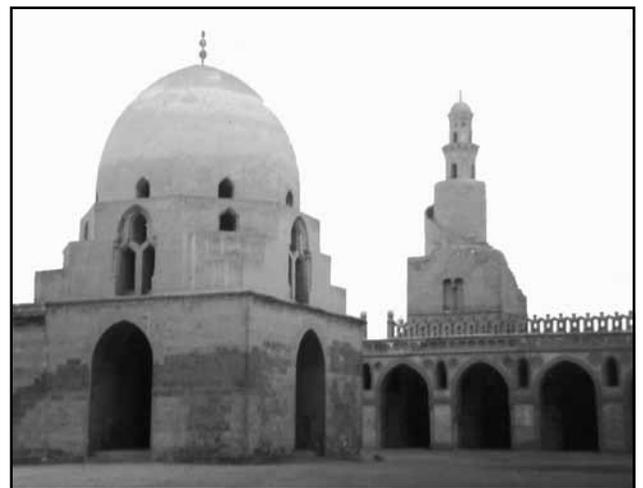
Required texts

Egypt in the Reign of Muhammad Ali. Afaf Lutfi Al-Sayyid Marsot. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1984

A Short History of Modern Egypt. Afaf Lutfi Al-Sayyid Marsot. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985

Historical Dictionary of Egypt. Joan Wucher King. London and Metuchen: Scarecrow Press, 1984

See page 12 to register.



ANCIENT SUMER: CITIES OF EDEN

Clemens Reichel

Wednesdays, 1 November–13 December

7:00–9:00 PM, The Oriental Institute

Ancient Sumer — today's southern Iraq — is famed in the Old Testament as the site of the Garden of Eden. Archaeological discoveries show ancient Sumer was home to the world's first cities and a sophisticated urban culture that produced monumental art, the rule of kings, and the earliest known writing system — cuneiform. This six-session course introduces the great achievements of ancient Sumer in conjunction with *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur*, a major exhibition of Sumerian artistic masterpieces. Visits to this exhibition, on loan to the Oriental Institute, will be a special feature of each class session. Topics to be discussed include Sumerian art and architecture, literature, religious beliefs, burial practices, and the structure of Sumerian society over its two-thousand-year history, ca. 4000–2000 BC.

Instructor Clemens Reichel is a Ph.D. candidate in Mesopotamian Archaeology in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. He has participated in numerous archaeological excavations in the Middle East and is currently working for the Diyala Project, an Oriental Institute study of Sumerian artifacts and texts recovered during the Institute's excavations near the Diyala River east of Baghdad.

This course meets at the Oriental Institute on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 PM beginning 1 November and continuing through 13 December 2000. There will be no class on 22 November.

Required text: *Cultural Atlas of Mesopotamia and the Ancient Near East*. Michael Roaf. New York and Oxford: Facts on File, 1990

See page 12 to register.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

Hieroglyphs-by-Mail

Stephen Parker

Starts 23 October and continues for sixteen weeks

Taught by correspondence, this course is open to both beginners and to students with previous experience in Middle Egyptian, the "classical" language of ancient Egypt. Beginners learn how to read and write Middle Egyptian hieroglyphs as they progress through the eight introductory lessons and exercises of *Middle Egyptian Grammar* by James H. Hoch. This teaching grammar is the same text the instructor has used for his courses on the University of Chicago campus. Students with more experience are guided through the eight concluding lessons in Hoch's text. During the course, students will complete their lessons and mail them to the instructor, who will correct them, answer any questions, and return the lessons by mail or fax.

Instructor Stephen Parker holds a Ph.D. in Egyptology from the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. He has taught Middle Egyptian to both graduate and undergraduate students at the Oriental Institute.

This course begins on Monday 23 October 2000 and will continue for sixteen weeks. Registration must be received by 10 October.

Required text

Middle Egyptian Grammar. James H. Hoch. Please contact the Oriental Institute Museum Education Office at (773) 702-9507 for information on how to order this book.

See page 12 to register.

Egypt at the Dawn of History: The Predynastic Period

Frank Yurco

Starts 13 November and continues for sixteen weeks

Featuring audio-taped lectures by Frank Yurco, this correspondence course invites you to discover ancient Egypt in the era before written records. Based on the most recent archaeological evidence, this class will follow Egyptian history from the earliest appearance of kingship to the emergence of a unified land that rapidly evolved into one of the earliest Bronze Age states. Listen to the taped lectures at home — or in your car — during the first of what is an eight-part audio-tape series that traces the history of Egypt from its beginnings to the nation that exists today. The tapes and readings are organized into eight lessons. With every lesson, the instructor will provide a brief assignment that allows you to demonstrate your understanding of the course material. Complete each assignment and return it by mail or fax. The instructor will review the lesson, give comments, answer any questions, and send it back to you by mail.

Instructor Frank Yurco is an Egyptologist who has taught numerous courses on ancient Egyptian history, culture, and language, both at the Oriental Institute and The Field Museum.

This course begins on Monday 13 November 2000 and will continue for sixteen weeks. Registration must be received by 1 November.

Required text

Ancient Egypt: Anatomy of a Civilization. Barry J. Kemp. London and New York: Routledge, 1989

See page 12 to register.

CHICAGO BOOK WEEK — FREE FAMILY EVENT**Make an Ancient Egyptian-Style Book
Sunday 15 October****2:00–4:00 PM****LaSalle Banks Education Center**

Join us to celebrate books and reading in Chicago by creating your own ancient Egyptian-style “book.” Presented as part of the first annual *Chicago Book Week: City of Big Readers* event, this program is co-sponsored by the Chicago Public Library. We’ll show you how to create an ancient-Egyptian-style drawing, decorate it with hieroglyphs, and then turn your art project into a papyrus-like scroll. This program is free and reservations are not required.

**TREASURES FROM THE
ROYAL TOMBS OF UR
PUBLIC OPENING CELEBRATION**

Join us for a weekend of free festivities to mark the public opening of the magnificent *Treasures From the Royal Tombs of Ur* exhibition.

Saturday 21 October**10:00 AM–4:00 PM**

Docents will be available in the exhibition to answer questions from 10:30 AM to 4:00 PM. *Mesopotamia: Cradle of Civilization*, the PBS documentary from the acclaimed *Legacy* series will be shown continuously in Breasted Hall from 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM and again from 3:00 to 4:00 PM. From 1:00 to 3:00 PM see local artists demonstrate the processes used to create the spectacular gold and silver objects on display in the exhibition. Have your name written in cuneiform from 1:00 to 4:00 PM, and be sure not to miss the 2:00 PM lecture on the exhibition given by Karen L. Wilson, Director, Oriental Institute Museum.

Sunday 22 October**12:00 NOON–4:00 PM**

Today is a special day for children and their families. Take a self-guided *Treasures* hunt from 12:00 NOON to 4:00 PM. Docents will be available to answer questions in the exhibition from 12:30 to 4:00 PM. Come to Breasted Hall any time between 12:30 and 4:00 PM to see “Arizona Smith” and his team of young archaeologists-in-training explore ancient Sumer in a film from the award-winning *Ancient Civilizations for Children* series. Have your name written in cuneiform, hear music from ancient times, play a Sumerian board game, and enjoy art activities based on tales and treasures from Ur.

ADULT STUDIO WORKSHOPS**Ancient-Inspired Adornment:
A Metalsmithing Workshop for Adults****Sunday 29 October****1:00–4:00 PM****Lill Street Art Center****1021 West Lill Street, Chicago IL 60614**

Create jewelry and other ornamental objects in silver, copper, or brass using techniques that have remained virtually unchanged since ancient times. Join metalsmith Anna Pertzoff to learn how to hammer, form, file, chase, and stamp metals. No previous metalsmithing experience is needed. This Lill Street Art Center workshop is presented in conjunction with the *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* exhibition on view at the Oriental Institute.

Instructor Anna Pertzoff holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Metalsmithing from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. An experienced arts educator and artist, she has been on the teaching staff at the Lill Street Art Center for the past four years.

Fee: \$50 per person. All materials, tools, and supplies are included, except for silver, which can be purchased from the instructor. Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

To register, call the Lill Street Art Center at (773) 477-6185.

**Treasures to Go:
A Jewelry Design Workshop for Adults****Sunday 5 November****1:00–4:30 PM****Oriental Institute**

Be dazzled by the exquisite jewelry in the *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* exhibition, and then design your own version of an ancient-style adornment. The workshop starts in the galleries where you’ll learn how to make sketches that capture details of the spectacular objects on view. In the downstairs studio you use polymer clay, metallic pigments, and a variety of surface embellishments to create brooches or pendants inspired by the artistry of ancient Ur. No prior drawing or design experience is needed to take part in this program, and all materials, tools, and supplies are provided.

Instructor Cyd Engel is an artist/teacher who holds a Masters in Arts Education from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Formerly Interim Curator of Education for the Terra Museum of American Art, she is currently Manager of Special Education Projects for the Milwaukee Art Museum.

Fee: \$26 for Oriental Institute members; \$29 for non-members. Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

See page 12 to register.

TREASURES FROM THE ROYAL TOMBS OF UR**21 October 2000 – 21 January 2001****The Oriental Institute****1155 East 58th Street****Chicago, IL 60637****EXHIBIT INFORMATION:**Website: www-oi.uchicago.edu/ur.html

General Information: (773) 702-9514

Tours of the Exhibit: (773) 702-9507

Special Extended Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday through Sunday: 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Wednesday: 10:00 AM – 8:30 PM

Admission to the galleries is free, but the Institute suggests a donation of \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children to view the Ur exhibit.

Sponsored by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur was organized by the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

ESPECIALLY FOR KIDS (AND GRANDKIDS)!**ENJOY FOUR DAYS OF FREE HANDS-ON ART ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN
RELATED TO THE EXHIBITION TREASURES FROM THE ROYAL TOMBS OF UR****Tuesday through Friday****26–29 December****12:00 NOON–2:00 PM****The Oriental Institute****Cylinder Seals****Tuesday 26 December**

The kings and queens of Ur used cylinder seals with their names and titles carved into them to identify themselves on tablets and letters. Carve your own cylinder seals with your name or favorite decoration in the style of the royalty of Ur.

Royal Headdress**Wednesday 27 December**

Create your own royal headdress in the style of that worn by the kings of Ur and by Puabi the Queen and her handmaidens. Now you can create your own version of these ancient masterpieces.

Magical Motifs**Thursday 28 December**

Create Ur-inspired decorations with gold foil. View the beautiful items fashioned of gold in the exhibit, then let the treasures from Ur inspire your creation!

Royal Jewelry**Friday 29 December**

Design and create your own beaded jewelry like that worn by the kings and queens of Ur. Visit the exhibition to see examples of beaded jewelry and clothing the royalty of Ur took with them to their graves.

ROMANCING THE PAST 2000

On 5 May 2000, more than 250 members and friends of the Institute gathered at the Drake Hotel to celebrate *Romancing the Past 2000*, a black-tie gala at which Visiting Committee Member **Janet Helman**, former Volunteer Coordinator, was awarded the James Henry Breasted Medallion by University of Chicago President Hugo F. Sonnenschein. The Breasted Medallion is the Institute's highest honor, recognizing extraordinary service by a volunteer: support for Institute initiatives, service in leadership roles, active engagement with the museum, and participation in research and field projects.

The evening included a silent auction of archival prints and rare jewelry, as well as a live auction of a one-week stay at Chicago House in Luxor and a private dinner with Mark Lehner in the Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. The evening's keynote address, a multimedia presentation of *The Egyptian Hours of the Night*, was presented by Robert K. Ritner, Associate Professor of Egyptology. Through the generosity of members and friends, *Romancing the Past 2000* raised over \$100,000 for the reinstallation of the Institute's galleries. The Institute thanks all of our supporters, particularly dinner chairs Thomas and Linda Heagy, Bruce Sagan and Bette Cerf Hill, Robert and Laura Lunn, and John and Jeanne Rowe.



Top: Breasted Medallion Honoree Janet W. Helman delivering her acceptance remarks

Bottom: Gene Gragg, Janet W. Helman, and President Sonnenschein



Top left: Gene Gragg, Director of the Oriental Institute, with volunteer Elizabeth Baum and Michèle Gragg

Top right: Dinner Chairs Laura and Robert Lunn at the silent auction

Bottom left: Thomas Heagy, Dinner Chair and Vice Chair of the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee, at the silent auction

Bottom right: Dinner Chairs Bruce Sagan and Bette Cerf Hill with Breasted Society Member Bernadine Basile and Clemens Reichel, Ph.D. candidate in Mesopotamian Archaeology





Above: Visiting Committee Member Mary Gray with her husband Richard at the silent auction

Above right: University of Chicago President Hugo F. Sonnenschein at the speaker's podium

Below right: Janet and Robert Helman on the dance floor



MEDALLION UNDERWRITERS

The Institute acknowledges leadership support for *Romancing the Past 2000* by the following corporations and foundations:

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NEW TITLE FROM THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

**Bir Umm Fawakhir 1993 Survey Project: A Byzantine
Gold-Mining Town in Egypt**

Carol Meyer, Lisa A. Heidorn, Walter E. Kaegi, and Terry
Wilfong

Oriental Institute Communications, No. 28

Pp. xviii + 92; 2 appendices, 59 figures. 2000

\$40

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5 – 13 DECEMBER 2000

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Tombs of Ur related items. Exhibition
catalogue \$34.95.**

Suq telephone: (773) 702-9509

CORNER

News & Notes

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All inquiries, comments, and suggestions are welcome • World-Wide Website: <http://www-oi.uchicago.edu>