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MESSAGES FROM THE GODS: AN ASPECT OF HITTITE DREAMS

ALICE MOUTON, VISITING SCHOLAR

In every culture, a dream is interpreted as a complex phenomenon that is sometimes favorable, sometimes unfavorable. In ancient Near Eastern sources, the main unfavorable aspects of dreams are their frightening character, their deceiving potential (dreams sent by angry deities or evil spirits for misleading the dreamer), and their possible contagion (an evil dream may render the dreamer dangerously ill). On the other hand, the main favorable aspects of dreams are their pleasant character (“sweet dream”), their healing function, and their informative potential. As a phenomenon sometimes sent by the gods, a dream can function as a divine message. This type of dream can be called a “message-dream.” Hittite texts illustrate this feature in two dif-

ferent forms, the symbolic message-dream, and the clear message-dream.

SYMBOLIC MESSAGE-DREAMS

Some message-dreams have a symbolic content. They can therefore be called symbolic message-dreams. Symbolic message-dreams are not very numerous in Hittite texts. The most remarkable examples are described in the Kessi myth where the hunter Kessi neglects his duties toward his gods because of his love for his beautiful wife. After having a bad experience while hunting (gods do not allow him to find any prey and he is lost for three months), Kessi receives seven symbolic message-dreams from the gods. Only a few have been preserved in texts, but it seems clear that all of them are unfavorable. For instance, in the fourth dream, an enormous rock falls down onto Kessi’s servants. The sixth dream shows Kessi in female clothing, which is a humiliation for a Hittite man. These dreams seem therefore to foretell the divine punishment that Kessi will receive.

This text finds its closest parallel in the famous Mesopotamian epic of Gilgamesh, where Gilgamesh receives five divine warnings through symbolic message-dreams. Gilgamesh’s symbolic dreams, like those of Kessi and other mythical heroes, complement one another. Even though their vi-

(continued on page 3)



Bed model from a domestic area of Tell Asmar. It probably dates as Early Old Babylonian (ca. 1800 B.C.). I thank Dr. Clemens Reichel for this information. I think that bed models may be votive objects serving two different purposes: 1) they can be offered to the gods in order to obtain sexual fertility (many of these bed models show sexual intercourse); or 2) they can be offered in order to “heal” a person from “bad sleep/dreams.” In Mesopotamian and Hittite texts, disrupted sleep is usually interpreted as a sign of divine wrath. Photograph by Kathleen Mineck

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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S STUDY

IN MEMORIAM: ALBERT "BUD" HASS

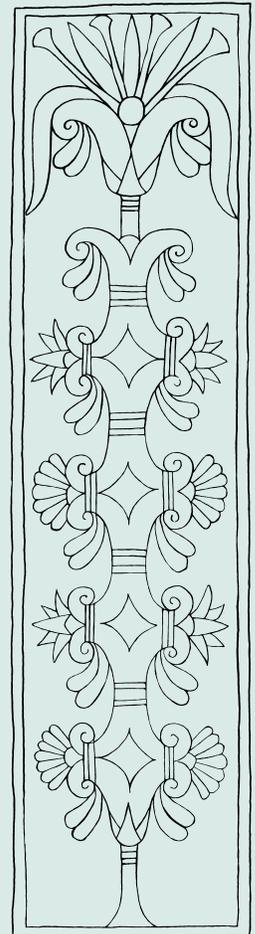


Bud and Cissy Haas at the 2002 Romancing the Past Gala Event where he was awarded the James Henry Breasted Medallion. Photograph by Bruce Powell

Just a few weeks ago, the Oriental Institute lost a dear friend in the death of Albert "Bud" Haas. It is hard to convey the full extent of Bud's enthusiasm for every aspect of the Institute and the community of people involved in its work. That affection was reciprocated. I am not exaggerating when I say that Bud was truly *beloved* by the faculty, staff, volunteers, docents, and members of the Oriental Institute.

Bud and his wife Cissy began as Oriental Institute volunteers in the very first training class for docents, back in 1966. From everything I have heard, Bud was considered one of the best docents the program ever had, by virtue of his deep knowledge of the museum and his infectious enthusiasm for the ancient civilization of the Near East. He and Cissy were generous supporters of Oriental Institute projects. Together, they were great friends to the late Helene Kantor and her important work at the site of Chogha Mish in Iran. Bud and Cissy traveled to Egypt, and, naturally, became close friends with Harry James, the Keeper of Egyptian Antiquities at the British Museum. Bud participated as a volunteer in Larry Stager's excavations at Ashkelon, in Israel, where he helped excavate a dog cemetery, of all things.

Bud was made a lifetime member of the Oriental Institute's Visiting Committee, and he participated fully there — offering creative ideas and frank opinions that almost always resulted in positive changes within the Insti-



Drawing of Megiddo ivory with repeating palmette motive. OIP 52, pl. 6:15b

tute.

In recognition of all that Bud has done for the Oriental Institute, he was awarded the James Henry Breasted Medallion just over a year ago. The Medallion is the highest honor that the Oriental Institute can bestow on an individual in recognition of exemplary service. In addition, his name will be permanently linked to the Institute through the Bud and Cissy Haas Megiddo Gallery, named in their honor by one of their closest friends, Lois Schwartz. Reinstallation began on this gallery just a few weeks ago, and I deeply regret that Bud did not live to see its completion.

Bud leaves behind a legacy of friendship and love among the many people whose lives he enriched by helping them, working with them, and always being there for them. We are all the better for having known Bud. Speaking for my colleagues and myself, I extend our condolences and heartfelt sympathy to Cissy and the entire Haas family. We will miss Bud very much.



Hematite cylinder seal purchased from a dealer in New York. It has been dated variously as Early Dynastic III or as Akkadian (end of the third millennium B.C.). It has been thought to represent an incubation (i.e., a ritual for soliciting a special dream), in which case the person standing at the feet of the character on the bed would be a dream interpreter. However, the person on the bed is obviously awake, because her head is raised and her eyes seem to be open. Therefore, I would prefer to follow the interpretation suggested in the exhibition of the Oriental Institute Museum, namely, that this is a childbirth scene. Photograph by Kathleen Mineck

sual (and sometimes auditive) content may be different, their meaning is the same — a punishment is about to be realized.

The Old Testament also provides examples of this kind of complementary symbolic message-dream. One may remember the Egyptian pharaoh's dreams about cows and corn (Gn 41:1ff.), which are symbolic message-dreams foretelling the seven years of famine in Egypt, and Nebuchadnezzar's dreams about a composite statue and a giant tree (Dn 2:1ff. and Dn 4:1ff.), which also are symbolic message-dreams foretelling the end of the reign of the Babylonian king.

Oneiromantic treatises (texts in which dream interpretations are collected) include symbolic message-dreams because, in most cases, they are perceived as divine (even frequently prophetic, i.e., with a foretelling character). One Hittite oneiromantic treatise has been discovered. It is unfortunately very fragmentary:

[If someone] sees in a dream [...]
 [If some]one sees in a dream an ox ... [...]
 [If some]one sees in a dream a calf [...]
 [If some]one sees in a dream a horse [...]
 [If, for mak]ing a horse turn [...]
 [If someone] see[s a donk]ey [...]
 [If someone] se[es a don]key [...]

The structure of this Hittite treatise seems to be the same as the surviving Neo-Assyrian Dream-Book. The feature seen in the dream is described in a protasis (if ...) and the prediction is given in an apodosis (then ...). The fragment above seems to in-

dicating that the Hittite Dream-Book was organized according to various topics, among which only the animal section remains. The Neo-Assyrian oneiromantic treatise is similarly split into themes, namely, animals, plants, food, beverages, clothes, and so forth.

CLEAR MESSAGE-DREAMS

Three main categories of non-symbolic message-dreams can be distinguished in Hittite texts:

1. Supportive message-dreams
2. Warning message-dreams
3. Dreams in which a divine exigence is expressed

Supportive Message-Dreams. In a message-dream, a deity may express his affection and support to some mortal. This category of dreams is mainly related in historical, and therefore propagandistic, texts. The most famous Hittite historical text in which supportive message-dreams occur is the so-called Apology of Hattusili III. One of these dreams appeared to Hattusili himself as follows:

But the goddess Sausga, my lady, appeared to me through a dream and told me the following thing through a dream: "(It is) me (who) put you under the protection of a deity, (so) do not be afraid!"

Another dream related in the Apology appeared to several persons at the same time:

When Urhi-Tesub (i.e., Hattusili's enemy) had sent away the lords, Sausga my Lady appeared to them through a dream, (saying): "On your own you were powerless, (but I), Sausga, have turned the countries of Hattusa toward Hattusili."

This "collective dream" was probably regarded as an uncontested divine testimony of Sausga's support for Hattusili. Therefore, it was reported in his Apology.

Many other Near Eastern royal texts use supportive message-dreams for the same purpose. Without question these dreams are divine by nature and therefore provide strong evidence for the legitimacy of the "king-dreamer's" actions.

Warning Message-Dreams. A message-dream may warn the dreamer about imminent danger. In an oracular text, a clear warning message-dream is reported:

(He/she saw) a dream: (concerning) the fact that he is about to celebrate the festival of the rain in the city of Ankuwa, he/she saw a dream: "Let my Sun not go to Ankuwa! To go up there has been (regarded) as unfavorable!", if the deity has forbid (the king) to go to Ankuwa on those days, [let the oracle be so and so].

Royal voyages required the approval of the gods. Therefore, the king would ask the diviners to make oracular inquiries of the deities. In the case above, the opinion of the gods comes directly



(Left) Example of an Egyptian bed. (Right) Headrest from the Egyptian First Intermediate Period (ca. 2200 B.C.). It was uncovered in a tomb where it was hoped that it would accompany the deceased into the Netherworld. On some similar Egyptian headrests we find written an incantation against "bad dreams." In Egypt, as well as in Mesopotamia and Anatolia, "bad dreams" (i.e., demonic nightmares) are thought to enter the dreamer's head during the night. The ancients believed that some of these "bad dreams" were able to make the dreamer dangerously ill. Photographs by Kathleen Mineck

through a dream (either received by the king himself or by someone else) and the king's trip has not been approved for some unknown reason.

A substitution ritual also makes an allusion to a warning message-dream:

If death has been foretold for the king, either (if) he sees it through a dream, (if) it has been revealed by extispicy or by bird-oracles [or (if)] some bad omen of death has ap[peared for him], (then) here is his ritual.

The substitution ritual described in this text is supposed to "send" the foretold death to the king's substitute.

Dreams in which a Divine Exigence is Expressed. Hittite votive texts describe many dreams belonging to this category. One may cite, for instance, the following text:

A dream (of) the queen. "In (my) dream, the god Sharruma told me: 'Give me something to eat in twelve spots on the mountain.'" One will interrogate the oracle.

In another votive text, it reads:

Sausga of the city of Tuba, through a dream, has asked My Sun for a solar disk in gold (of) sixteen shekels, two oxen, and seven sheep.

The dreams have been reported on these votive texts in order to control the fulfillment of the divine request. It would be very dangerous not to respect such a message-dream. The deity would be angry with the dreamer and might send him or her a bad illness.

CONCLUSION

Hittite texts report various kinds of message-dreams: symbolic, non-symbolic, supportive, warning, etc. For the Hittites, they all exhibit the divine nature of the dreams. The supportive message-dreams are privileges that only extraordinary mortals like kings and priests can receive. This is due to their close relationship with the gods.

Indeed, message-dreams are often used as proof of divine affection. This is the case for supportive dreams, but also, frequently, for warning dreams. For this reason they are used as a propagandistic device. In addition to the official sphere, popular tradition (reflected in oneiromantic treatises and rituals) considers message-dreams to be important matters that should not be neglected.

Alice Mouton is a Visiting Scholar at the Oriental Institute with a Programme Lavoisier scholarship from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She is a Ph.D. candidate in the final stages of her dissertation (Paris-Leiden). Mouton will be returning to Paris in January 2004. She can be reached at alicemouton@hotmail.com.

THE SYRIAC MANUSCRIPT INITIATIVE

STUART CREASON, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

The Syriac Manuscript Initiative is a new project at the Oriental Institute being undertaken by Stuart Creason and Abdul-Massih Saadi with pilot funding from the Women's Board of the University of Chicago. The goal of the Syriac Manuscript Initiative is to create a large digital photographic archive of manuscripts that are located in churches and monasteries in eastern Syria and southeastern Turkey. The number of manuscripts in these churches and monasteries exceeds 100,000 and the number of pages contained within these manuscripts is in excess of 10 million.

Written in the Syriac language, a dialect of Aramaic that flourished during the fourth to seventh centuries A.D. and that is still spoken today in some of the small communities in this region, these manuscripts represent a very important and valuable part of the literary and cultural heritage of Syriac-speaking communities. Many of these manuscripts have never been made available to Western scholars. Some texts are one-of-a-kind, preserved only in a single manuscript in one of these collections. It is our hope that we will be able to photograph a substantial number of these manuscripts in the coming years.

In order to achieve this goal, we will be using some of the most advanced digital imaging technology currently available. The manuscripts in this region will be photographed using a six megapixel digital SLR (single-lens reflex) camera, and the resulting images will be stored as high-resolution TIFF images on computer hard drives. We decided to take digital images of these manuscripts rather than conventional film photographs because of the many advantages that digital images offer. First, digital images are easier to store and to transport than film photographs. A single 100 GB hard drive can store approximately 5,000 high resolution TIFF images, the equivalent of 140 rolls of 36 exposure film. Second, digital images are easier and less expensive to reproduce than film photographs, and, unlike film photographs, they can be preserved and reproduced without any loss in quality. Third, digital images can be viewed immediately after being taken without the intermediate step of film processing,

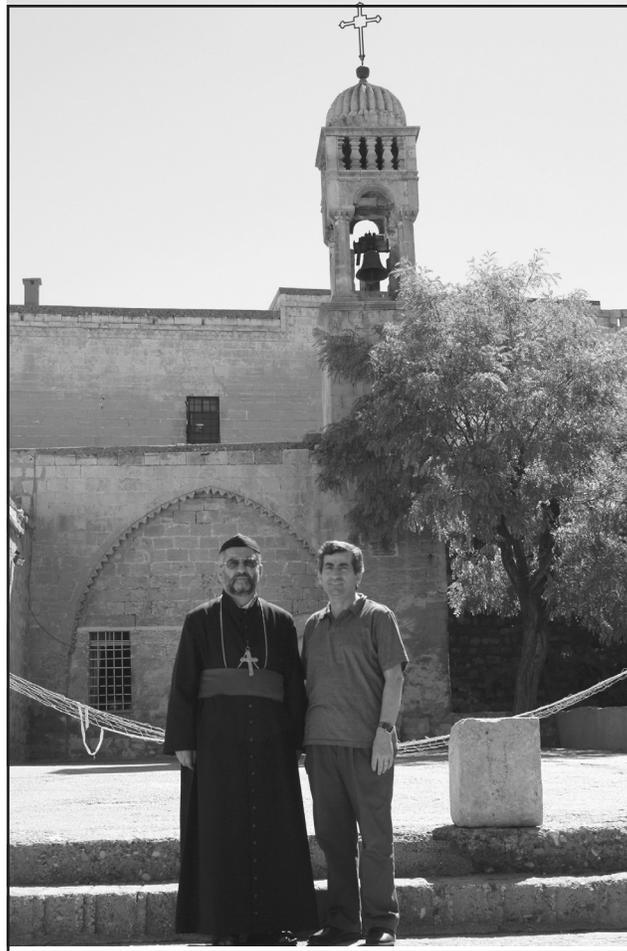
allowing a greater degree of quality control during the imaging process. Finally, digital images can be made available to scholars in a greater variety of ways than film photographs. For example, digital images can be posted on a website or sent as an attachment to an email message.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Women's Board of the University of Chicago, we were able to complete a pilot project in the summer of this year. During the month of August, Dr. Saadi, a native speaker of Syriac, traveled to the monastery of Mar Gabriel near Mardin, Turkey — the monastery where he himself had been trained prior to coming to the United States for doctoral studies. The officials at the monastery welcomed him warmly, and in the short time that he was there, Dr. Saadi was able to photograph three manuscripts (approximately 600 pages of text). He also obtained permission to publish a scholarly edition of these manuscripts and to return on a regular basis to photograph additional manuscripts.

At the present time, we are making plans for a trip back to the monastery of Mar Gabriel during the spring of 2004 and we are also engaged in identifying possible public and private sources of funding for this and future trips to Turkey and Syria. The potential value of the archive that will be created during these trips is considerable since the presence of a digital photographic archive at the Oriental Institute would not only make these materials more easily accessible to scholars, it would also provide a record of these materials in the event of their future loss or destruction. Furthermore, it would establish the Oriental Institute and the University of Chicago as an important center for Syriac studies within the United States.

Stuart Creason, Ph.D., is a Research Associate at the Oriental Institute and Lecturer in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. Abdul-

Massih Saadi, Ph.D., is a Research Associate at the Oriental Institute and Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Classics at Notre Dame University.



(Left) Reverend Gabriel of Mardin and (right) Dr. Abdul-Massih Saadi standing in the courtyard of the Church of the Forty Martyrs in Mardin, Turkey. Photograph by Matthew Akyuz

OPENING OF THE EDGAR AND DEBORAH



Guests at the Director's Dinner admire the Assyrian Winged Bull. Photograph by Jean Grant

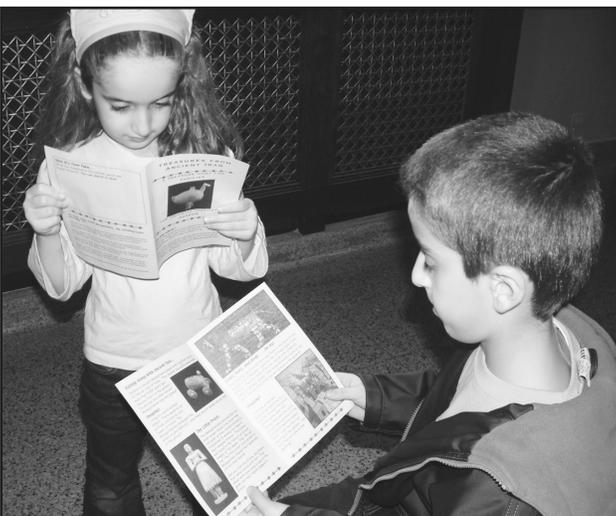


Dr. Donny George Youkhanna (second from left) and Dr. Sharukin Yelda and his mother Jeannette (first and second from right front) enjoy the Yelda Khorsabad Court with their friends. Photograph by Jean Grant



Pam Robinson demonstrates ancient jewelry-making techniques at the public opening. Photograph by Maria Krasinski

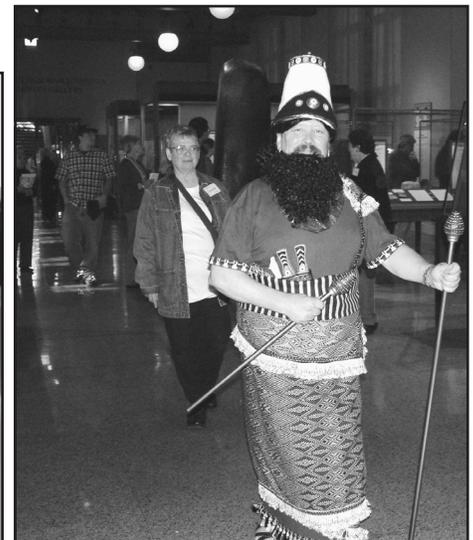
October was a busy month for the Oriental Institute, as we celebrated the opening of the new gallery. Dr. Donny George Youkhanna, Director General of Museums (Iraq), was the guest speaker at the Director's Dinner on September 30th. The next evening, over 200 Members enjoyed a preview of the gallery and a cocktail reception. More than 1,200 people attended the opening weekend for the general public, which featured artisans, a lecture by Karen Wilson, Museum Director, and children's activities.



Young visitors study the activity guide during opening events. Photograph by Wendy Ennes



Dress-up as Assyrian royalty was one of many activities of the opening weekend. Photograph by Maria Krasinski



Volunteer Stephen Ritzel strides through the gallery dressed as King Sargon II. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

JANNOTTA MESOPOTAMIAN GALLERY



Docent Catherine Deans-Barrett explains the significance of the Prism of Sennacherib as a historical document. Photograph by Jean Grant



Children learn how to play the ancient Ur game. Photograph by Maria Krasinski



Patrick Jones-O'Brien at the public opening. Photograph by Wendy Ennes



Clay Anderson and David Maher chat at the Director's Dinner. Photograph by Jean Grant



Jim and Angie Sopranos study the Striding Lion during the Director's Dinner. Photograph by Jean Grant



Artist Hardy Schlick discusses ancient pottery techniques with visitors at the opening weekend. Photograph by Maria Krasinski

NEWS FROM THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

GRANTS AWARDED

WORLD MONUMENTS FUND AWARD

The Epigraphic Survey has received a two-year, \$95,000 World Monuments Fund Robert W. Wilson Challenge for Conserving Our Heritage matching grant award for their project “The Conservation of Luxor Temple Sandstone Block Fragments — Phase 2, Luxor, Egypt.” This grant, the second awarded to the Epigraphic Survey by the World Monuments Fund, will cover the protective storage, consolidation, documentation, analysis, and reassembly of thousands of fragmentary, inscribed wall and gate fragments in the Luxor Temple blockyards.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES NATIONAL LEADERSHIP GRANT

The Institute of Museum and Library Services awarded a 2003 National Leadership Grant for Museums Online in the amount of \$239,443 for the Oriental Institute, Chicago Web Docent, and the eCUIP Digital Library Project to collaborate in the development, testing, and implementation of “This History, Our History: Ancient Mesopotamia Online,” an interactive project about ancient Mesopotamia for nationwide sixth to twelfth grade educational use.

LLOYD A. FRY FOUNDATION GRANT

The Lloyd A. Fry Foundation awarded a grant of \$25,000 to fund “Ancient Mesopotamia: Meeting Chicago Public School Mandates,” to create and present a professional development seminar for Chicago Public School teachers that combines on-site academic and museum learning experiences with online learning opportunities.

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

On Monday, October 6, **Stephen Harvey** delivered the Thirteenth Annual James Henry Breasted Memorial Lecture to the Rockford, Illinois, Society of the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA). The lecture was entitled “Egypt’s Last Royal Pyramid: The Monuments of King Ahmose and His Family.” Rockford was Breasted’s birthplace, and Steve was taken by his hosts to visit the Rockford cemetery, the resting place of various Breasted family members, including the ashes of J. H. Breasted marked by a block of Aswan granite.

On November 11, Steve Harvey will present another lecture on his recent research on the Ahmose monuments at Abydos, Egypt, to the St. Louis Society of the AIA (held at the St. Louis Art Museum). Steve has been invited in June 2004 to Paris to lecture at the Musée du Louvre in a series on current worldwide archaeological research.

The Oriental Institute extends our welcome to the newest Oriental Institute/Department of Near Eastern Studies faculty member, **Seth Richardson**. Seth’s current research projects focus on economics of land and labor in antiquity; on the state-collapse of the First Dynasty of Babylon in the seventeenth century B.C.; and on the historical situation of Old Babylonian omen literature. He has most recently completed a study on Hammurabi’s mobilization of resources for warfare, and has been invited to deliver a lecture at the British Museum next year as part of a conference on labor in the ancient Near East.



Ivory disk incised with lion and palm. OIM A 22232. OIP 52, pl. 52:226b. Megiddo



Ivory game disk incised with griffon. OIM A 22231. OIP 52, pl. 52:228b. Megiddo

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 2004

- 4 Sunday** **Mysteries, Magic, and Mummies!**
Family Program
1:00 PM–4:00 PM
Free
See page 15 for more information.
- 4 Sunday** **Movies: *Mummies Made in Egypt* and *Ancient Mesopotamia***
Part of the Mysteries, Magic, and Mummies! Family Program (see above).
- 11 Sunday** **Movie: *Mesopotamia: I Have Conquered the River***
See page 11 for more information.
- 13 Tuesday** **From the Dome of the Rock to the Cairo Citadel: Great Monuments in Islamic Art and Archaeology**
A. Asa Eger
Adult Education Course
Tuesdays
Through March 2
7:00 PM–9:00 PM, Oriental Institute
See page 13 for more information.
- 14 Wednesday** **Goddesses and Queens, Warriors and Wives: Women in Ancient Times**
Malayna Evans Williams
Adult Education Course
Wednesdays
January 14–March 3
7:00 PM–9:00 PM, Oriental Institute
See page 13 for more information.
- 17 Saturday** **Warfare and Empire in the Ancient World**
Aaron A. Burke
Adult Education Course
Saturdays
January 17–March 6
10:00 AM–12 NOON, Oriental Institute
See page 14 for more information.
- 18 Sunday** **Movie: *Murder in Mesopotamia***
See page 11 for more information.
- 19 Monday** **Archaeology and the Bible on Audiotape**
Aaron A. Burke
Correspondence Course
January 19–May 10
Registration deadline: January 5
See page 14 for more information.

- 20 Tuesday** **Great Monuments (cont.)**
- 21 Wednesday** **Women in Ancient Times (cont.)**
- 24 Saturday** **Warfare and Empire (cont.)**
- 25 Sunday** **Movie: *Ancient Treasures of the Deep***
See page 11 for more information.
- 27 Tuesday** **Great Monuments (cont.)**
- 28 Wednesday** **Women in Ancient Times (cont.)**
- 31 Saturday** **Warfare and Empire (cont.)**

FEBRUARY 2004

- 1 Sunday** **Oriental Institute/Smart Museum/Hyde Park Art Center Family Day**
Family Program
1:00 PM–4:00 PM
Smart Museum of Art
5550 South Greenwood Avenue
Free
See page 15 for more information.
- 1 Sunday** **Movie: *Pyramids and Great Cities of the Pharaohs***
See page 11 for more information.
- 3 Tuesday** **Great Monuments (cont.)**
- 4 Wednesday** **Women in Ancient Times (cont.)**
- 7 Saturday** **Where Civilization Began**
Gallery Talk
2:30 PM–3:30 PM
Free
See page 15 for more information.
- 7 Saturday** **Warfare and Empire (cont.)**
- 8 Sunday** **Where Civilization Began**
Gallery Talk
2:30 PM–3:30 PM
Free
See page 15 for more information.
- 8 Sunday** **Movie: *Cleopatra's Palace: In Search of a Legend***
- 10 Tuesday** **Great Monuments (cont.)**
- 11 Wednesday** **Women in Ancient Times (cont.)**
- 14 Saturday** **Warfare and Empire (cont.)**

- 15 Sunday** **Movie: *Under Wraps: An Autopsy of Three Egyptian Mummies***
See page 11 for more information.
- 17 Tuesday** **Great Monuments (cont.)**
- 18 Wednesday** **Women in Ancient Times (cont.)**
- 21 Saturday** **Warfare and Empire (cont.)**
- 22 Sunday** **Movie: *The Prince of Egypt***
Family Program
The movie will be followed by family-friendly activities in the Egyptian Gallery.
See page 15 for more information.
- 24 Tuesday** **Great Monuments (cont.)**
- 25 Wednesday** **Women in Ancient Times (cont.)**
- 28 Saturday** **Warfare and Empire (cont.)**
- 29 Sunday** **Movie: *Nubia and the Kingdoms of Kush***
See page 11 for more information.

MARCH 2004

- 2 Tuesday** **Great Monuments (cont.)**
- 3 Wednesday** **Women in Ancient Times (cont.)**
- 6 Saturday** **Warfare and Empire (cont.)**
- 7 Sunday** **Movie: *Women Pharaohs***
A special film showing and discussion session with Emily Teeter.
See page 11 for more information.
- 14 Sunday** **Movie: *Mesopotamia: Return to Eden***
See page 11 for more information.
- 17 Wednesday** **To Euphrates and Beyond: Searching for the First Farmers in the Near East (Robert J. Braidwood Memorial Lecture)**
Andrew M. T. Moore
Members Lecture, co-sponsored the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA)
8:00 PM, Breasted Hall
See page 14 for more information.
- 21 Sunday** **Movie: *Deciphering the Dead Sea Scrolls***
See page 11 for more information.
- 28 Sunday** **Movie: *Mesopotamia: I Have Conquered the River***
See page 11 for more information.

All programs subject to change.

TRAVEL PROGRAM



THE OASES OF THE WESTERN DESERT

MARCH 11 – 28, 2004

ESCORTED BY ROBERT K. RITNER
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF EGYPTOLOGY



HIDDEN TREASURES OF EASTERN TURKEY

SEPTEMBER 27–OCTOBER 15, 2004

ESCORTED BY GIL J. STEIN,
DIRECTOR OF THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

PLEASE CONTACT THE MEMBERSHIP OFFICE
FOR INFORMATION (773) 702-9513 OR
OI-MEMBERSHIP@UCHICAGO.EDU

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. Unless otherwise noted, film running times range from 30 to 50 minutes and there is no admission fee. Following the films, Museum Docents will be available in the galleries to answer questions about our exhibits.

January 4 *Mummies Made in Egypt* and *Ancient Mesopotamia*. These two award-winning films are being shown as part of a special program for families, **Mysteries, Magic, and Mummies!** (See page 15).

January 11 *Mesopotamia: I Have Conquered the River*. Literally "the land between the rivers," Mesopotamia was home to one of the world's earliest and most powerful civilizations. Shot on location in Iraq, this film combines the disciplines of archaeology, anthropology, engineering, and climatology to explore the vital role of ancient Mesopotamia's waterways. A remarkable 3-D computer recreation of the ancient city of Ur offers a glimpse of life along the Euphrates River more than 4,000 years ago.

January 18 *Murder in Mesopotamia*. Switch from history to mystery with this feature film starring David Suchet as Agatha Christie's debonair sleuth Hercule Poirot. On holiday in Iraq during the 1930s, Poirot visits an ancient site and discovers the brutal murder of an archaeologist's wife. The suspects are many but the clues are few in this story that reflects Christie's own fascination with excavations as the wife of Sir Max Mallowan, a famous British archaeologist. (100 minutes)

January 25 *Ancient Treasures of the Deep*. From the PBS Nova series, this documentary on the underwater excavation of a

fourteenth-century B.C. shipwreck shows how trade united the ancient world from Africa to the Baltic.

In February, we present films on ancient Egypt and Nubia in conjunction with African-American History Month.

February 1 *Pyramids and Great Cities of the Pharaohs*. The land of the pharaohs rises from the sand in this extraordinary film by Egyptologists, historians, and artists who worked together to produce video images of temples, tombs, and pyramids in all their original splendor. 70 minutes.

February 8 *Cleopatra's Palace: In Search of a Legend*. Narrated by Omar Sharif, this film tells the story of the underwater excavations that led to the discovery of the remains of Cleopatra's palace in the harbor at Alexandria in Egypt.

February 15 *Under Wraps: An Autopsy of Three Egyptian Mummies*. Three ancient Egyptians—a priest, a temple cult-singer, and a twelve-year-old girl—undergo autopsies using the latest scientific techniques, which reveal their stories while leaving their wrappings intact.

February 22 *The Prince of Egypt*. A masterpiece of feature film animation for the whole family. 98 minutes. (See p. 15).

February 29 *Nubia and the Kingdoms of Kush*. This film highlights the splendors of an ancient kingdom in what is now the country of Sudan. Footage includes visits to several archaeological sites, focusing on the discoveries and preservation efforts underway. Created by Emmy-award-winning producer Judith McCrae, the film also explores the natural beauty of the region, accompanied by an original musical score composed by renowned Nubian artist Hamza El Din.

March 7 *Women Pharaohs*. A special film showing and discussion session with Emily Teeter. (See p. 15).

March 14 *Mesopotamia: Return to Eden*. Three of the world's great faiths — Judaism, Christianity, and Islam — can trace their roots to ancient Mesopotamia. See archaeologists unearth clues that lead to thought-provoking possibilities on the intersection of science and religion in this film narrated by actor Sam Waterston.

March 21 *Deciphering the Dead Sea Scrolls*. This film explores the discovery and heated disputes surrounding the authorship and interpretation of the Dead Sea Scrolls, the oldest and most complete biblical manuscripts ever found. The film features commentary by scholars from around the world, including Norman Golb, Ludwig Rosenberger Professor in Jewish History and Civilization, University of Chicago.



Museum re-installation continues as Belding Walbridge riggers begin the framing process of the next Assyrian relief in the East Wing. Photograph by Conservation Staff



GIVE AN ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MEMBERSHIP



Share the excitement of the ancient Near East with someone special!

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Oriental Institute Membership Office, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, IL 60637.

Questions? Call (773) 702-9513. Please contact us for information on other membership levels and rates.



EDUCATION OFFICE REGISTRATION FORM

_____ From the Dome of the Rock to the Cairo Citadel:

Great Monuments in Islamic Art and Archaeology

Members

Non-members

Total

_____ \$175 _____ \$195 _____

_____ Goddesses and Queens, Warriors and Wives: Women in Ancient Times

_____ \$175 _____ \$195 _____

_____ Warfare and Empire in the Ancient Near East

_____ \$175 _____ \$195 _____

_____ Archaeology and the Bible on Audiotape

_____ \$225 _____ \$245 _____

TOTAL

_____ 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

REGISTRATION AND REFUND POLICY

For multi-session on-campus courses, a full refund will be granted to anyone who notifies us about his/her cancellation before the first class meeting. Those who cancel after the first class meeting, but before the second class meeting, will receive a full refund minus a \$50 cancellation fee. After the second class meeting, no refunds will be granted unless the course is canceled by the Education Office. Failure to attend a class does not entitle a registrant to a refund. Some courses require a small materials fee to be paid at the first class meeting.

For single session programs, no refunds will be granted, but if the Museum Education Office is notified of cancellation at least 48 hours before the program begins, a credit voucher will be issued for the full amount. With less than 48 hours notice, a voucher for the full amount, less a \$5 cancellation fee, will be issued. Credit vouchers can be used for any Oriental Institute single-session program for one full calendar year from the date on the voucher.

Only those registered for classes may attend them. The Museum Education Office reserves the right to refuse to retain any student in any class at any time.

ADULT EDUCATION COURSES

The following three courses are co-sponsored by the Graham School of General Studies. Each offers Teacher Recertification CPDUs from the Illinois State Board of Education. For more information, call Museum Education at (773) 702-9507.

FROM THE DOME OF THE ROCK TO THE CAIRO CITADEL: GREAT MONUMENTS IN ISLAMIC ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

A. Asa Eger

Tuesdays

January 13–March 2

7:00 PM–9:00 PM

Oriental Institute

The monumental art and architecture of Islam in medieval times is a window into the history and culture of an era when Muslim rulers controlled an empire stretching from Spain to India. Focusing on the Islamic lands of Arabia, Iraq, greater Syria, and Egypt, this course introduces the magnificent mosques, palaces, and mausoleums of the seventh to the sixteenth centuries A.D. — those that still stand and those that archaeologists are recovering at sites throughout the Middle East. Examples of standing monuments range from the Ka'ba at Mecca to Jerusalem's Dome of Rock to the Cairo Citadel. Excavated sites include the vast ninth-century complex archaeologists have recovered at Samarra in southern Iraq, where sumptuous palaces, lush pleasure grounds, and a spectacular spiral-shaped mosque document the wealth, religious beliefs, and architectural genius of the era.

Instructor A. Asa Eger is a graduate student in the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. His special interest is Islamic Archaeology.

The class meets at the Oriental Institute from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Tuesday evenings beginning January 13 and continuing through March 2. Pre-registration is required.

CPDUS: 16

Required Text:

The Art and Architecture of Islam. Richard Ettinghausen and Oleg Grabar. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1994.

GODDESSES AND QUEENS, WARRIORS AND WIVES: WOMEN IN ANCIENT TIMES

Malayna Evans Williams

Wednesdays

January 14–March 3

7:00 PM–9:00 PM

Oriental Institute

From the goddesses and Amazons of ancient mythology to the wives and mothers in the historical record, this course explores the diverse depictions and roles of women in ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece, and Rome and considers how these roles were shaped and maintained by ancient societies. Archaeological evidence combined with historical and literary texts are used to introduce powerful royal women, such as Hatshepsut and Nefertiti of Egypt, as well as women within the family, woman as priestesses of the gods, and women as writers whose poetry sheds light on their belief systems. Discussion covers how the legal position of women in these societies developed and assesses whether the belief in a Mother Goddess and other female deities affected the lives of women in the ancient world.

The course includes visits to the Oriental Institute Museum's galleries, providing firsthand encounters with the household furnishings, adornments, and ritual objects used by women throughout the ancient Near East.

Instructor Malayna Evans Williams is a graduate student in Egyptian history in the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. She also holds an M.A. in Greek and Roman History from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and an M.A. in Ancient Near Eastern History from the University of Chicago.

This class meets at the Oriental Institute from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Wednesday evenings beginning January 14 and continuing through March 3. Pre-registration is required.

CPDUS: 16

Required Texts:

Women in Ancient Egypt. Gay Robins. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1993.

Women in Greece and Rome. Mary R. Lefkowitz and Maureen B. Fant. Toronto: Samuel Stevens Press, 1977.

Additional readings will be provided by the instructor at the first course session.

TRAVEL PROGRAM CROSSROADS OF EMPIRES: FROM CAIRO TO CRETE

APRIL 1 – 16, 2004

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WARFARE AND EMPIRE IN THE ANCIENT WORLD

Aaron A. Burke

Saturdays

January 17–March 6

10:00 AM–12 NOON

Oriental Institute

Trace the emergence of military might and the rise and fall of empires in this course that explores the impact of warfare in the ancient world from 3000 B.C. to the arrival of the Romans. What were the causes of ancient conflict? What forms did warfare take? How did the political, social, economic, and environmental impact of war affect peoples in ancient times? This course uses the latest archaeological evidence and the most recent interpretations of ancient texts to examine the motives and means of ancient warfare and its multi-faceted impact on ancient societies. Class sessions include visits to the Oriental Institute Museum's galleries, where exhibits of colossal sculpture and architecture reveal the power and might of ancient Egypt, Assyria, and Babylon and show the destruction wrought by Alexander the Great in the empire of the ancient Persians.

Instructor Aaron A. Burke is a Ph.D. candidate in Syro-Palestinian Archaeology in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. He has worked on excavations in Israel with Harvard University and the Oriental Institute, and he is currently a staff member of the Oriental Institute's expedition to Alalakh in Turkey. His Ph.D. thesis research is focused upon defensive architecture in the Levant during the Middle Bronze Age.

This class meets at the Oriental Institute from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON on Saturday mornings beginning January 17 and continuing through March 6. Pre-registration is required.

CPDUs: 16

Required Text:

Ancient Siege Warfare. Paul Kern. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1999.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BIBLE ON AUDIO- TAPE

Aaron A. Burke

January 19–May 10

What can ancient tombs and the ruins of citadels tell us about the Bible? Is archaeology helping to prove the existence of Old Testament kings and prophets or is it transforming our understanding of biblical events, peoples, and places beyond recognition? Explore the most recent discoveries in biblical archaeology from your home, office, or automobile in this course presented on audiotape.

Offered in eight taped lessons over sixteen weeks, the course also uses supplemental readings and brief assignments to introduce and discuss ways that the latest excavations are shedding light on biblical texts and turning biblical archaeology into a hotbed of controversy and debate. The course includes slide presentations on the Oriental Institute website as an optional feature.

Instructor Aaron A. Burke is a Ph.D. candidate in Syro-Palestinian Archaeology in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. He has worked on excavations in Israel with Harvard University and the Oriental Institute, and he is currently a staff member of the Oriental Institute's expedition to Alalakh in Turkey.

This course begins on Monday, January 19, and continues for sixteen weeks. Registration deadline is January 5. Pre-registration is required.

MEMBERS LECTURE

ROBERT J. BRAIDWOOD MEMORIAL LECTURE

TO EUPHRATES AND BEYOND: SEARCHING FOR THE FIRST FARMERS IN THE NEAR EAST

Andrew M. T. Moore

Wednesday, March 17

8:00 PM, Breasted Hall

Co-sponsored by the Archaeological Institute of America

Light Refreshments Follow

This personal narrative explains Moore's path to becoming a Near Eastern archaeologist and his research on agricultural development and the transition from hunter-gather to farming life-styles. Along with reflection on his archaeological travel and experiences, Moore discusses his work at the Syrian site of Abu Hureyra. This dig has been vital to a more complete understanding of agricultural development in western Asia, as the site has revealed a large and long-lived settlement of hunters and gatherers and then farmers.

Andrew Moore, of the Rochester Institute of Technology, is Director of the Jericho Project in Jordan. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Oxford and specializes in the origins of agriculture in Southwest Asia as well as the archaeology of Western Asia and the Mediterranean.

The Oriental Institute is pleased to be a co-sponsor for the First Annual Robert J. Braidwood Memorial Lecture of the Chicago Society of the Archaeological Institute of America.

Members of the Oriental Institute may dine at the Quadrangle Club prior to Members Lectures. When you make your dinner reservation, please inform the Quadrangle Club that you are attending an Oriental Institute event. Quadrangle Club, 1155 E. 57th Street, Telephone (773) 702-2550.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

MYSTERIES, MAGIC, AND MUMMIES!

Sunday, January 4, 1:00 PM–4:00 PM

Oriental Institute

Free

Unravel the mysteries of ancient Egypt and discover the magic of ancient Mesopotamia at this free event for the whole family. Explore our galleries to see ancient Egyptian mummies that are thousands of years old and marvel at towering sculptures of magical animals from the palace of an ancient Mesopotamian king. Then enjoy live-action and animated films, museum treasure hunts, hands-on arts activities, and interactive experiences at our computer kiosk for families.

This program is presented in conjunction with Chicago Winter Delights 2004, which is supported by the Chicago Office of Tourism. For more information, call the Oriental Institute Education Office at 773-702-9507.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE/SMART MUSEUM/HYDE PARK ART CENTER FAMILY DAY

Sunday, February 1, 1:00 PM–4:00 PM

Smart Museum of Art, 5550 South Greenwood Avenue

Free

Join the Oriental Institute, the Smart Museum of Art, and the Hyde Park Art Center for a special afternoon that will replace the gray skies of winter with a world of glowing light! "Illuminations: Sculpture With Light," the Smart Museum's winter exhibit, is the springboard for exciting performances, family tours of amazing artworks, and a range of hands-on arts activities that explore the theme of light from ancient times to today. Recommended for families with children ages 4 and up. For additional information, contact the Oriental Institute Education Office at 773-702-9507.

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT

Sunday, February 22, 1:30 PM

Oriental Institute

Free Movie

Experience an animated film masterpiece as it was meant to be seen — on the big screen! Join us in Breasted Hall for a special showing of *The Prince of Egypt*, the 1999 Dreamworks production of the story of Moses.

While archaeologists have not found evidence for the exodus of the Hebrews from Egypt, this spectacular film for the whole family is filled with timeless truths—parents' devotion to their children, love and rivalry between brothers, and the universal desire for freedom and personal dignity.

The film also brings the natural and material world of ancient Egypt to life using extraordinary computer graphics. Following the movie, we invite children and their families to explore our Egyptian Gallery with a special Treasure Hunt to discover original wonders from the land of the pharaohs.

This event is supported in part by the Regents Park/University of Chicago Fine Arts Partnership.

GALLERY TALKS

WHERE CIVILIZATION BEGAN

Saturday, February 7

Sunday, February 8

2:30 PM–3:30 PM

Free

Join our docents in the magnificent new Mesopotamian Gallery to explore the land where civilization began during these free gallery talks. Learn more about the striding lions from the walls of Babylon, the earliest written records on clay tablets, and objects of everyday life from thousands of years ago. Then discover how Assyrian King Sargon II built the monumental palace that once housed our gallery's colossal human-headed winged bull.

This program is presented in conjunction with Chicago Winter Delights 2004, which is supported by the Chicago Office of Tourism.

WOMEN PHARAOHS

A Special Film Showing for Women's History Month

Sunday, March 7

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Presenter: Emily Teeter

Free

The Oriental Institute presents the premiere Chicago showing of *Women Pharaohs*, a new documentary highlighting major discoveries that reveal the profound influence and awesome authority of royal women in ancient Egypt.

The production features Emily Teeter, Oriental Institute Research Associate, who will join you following the showing to discuss the film and the research results it explores.

Women Pharaohs, a production of Providence Pictures and the Discovery Channel, is being presented in conjunction with the celebration of Women's History Month in March.

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

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THE SUN-GOD SHAMASH IN HIS BOAT

Shamash, identified by rays of light emanating from his shoulders, steers an elaborate reed boat with a long oar. The boat has a prow in the form of a deity and a snake-headed stern. The deity holds a punting pole or possibly a harpoon with which to spear the fish that swim in the water. Standing before Shamash in the boat is a human-headed lion, tied to the prow. Above the lion are a plow, a spouted vessel with a handle, and two unrecognizable objects. Behind the boat, a goddess with ears of grain sprouting from her shoulders and robe holds a flowering branch.

The imagery associates the life-giving rays of the sun with the fertility of the earth and crops, although it is not clear whether this scene represents the sun-god's passage through the heavens during the day or beneath the earth at night.

Cast from Museum Object A11396, shell, Akkadian period (2330–2150 B.C.), excavated by the Oriental Institute, Tell Asmar, Iraq, 1932

Members \$17.55

THE SUQ CORNER

MESOPOTAMIAN CONTEST SCENE

This cylinder seal impression shows a typical Mesopotamian contest scene in which heroes and fantastic combined creatures wrestle with powerful wild animals. On the left is a hero, naked except for a belt, with a beard and six locks of hair framing his face. He grasps a rearing water buffalo by one foreleg and horn. The figure on the right is a bull-man, with the lower body and legs of a bull and bulls' ears and horns. He grapples with a rearing lion, which he grasps by the neck and one forepaw.

The inscription reads: LUGAL-LAM DUB-SAR "Lugallam, scribe."

Cast from Museum Object A3710, greenstone, Akkadian period (2330–2150 B.C.), purchased in Baghdad, Iraq, 1920

Members \$17.55

Available from the Suq, the Oriental Institute Museum Gift Shop, (773) 702-9509.

News & Notes

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