

# THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE NEWS & NOTES

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## DISCOVERING A NEW CITY IN SYRIA HADIR QINNASRIN 1998

DONALD S. WHITCOMB, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR)

Visitors to Syria usually begin with Damascus, the capital with its busy streets and gardens. Most travelers then move northward, preferably riding past the towns of Homs and Hama until reaching the second center of Syria, the city of Aleppo. There is a long debate among enthusiasts of Syria about which city is more truly Syrian, Damascus or Aleppo; and indeed, each has its special monuments, vistas, and gardens, not to mention the enthralling pageant of its special history. While both cities draw archaeologists' interest, Aleppo holds the edge with the massive, ancient tell composing its center, like an upside down teacup on a saucer, as Gertrude Bell once characterized its form (fig. 1). On the other hand, the historian of Islamic art is drawn to Damascus because here is located a magnificent early mosque. The Great Mosque of Damascus is a broad enclosure graced by ancient colonnades and walls covered with mosaics. These mosaics are colored scenes on a gold ground that recall the Dome of the Rock and the Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem, perhaps for good reason as they all date to the same time.

The period of this architecture in Jerusalem and Damascus was only a few decades after the Muslim conquest of the Byzantine Levant. They are testaments to the formulation of Bilad al-Sham, the land of Shem, as the Arabs called this province stretching from Aqaba in the south to the Anatolian plateau on the northern border (fig. 2). Much of the early character of Bilad al-Sham is a projection of one leader, Mu'awiya ibn Abi Sufyan, who ruled 20 years as governor and another 20 years as caliph (from AD 640 to 680). During his time, Bilad al-Sham was divided into four districts; from south to north, there was Filistin, Jordan, Damascus, and Hims.

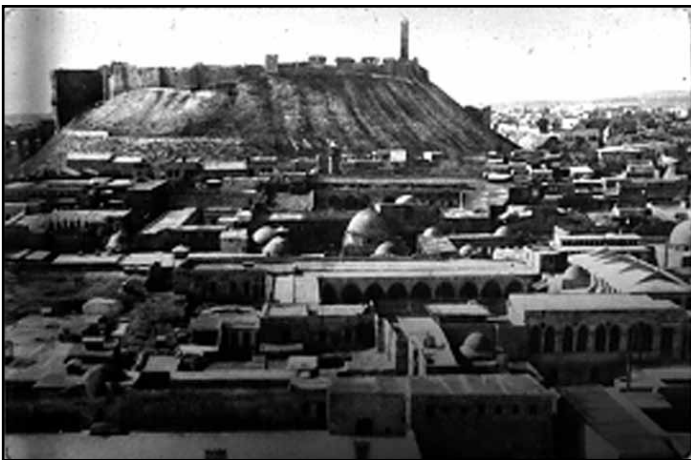


Figure 1. View of Aleppo in early part of this century

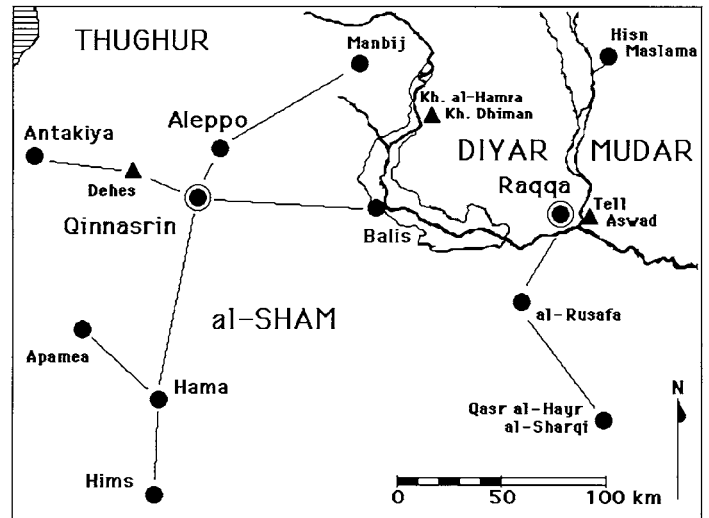


Figure 2. Map of northern Syria

Mu'awiya (or perhaps his son, Yazid) added a fifth district on the far north, Qinnasrin; this was a new town built only 25 km (15 miles) south of Aleppo.

One little-studied aspect of Aleppo and many other classical cities of Syria is the Arab camps outside the city walls. Such camps are frequently described as transient assembly points for the great commercial caravans and their inhabitants described as bedouin organized as caravaneers. Irfan Shahid suggests that these camps soon became established settlements with permanent

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### From the Director's Study

The lead article in this issue of *News & Notes* represents two streams of research that both have a long history at the Oriental Institute: the origins of urbanism, and Islamic archaeology. Urban civilization, the urban life-style, was not just invented once and for all. It was invented perhaps in the ancient Near East — and Bob Braidwood's epoch-making work may have uncovered the roots of it — and then reinvented continuously as new technological, cultural, ecological, and demographic factors forced reconsideration of how to go about setting up the complex environment we call "city." Bob Adams showed for our area how this process can be mapped over time. The process in our area does not stop with the end of the "ancient" Near East, whatever arbitrary demarcation is given to that period. The continuity has always been recognized here at the Oriental Institute. One of the first field projects of the fledgling Oriental Institute was in Islamic archaeology. In this issue, drawing on both of these research traditions, Don Whitcomb reports on a site that offers privileged access to the dawn of urbanization in Syria — in a geographical context and with a nomadism-to-urbanism transition which may offer insights into some of the earlier instances of urbanization.



architecture, called *parembolais* in Greek and *hadir* in Arabic. The *hadir* was an ethnic suburb inhabited by Arab tribesmen, in the case of Aleppo by the Banu Tanukh and Banu Tayy<sup>6</sup>. The relationship between these suburbs and their adjoining cities seems similar to the association of Islamic urban foundations with an older pre-Islamic city: for instance, Fustat with Babylon; al-Basra with Khuraiba; and Kufa with al-Hira. My working hypothesis is that the Muslim conquerors avoided the alien, classical cities and settled in the *hadir* among fellow Arabs. The resulting settlements developed into cities of a distinctly Arabian type; the incipient Islamic city may be recognized in this urban form. The *hadir* became a *madina* (the traditional term for city) in a land where there had been little Byzantine building and an overall stagnation of urban life.

Oriental Institute Research Associate and Publications Coordinator Tom Holland and I visited the site of Qinnasrin in October 1990. The site, locally known as Eski Halab (old Aleppo), may be seen from a white plastered shrine of Nabi ʿIs, datable to the twelfth century. A high steep mound lies at the edge of the plain; limestone walls of this acropolis and those protecting the lower city were still visible (fig. 3). These remains had attracted the attention of French archaeologists, who mapped the city in 1919 and 1942. They correctly identified the city as Chalcis ad Belum, a Hellenistic foundation that became a key to the Byzantine defensive system (*limes*) against the Persians. It



Figure 3. Tom Holland standing on tell of Chalcis, 1990

was still an important military center when the truce of Chalcis was signed, by which the Muslims allowed the Byzantines to evacuate the army and civilians from northern Syria.

Historians and archaeologists have assumed that the Muslims simply took over a classical city and renamed it Qinnasrin. This assumption was shaken when our informal survey found very few Islamic sherds, and I published the suggestion that the Islamic *jund* capital must be found at another site. Tom and I stood on the acropolis and gazed across the fertile plain of the Qoueiq River, which passes Aleppo and ends in the Matkh marshes just to the south. What we did not notice were the low mounds of Hadir some 4 km (2.4 miles) to the east, which would soon after our trip be examined by a German archaeologist, Claus-Peter Haase. One may fast-forward to a meeting in Bamberg, Germany when Claus' discovery of the mounds of Hadir and my recent speculations on the meaning of a "hadir" combined with the archaeological enthusiasm of Prof. Marianne Barrucand of the Sorbonne to articulate a new archaeological project, the survey and excavation of Hadir Qinnasrin.

"The city gives its name to the district and was one of the most densely constructed in the region, a provisioning center with abundant resources and water. The Byzantines demolished it [in the mid-tenth century], as if it had never existed. There are mounds and nothing more" (Ibn Hauqal, writing ca. 978).



Figure 4. Modern town of Hadir

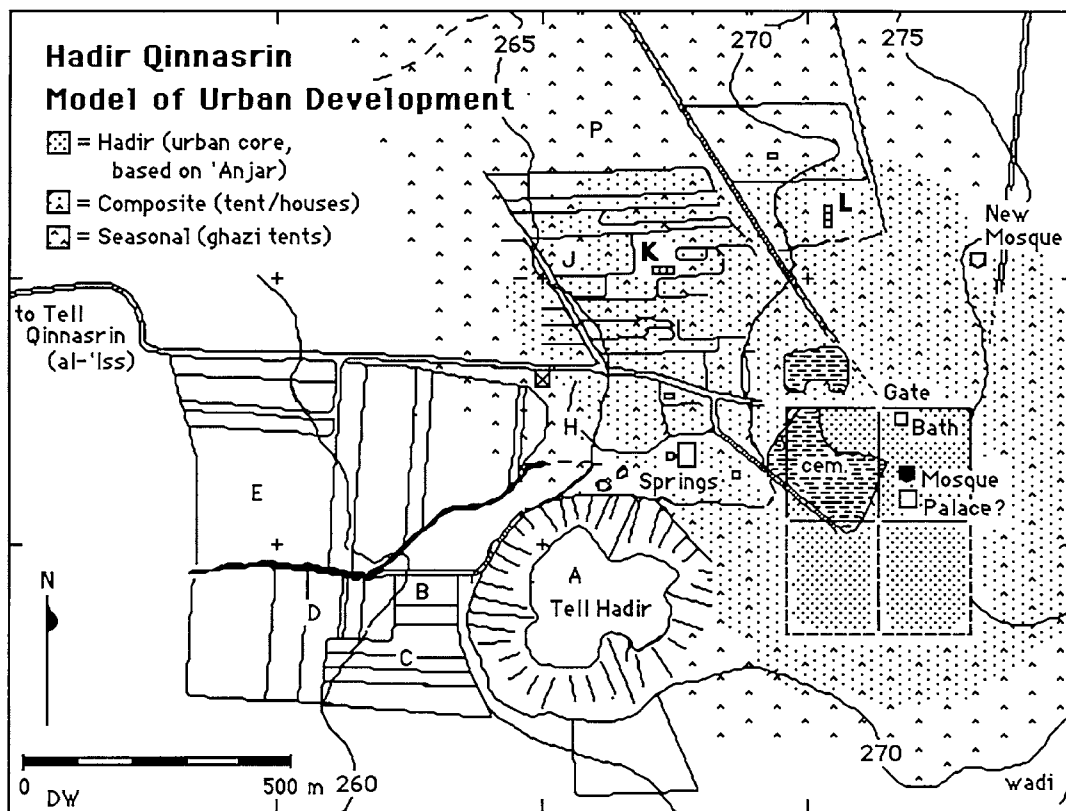


Figure 5. Map of Hadir Qinnasrin

Archaeologists take a perverse satisfaction in reports of utter destruction. Hadir Qinnasrin had its urban development terminated, meaning no later occupational debris to dig through; its urban history would be accessible. With these hopes, Marianne organized an initial season of survey and sondages on behalf of the Institut français d'études arabes de Damas (IFEAD); Marianne, Claus, two topographers, a French and a Syrian student, and I arrived in October 1998. The first realization was that the village of Hadir had become a small town, the mounded area had numerous buildings and even a second mosque in active construction (fig. 4). The survey, or better reconnaissance, became a matter of chance observations within empty lots, gardens, and fallow fields.

The survey began with the most obvious antiquity, the mound of Tell Hadir (area A) (fig. 5). The tell covers an area of about 500 m in diameter and towers some 15 m above the springs, which lie immediately on its north side. The artifacts collected on the mound and to its west (areas B and C) belong to the Bronze Age, and indeed such early materials were scattered throughout the survey and excavations. The fields north of the tell (areas H, H1) produced sherds that, when added to the fragmentary architectural remains near the present Baladiya offices, suggest a Byzantine or transitional Byzantine/early Islamic occupation in this vicinity. Further collections were made along the west slope of modern occupation (roughly between the 265 and 270 m contours). This slope produced a uniform range of materials as far as the Wadi Turab (area P), where modern fields hindered further investigation; the area is

currently known as Rasm al-Ahmar. There was no indication of architectural remains visible on the surface; nevertheless, this area was selected to attempt two soundings, areas L and K.

Area L was a very promising mound composed of a distinctive red-yellow soil; in fact, it proved too promising, being made of mudbrick of a most difficult type to delineate. This exercise in frustration was alleviated only by the excellent



Figure 6. Excavation at Hadir Qinnasrin, Nabi 'Is and Chalcis are in background

ceramics and other artifacts recovered. The sondage in area K proved to be luckier; this was a flat area hemmed in by houses, but the excavations revealed walls made of small stones immediately beneath the surface. During the ten days available, a pattern of stone walls emerged and in the last few days, antecedent walls made of mudbrick were found (fig. 6).

Naturally we found quantities of ceramics, our first guide to the character and date of the site. There was some relief that the ubiquitous Ayyubid period, the medieval efflorescence of settlement in Syria, was absent. In fact, nothing from the late tenth century or later was present. Most of the decorated sherds were glazed and again the styles suggested a general lack of the Samarra horizon (an Iraqi tradition of the ninth century, particularly the latter part). Oliver Watson has recently described

mudbrick and then duplicated in stone cobbles. The smaller of the rooms has a couple of ovens and storage vessels. One of the more curious features is the south (actually southwest) wall, which had a series of column bases and was mostly open. These features add up to a very specific house form, a type derived from the “black” tent used by Arab tribes in the recent past. The translation of a nomad tent into more permanent material is not uncommon. Ethnographic study of nomad tribes in Syria has documented a temporary house called a *sibat*, used for seasonal occupation and very similar to the remains that we uncovered.

In his study of the archaeological evidence of nomads, Roger Cribb makes an important point that the nomad camp is always, despite its appearance to occasional outsiders, a highly structured spatial arrangement of residential units. In the case of

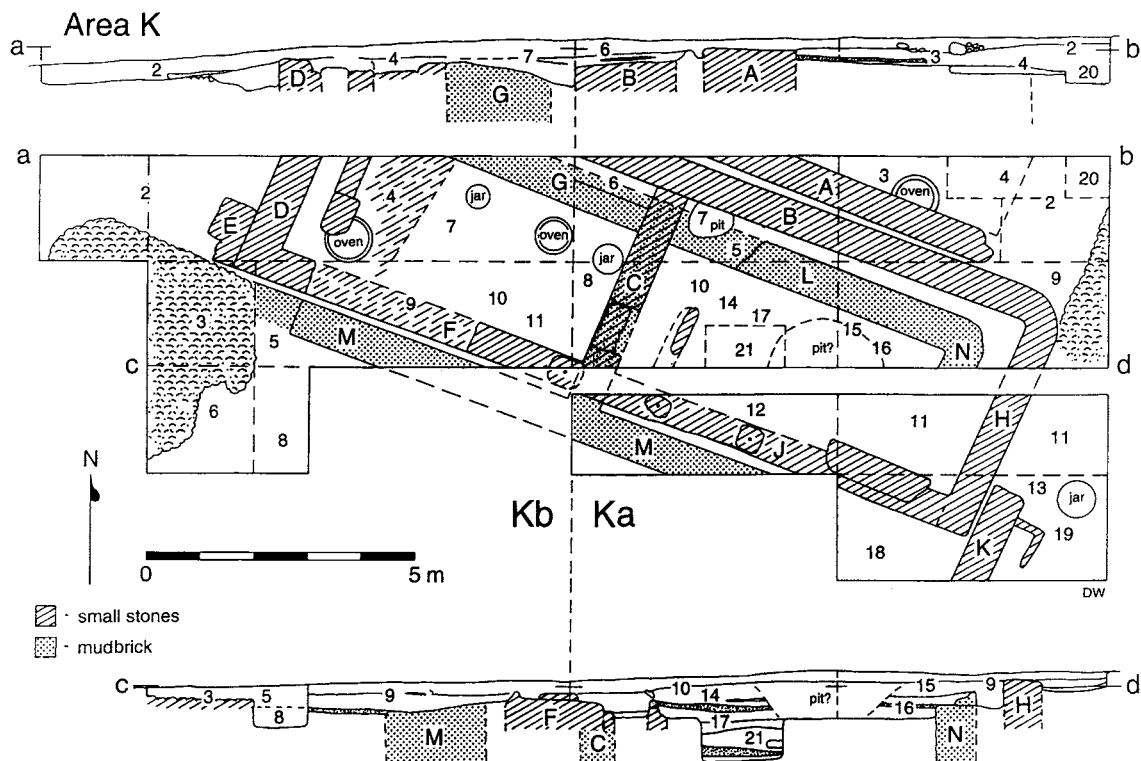


Figure 7. Plan of excavations in area K at Hadir Qinnasrin

early Islamic glazed wares in northern Syria as the “yellow-glaze family,” a Levantine tradition of the eighth or early ninth century date. The relationship of the unglazed wares with late Byzantine traditions is more complicated. The French excavations at Dêhès, about 30 km (18 miles) west of Qinnasrin, found a Byzantine village that seemed to extend into the early Islamic. Now we had the other end of the stick, an early Islamic site with some Byzantine antecedents. The slight overlap means that, with these comparisons, we may begin to sort out a very tricky historical situation.

If we return to the plan of area K (fig. 7), one sees an apparently freestanding structure composed of two rectangular rooms. Moreover, the plan seems to have been made first in

Qinnasrin, it seems likely that the form of the *hadir*, the original camp structure, influenced the development of the settlement. Such camp settlements were part of the common experience of tribes in Arabia, brought with the Tanukh and Tayy‘ tribes when they entered Syria. The early Muslims must have found this a conducive environment when they in turn entered Syria and founded their *amsar*. The *amsar* were more than camps, however, but were founded as urban administrative centers upon Arab urban models. The sites of ‘Anjar in Lebanon or Aqaba in southern Jordan may contain reflections of these models and their adaptations. When the early Muslims rejected settlement in Aleppo and Chalcis in favor of Hadir Qinnasrin, they might have been selecting the familiar ethnic pattern of Arab tribes and at

the same time initiating a fundamental step in the development of the early Islamic city, an urban type to have wide influence in the formation of Muslim communities.

Robert McC. Adams and the *City Invincible* (1960) studies are part of an ongoing tradition in urban research at the University of Chicago that took advantage of the field research and academic interests of scholars in the Oriental Institute. The Institute excavated a Byzantine church at Khirbat Karak in 1951; a little recognized result of this dig was an extremely important collection of early Islamic materials. Only 10 km (0.6 miles) from this site, Doug Esse, our late colleague and professor, excavated the site of Tell Yaqush in the Jordan valley from 1989 to 1991. He discovered a house of the late Early Bronze Age I period (ca. 3200 BC) that is remarkably similar to the structure recovered at Hadir Qinnasrin. Much has been written and argued about transition from Early Bronze Age I to Early Bronze Age II, a period of urbanization in which processes of nomadism, migration, and sedentation are adduced. Perhaps the example of Hadir Qinnasrin and ethnoarchaeological examples may shed new light on these old archaeological problems. Even the old diffusionist arguments may be resurrected — one might argue — that the Arabs diffused a new type of urbanism into the Levant during late antiquity and in early Islamic times.



**Figure 8. Sophie cleans wall at Hadir Qinnasrin**

*Civilizations and Center for Middle Eastern Studies. He has led excavations at Quseir al-Qadim, Egypt and Aqaba, Jordan. He is the field director of excavations at Hadir Qinnasrin, which is being excavated by the Institut français d'étude arabes de Damas and the Oriental Institute.*

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*Donald S. Whitcomb is Research Associate (Associate Professor) of Islamic and Medieval Archaeology in the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and*

## THE JOSEPH AND MARY GRIMSHAW EGYPTIAN GALLERY

### GALLERY HOURS

TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

WEDNESDAY 10:00 AM – 8:30 PM

SUNDAY 12:00 NOON – 4:00 PM

CLOSED MONDAYS

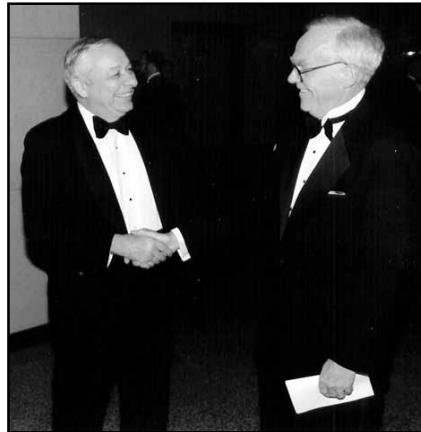
EGYPTIAN TOUR DEPARTS 18 FEBRUARY: SEE PAGE 15

## EGYPT UNVEILED

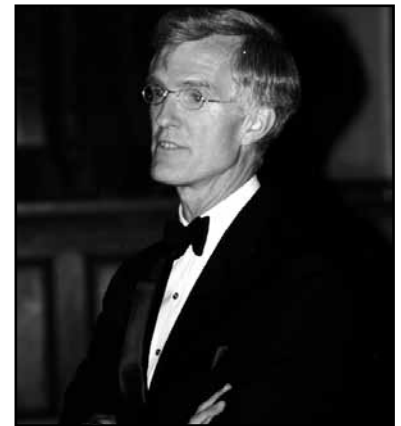
On 22 May 1999, a black-tie dinner was held to commemorate the completion of the Legacy Campaign and offer our closest friends the first opportunity to view the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. We were honored to have Mr. Juan Mestas, Deputy Director of the National Endowment for the Humanities, join us for the occasion. The dinner was held in the Elizabeth Morse Genius Reading Room and featured toasts from Raymond D. Tindel, O. J. Sopranos, and Jill Carlotta Maher, the Co-Chairs of the Legacy Campaign Executive Committee, former Director William M. Sumner, Visiting Committee Member Albert F. (Bud) Haas, Barbara Breasted Whitesides (the granddaughter of James Henry Breasted), and University of Chicago Trustee Anthony T. Dean.



*Mary Grimshaw (right) with Nan and David Ray by a mummy case in the Egyptian Gallery*



*Oriental Institute Director Gene Gragg congratulates O. J. Sopranos*



*Anthony Dean reflects on the hard work of all involved in completing the campaign*

### NEWS FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

#### Women's Board Tours Egypt

In January and February 1999, the Women's Board of the University of Chicago joined with the Oriental Institute on a tour of Egypt. Twenty-five Women's Board members and spouses were led by Oriental Institute Museum Archivist John A. Larson for the tour, which ranged from Alexandria on the Mediterranean to Abu Simbel in the south. This issue of *News & Notes* features photographs taken by one of the tour participants, Peter H. Darrow (see pages 15-16).

#### Women's Board Supports Conservation Laboratory

The Women's Board of the University of Chicago continues to be one of the Institute's most loyal supporters. Recently, the Women's Board awarded the Oriental Institute Conservation Laboratory funds that will allow the Laboratory to buy equipment and instrument time. This support will not only enable the Conservation Laboratory to preserve the Institute's holdings, but also will allow students at the University of Chicago to make greater use of our study collections.

#### New Visiting Committee Members

The University of Chicago Board of Trustees has elected two new members to the Visiting Committee to the Oriental Institute. We welcome **John W. Rowe**, Chairman and CEO of Unicom, Inc., and **Neil J. King**. Mr. Rowe, a member of the James Henry Breasted Society, has long had a love for ancient Egypt and is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Northwestern University. Mr. King, the husband of University of Chicago Women's Board Chairman Diana Hunt King, was active in Chicago-area real estate for four decades before retiring. He is also a Senior Trustee of the Rush North Shore Medical Center.

We thank the following members for accepting re-election by the Board of Trustees to the Visiting Committee of the Oriental Institute:

Mrs. Marilyn B. Alsdorf

Diana L. Grodzins

Norman J. Rubash

Mrs. Theodore D. Ticken

Jean M. Brown

Muriel K. Newman

Lois M. Schwartz

Marjorie K. Webster

Margaret H. Grant

John D. Ong

Rev. John M. Sevick

Sharukin Yelda, M.D.

Mary L. Gray

Crennan M. Ray

Jeffrey Short, Jr.

Patrick Regnery

Arnold L. Tanis, M.D.

Alice E. Rubash



*Tom Heagy (center) with Neil King, newly appointed to the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee, and wife Diana, president of the University's Women's Board*



*Former Oriental Institute Director William M. Sumner raises a toast to the completion of the Legacy Campaign*



*Beth, Sharukin, Jeanette, and Flora Yelda share a smile in the new gallery*



*Barbara Natoli Witt, Janet Helman, Barbara Frey, and Robert Helman in the new gallery*

### RECENT GIFTS

The Oriental Institute is pleased to announce the following gifts from members and friends:

**Mary Grimshaw**, Oriental Institute Visiting Committee Member and a long-serving volunteer at the Institute, recently made a major gift to support the building project. In recognition of this and prior support, the newly-reinstalled Egyptian hall will be known as the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. Docent **Elizabeth (Betty) Baum** recently made a major gift to the Legacy Campaign. We thank Mary and Betty, who have been so generous with their time and financial support. They join the dozens of docents whose support made the new building possible. **David and Carlotta Maher** recently made a gift in honor of **Professor McGuire Gibson**. It will be used to create an endowment for Mesopotamian archaeology.

**The LaSalle Banks** have made a two-year pledge to the reinstallation of the Institute's galleries, to which the **Sara Lee Corporation** has also made a generous contribution. The Legacy Campaign received gifts in early 1999 from the **John Nuveen**

**Company** and from **Ernst & Young LLP**. **KPMG LLP** made a five-year pledge to the Legacy Campaign. We thank all these corporations for their generosity.

The Institute has also received grants from **The Institute for Aegean Prehistory** for the Amuq Valley Regional Project, the **Polk Bros. Foundation** for the Museum Education Office's "Schools in the Museum" project, and the **Regional Information Technology and Software Engineering Center** for a project to make the Institute's Arabic manuscript holdings available in electronic form. The Institute is grateful to these foundations for their support of its projects.

Members of the local Turkish community have been working tirelessly since the beginning of the year on behalf of the Amuq Valley Regional Project. They have formed the **Antakya Campaign Committee**, with Sel Erder Yackley as Chair, to raise awareness of this ambitious archaeological effort. In six short months, the Committee has raised over \$32,000 for the Amuq Valley Regional Project. The Institute joins Project Director K. Aslihan Yener in thanking the Committee.

## SELECTION FROM THE PAPERS OF HELENE J. KANTOR

Professor Helene J. Kantor died on 13 January 1993 after a long and distinguished career as a teacher and field archaeologist with appointments in the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago and in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. Through the good offices of her executor, Mr. Albert F. (Bud) Haas, and the efforts of her former student, Dr. Abbas Alizadeh, the papers of Helene J. Kantor were deposited in the Oriental Institute Archives by the end of 1993.

In her later years, Professor Kantor became best known for her work at the site of Chogha Mish in Iran, but she first made her mark in the field of ancient Near Eastern studies as an art historian in the tradition of her mentor and friend, Henri Frankfort. The largest and most interesting of Kantor's papers is a book-length illustrated manuscript on the development of plant ornament in ancient Near Eastern art. On the basis of a summary of the contents of this manuscript, and in the expectation that the dissertation would eventually be published as a book, Miss Kantor received the Ph.D. degree from the University of Chicago in 1945. During the next two years, she re-worked Sections II and III to produce an important seminal article, "The Aegean and the Orient in the Second Millennium BC," published in the *American Journal of Archaeology*, Volume 51 (1947), pages 1–103. This article was subsequently issued by the Archaeological Institute of America as Monograph No. 1 (recently reprinted by the Archaeological Institute of America), and as a privately printed book distributed by Principia Press.

For more than four decades, Professor Kantor continued to collect photographs and sketches to illustrate the points that she had emphasized in her draft dissertation on plant ornament, but

other commitments kept her from being able to revise, rewrite, and complete the project for publication. The selection printed below features the preface and introductory chapter. The original grammar and spelling have been preserved. The entire manuscript is being prepared for access as a "work-in-progress" on the Oriental Institute's website:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/HJK/HJKIntro.html>

Under the supervision of John Larson, Museum Archivist, and with the much appreciated help and advice of John Sanders, Head of the Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory, Charles E. Jones, Research Archivist, Emily Teeter, Associate Curator of the Oriental Institute Museum, and Thomas Urban, Oriental Institute Publications, this manuscript has been transcribed by Oriental Institute volunteers Peggy Grant and Mary Shea. The footnotes have been completed as far as possible, and most of Miss Kantor's "draft sketches" have been scanned and inserted into the text by Peggy Grant. It must be emphasized that these sketches, which appear in the later chapters, were never intended for publication. If the volume had been completed and prepared for printing, the line drawings intended for use as text figures and plates would have been redrawn professionally. The sources of the sketches, as identified by Miss Kantor, are given at the end of each chapter. Although now more than fifty years out-of-date in terms of subsequent research and bibliography, it is hoped that the careful and detailed research, regrettably left in an incomplete state by Prof. Kantor, will prove valuable to contemporary scholars in the field of ancient Near Eastern art history.

## PLANT ORNAMENT: ITS ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST

### PREFACE

The genesis and evolution of those branches of ancient Near Eastern ornament which are either based upon or related with plant forms constitute the subject matter of this study. The various traditions of vegetal design that grew up in Egypt, Western Asia, and in the pre-Greek Aegean played a prominent role in ancient art, and are thus, in themselves, of great intrinsic interest. However, they are also important in a far wider connection. As Riegl (1893, pp. 44–150) and others (Goodyear 1891; Watzinger, 1929, pp. 141–67; Vollgraff 1934, p. 996) have pointed out, the creations of the ancient Orient provided the sources from which the plant ornaments of Greece developed. These, in turn, supplied the basis for the later development of vegetal decoration, in the East as well as in the West. Despite the contributions of a number of scholars, a synthesis of the early evolution of

plant ornament in the Near East, utilizing the materials accumulated since Riegl published his *Stilfragen* in 1893, has not yet been produced. Here we have attempted to fill this gap by tracing the history of plant ornament from its earliest sources, found in Egypt during the third millennium BC until its transmission to Greece in the later part of the eighth and in the seventh century BC.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the assistance received while preparing this work. Professors Ulrich A. Middeldorf and John A. Wilson have read the manuscript and made a number of valuable observations. I wish to thank various members of the Department of Oriental Languages and Literatures for calling my attention to several interesting points in connection with this study. Doctor Robert J. Braidwood and Linda Braidwood have been very kind in allowing me to examine certain unpublished



materials excavated by the Syrian Expedition of the Oriental Institute. It is to Professor Henri Frankfort, however, that I owe my main debt. He suggested to me the topic of this study and it has been written under his guidance. When difficulties arose, he has always provided steady encouragement and assistance.

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

The luxuriant foliage of Corinthian capitals, the more severe fronds of the palmettes on fifth century grave stelae, or the twisting palmette tendrils around Greek vase handles are among the most prominent and characteristic themes of classical decorative art, and among those most influential for later art. Already in the first century AD, attempts were made to explain the origins of some of these forms; for Vitruvius (4, 1, 9) the Corinthian capital was an imitation of a vase accidentally overgrown with acanthus foliage. But this explanation was an isolated attempt; many centuries were to elapse before the development of art history as a historical discipline made possible a more coherent elucidation of the problem. The first major synthesis appeared in 1898; in his *Stilfragen*, Riegl provided a survey of the materials as known to him at the time, and fitted both classical and oriental plant ornaments into a coherent story of development. For him, the original motives arose in Egypt, were handed on to the arts of Western Asia, and thence eventually reached Greece, where they were completely transmuted. Riegl's tracing of this story had many gaps, as was inevitable in view of the scarcity of materials known at the time. Since his work, as more and more material has been discovered, a number of studies have dealt with or touched upon various facets of plant ornament (Goodyear 1891; Watzinger, 1929, pp. 141–67; Vollgraff 1934, p. 996). In view of the prominence of plant motives in the arts of Syria and Phoenicia, it has become common to speak of the Phoenician palmette and to consider that formal plant motives arose in Syria and spread to Egypt from there. However, there has not been any comprehensive review of the problem. The vast amount of new evidence for ancient Near Eastern art accumulated since Riegl's *Stilfragen* make it fruitful to trace in detail the early story of plant ornament; that is one of the principal tasks of this book. The beginnings of the story can be found in the early Third Millennium and the development will be followed down into the Greek orientaling period (seventh–sixth centuries BC). But before turning to details, various general aspects must be clarified.

### NATURALISTIC VERSUS ABSTRACT MOTIVES

Announcement that a story will be traced presupposes the existence of a continuous development. That this is so in the case of plant ornaments has been demonstrable since the time of Riegl and before. However, one point must be emphatically emphasized. The continuity is carried almost exclusively by certain quite formal vegetal designs, which despite their immense variety and the proliferation of subsidiary features, have when carefully analyzed two main elements only. It is the spread of

these which provides the continuity. Thus the most significant growth of plant design springs from a very narrow basis. Though one naturalistic motive, the water lily, follows much the same path of migration as the formal ones, on the whole naturalistic plant designs do not form a coherent continuous development; they are not linked historically with one another. Groups of naturalistic motives can appear from time to time, according to the propitiousness of the setting, for example the veined and dentate, and usually readily identifiable foliage of Gothic ornament, the tulips, crocuses, and garden flowers of medieval Persian Turkish ornament, or the lotus of India and related cultures. Between such groups there is no thread of common genetic relationship as there is between groups of formal motives equally diverse in time and space.

The new evidence from the ancient Near East justifies Riegl's sketch of the main thread of the development of plant design, albeit many details of its convolutions must be altered or are entirely new. But the beginnings of formal plant ornament are Egyptian, and such motives did spread thence to Western Asia. After long and intricate development there, they were eventually adopted and transformed in Greece. The new Greek synthesis of the formal plant motives was then the inspiration for post-classical traditions of plant ornament in both the European arts and those of Asia which had a heritage derived from the Graeco-Roman art of the ancient Near East.

### ORNAMENT VERSUS SYMBOL

The main tool in tracing the continuous genetic line of plant ornament is the formal analysis of the motives in question, and accordingly this task will demand much of our attention. In collecting and analyzing our plant motives, it becomes evident that they have an independent existence and development as artistic forms. That is to say they evolve as patterns, change their shape to a great extent as ornaments only, in many cases not being primarily conditioned by any factors other than decorative and aesthetic ones. In other words, much of the story can be traced without regard to the roles which the plant motives may be playing as emblems or symbols. Changes in form may be completely unrelated to any symbolic role of the motives. In fact this very uncommittedness of the designs accounts for much of their vitality. They were not tied down to the specific details of the beliefs of any one area, and were hence particularly able to migrate and be adopted into many different cultures. Changes in form may be completely unrelated to any symbolic role of the motives. When the use of character of any of our motives as an emblem or symbol does seem to be pertinent for its origin or for its changes in form, this has been taken into consideration when attempting to work out the exact nature of such situations. But it should be clear from the outset that interest in this book is focused on the elucidation of our material as art motive and not upon its symbolic aspects. Although we hope to consider such aspects when they are demonstrably present and pertinent, we are fully aware that we may have neglected some possible symbolic facets. We consciously prefer to run

the risk of slighting symbolism rather than of overemphasizing it. This approach seems justified in part because a great deal of attention has already been devoted to plant motives as symbols (in some cases absurdly overstressing this aspect; cf. Goodyear 1891), and in part because of our conviction that the formal plant motives forming our thread of continuity are primarily decorative motives, not symbols. Albeit adopted at different times and places to carry some symbolic meaning, they remain in essence designs. The burden of proof for this claim will be borne in the body of the book.

## AIMS

Demonstration of the continuous development of formal plant ornament from its origin down to the end of the ancient Near Eastern period, interesting though this subject is for its own sake, is not our sole objective. Rather we wish to use the process of reconstructing this sequence as a means of establishing various important conclusions. Plant ornament is a thread by whose aid we can find our way through the cultural labyrinth of the ancient Near East.

Accordingly, one important goal of our work is the demonstration of cultural relations and exchange by the migrations of plant motives and other pertinent cultural features. Some of the points which will be discussed here are the mutual exchanges between Egyptian and Asiatic arts, the nature of the links between individual schools of Western Asia, and above all, the confrontation of the ancient Near East with the Aegean world. What share may Minoan art have had in the development of Egyptian plant design? What interaction was there between Mycenaean and ancient Near Eastern crafts? What does our material contribute to such crucial problems of the Greek orientalizing period as the localization of the most influential ancient Near Eastern traditions and of the avenues of penetration into the Greek tradition? What is the difference between East Greek and West Greek, for example?

A second aim of this book is to contribute to the understanding of both the national styles and eclectic traditions of the ancient Near East by providing specific examples of the borrowing of motives and the consequent changes made in them (cf. Riegl's [1901] demonstration of the value of ornamental art for such purposes). Here, although formal plant ornament remains the guiding thread, the discussion must be expanded to include other materials as well, in order to handle such special pertinent problems such as, for example, the development of Canaanite art.

Our third aim is the most difficult one, the one which can be least adequately attained. What can the formal plant motives show us concerning the processes of artistic creation in the various areas of the ancient Near East and the development of style? How did the motives arise and take their form? Why did they change? Why were particular forms chosen? Here we face fundamental problems, some of which Riegl considered when dealing with some of the same materials years ago. He proposed to explain changes in style by changes in *Kunstwollen*, a term whose introduction was one of his most influential contributions to art history, perhaps in part because he did not closely define it so that its interpretation has remained a fertile field.

## REFERENCES

- Goodyear, H.  
1891 *The Grammar of the Lotus*. London.
- Riegl, Alois  
1893 *Stilfragen*. Berlin.  
1901 *Spät-römische Kunstindustrie*. Reprint. Vienna.
- Vollgraff, W.  
1934 "Influences orientales dans la civilization hellène et moderne." In *Mélanges Bidez*. Brussels.
- Watzinger, Carl  
1929 "Die griechische Grabstele und der Orient." In *Genethliakon Wilhelm Schmid*. Stuttgart.

### From the Publications Office

**Chogha Mish, Volume 1: The First Five Seasons, 1961–1971. Helene J. Kantor and P. Delougaz (completed by Abbas Alizadeh). Two volumes (Text, Plates). 1996**

- **Oriental Institute Publications, Volume 101**
- **Pp. lv + 508; 49 figures, 283 plates, 50 tables (hardback)**
- **ISBN 1-885923-01-5**
- **\$140.00**

Nearly twenty-eight years after the completion of the first five seasons at the Chogha Mish site in Iran, this is the first of the final reports to become available. The site turned out to be extremely significant because of the extraordinarily wide range of protoliterate and prehistoric artifacts found there. The text and plate volumes examine and lavishly illustrate the excavations and finds over almost 1,100 pages.

Members receive a 20% discount. For more information, contact the Publications Sales Office at (773) 702-9508.

## OCTOBER 1999

2 Saturday



**Opulence and Empire: The New Kingdom in Ancient Egypt, Part I**  
Frank Yurco  
Continues through 20 November  
10:00 AM–12:00 NOON, Oriental Institute  
See page 17 for more information

3 Sunday



**Nubia 64: Saving the Temples of Ancient Egypt**  
2:00 PM, Breasted Hall  
See page 13 for more information

6 Wednesday



**Sketching in Ancient Egypt**  
Continues through 15 December  
5:00–8:00 PM, Oriental Institute  
See page 20 for more information

9 Saturday



**Archaeology and the Bible**  
Aaron A. Burke  
Continues through 11 December  
10:00 AM–12:00 NOON, Gleacher Center  
See page 17 for more information

9 Saturday

**Opulence and Empire (cont.)**  
See 2 October

10 Sunday



**Ancient Treasures of the Deep**  
2:00 PM, Breasted Hall  
See page 13 for more information

13 Wednesday



**Searching for Lot of the Bible**  
Dr. Konstantino D. Politis  
8:00 PM, Breasted Hall  
See page 13 for more information

13 Wednesday

**Sketching in Ancient Egypt (cont.)**  
See 6 October

16 Saturday



**Walk Like an Egyptian**  
10:00 AM–12:00 NOON, Oriental Institute  
See page 21 for more information

16 Saturday



**Coming Forth by Day**  
The Chicago Moving Company  
8:00 PM, The University of Chicago Mandel Hall  
See page 21 for more information

16 Saturday

**Opulence and Empire (cont.)**  
See 2 October

16 Saturday

**Archaeology and the Bible (cont.)**  
See 9 October

17 Sunday



**The Pyramids and Great Cities of the Pharaohs**  
2:00 PM, Breasted Hall  
See page 13 for more information

20 Wednesday

**Sketching in Ancient Egypt (cont.)**  
See 6 October

23 Saturday



**Egypt Revealed: A Chicago Symposium**  
9:00 AM–4:30 PM, Field Museum of Natural History  
See page 19 for more information

23 Saturday



**Humanities Day**  
1:30–4:00 PM, Oriental Institute  
See page 20 for more information

23 Saturday

**Opulence and Empire (cont.)**  
See 2 October

23 Saturday

**Archaeology and the Bible (cont.)**  
See 9 October

24 Sunday



**Egypt Revealed: A Chicago Symposium (cont.)**  
9:00 AM–3:30 PM, The Field Museum of Natural History  
See page 19 for more information

24 Sunday



**Rocking Ancient Egypt**  
The Goblins  
2:00 PM, Breasted Hall  
See page 20 for more information

24 Sunday

**NO FILM SHOWING**

27 Wednesday

**Sketching in Ancient Egypt (cont.)**  
See 6 October

30 Saturday

**Opulence and Empire (cont.)**  
See 2 October

30 Saturday

**Archaeology and the Bible (cont.)**  
See 9 October

31 Sunday



**The Mummy**  
2:00 PM, Breasted Hall  
See page 13 for more information

## NOVEMBER 1999

3 Wednesday

**Sketching in Ancient Egypt (cont.)**  
See 6 October

6 Saturday

**Opulence and Empire (cont.)**  
See 2 October

6 Saturday

**Archaeology and the Bible (cont.)**  
See 9 October

7 Sunday



**Pyramid**  
2:00 PM, Breasted Hall  
See page 13 for more information

8 Monday

**Hieroglyphs by Mail**

Stephen Parker  
Continues for sixteen weeks  
See page 18 for more information

10 Wednesday

**Antony and Cleopatra Discussion**

7:00–8:30 PM, Oriental Institute  
See page 20 for more information

10 Wednesday

**Sketching in Ancient Egypt (cont.)**

See 6 October

13 Saturday

**Egypt in New York**

Peter Dorman  
See page 14 for more information

13 Saturday

**Opulence and Empire (cont.)**

See 2 October

13 Saturday

**Archaeology and the Bible (cont.)**

See 9 October

14 Sunday

**Iraq: Cradle of Civilization**

2:00 PM, Breasted Hall  
See page 13 for more information

15 Monday

**Ancient Egyptian Society: A Course on Audio-Tape**

Frank Yurco  
Continues for sixteen weeks  
See page 18 for more information

16 Tuesday

**Antony and Cleopatra**

6:00 PM, Chicago Shakespeare Theater on Navy Pier  
See page 20 for more information

17 Wednesday

**Sketching in Ancient Egypt (cont.)**

See 6 October

20 Saturday

**Opulence and Empire (ends)**

See 2 October

20 Saturday

**Archaeology and the Bible (cont.)**

See 9 October

21 Sunday

**Egypt: The Habit of Civilization**

2:00 PM, Breasted Hall  
See page 13 for more information

24 Wednesday

**Sketching in Ancient Egypt (cont.)**

See 6 October

27 Saturday

**NO ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BIBLE CLASS**

28 Sunday

**The Prince of Egypt**

2:00 PM, Breasted Hall  
See page 21 for more information

**DECEMBER 1999**

1 Wednesday

**Sketching in Ancient Egypt (cont.)**

See 6 October

4 Saturday

**Y2K BC — The World 4,000 Years Ago Symposium**

9:30 AM–4:00 PM, Oriental Institute  
See page 21 for more information

4 Saturday

**NO ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BIBLE CLASS**

5 Sunday

**Forgotten Mummies**

2:00 PM, Breasted Hall  
See page 13 for more information

8 Wednesday

**Sketching in Ancient Egypt (cont.)**

See 6 October

11 Saturday

**Archaeology and the Bible (ends)**

See 9 October

12 Sunday

**Mysteries of the Holy Land**

2:00 PM, Breasted Hall  
See page 13 for more information

15 Wednesday

**Sketching in Ancient Egypt (ends)**

See 6 October

19 Sunday

**NO FILM SHOWING**

26 Sunday

**NO FILM SHOWING****FEBRUARY 2000**

18 Friday

**Egypt Revealed: An Exclusive Tour of Ancient Egypt**

John Larson  
See page 15 for more information

All programs subject to change

**KEY TO SYMBOLS**

ADULT EDUCATION COURSES



CORRESPONDENCE/INTERNET COURSES



DINNERS/LUNCHEONS



FAMILY/CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS



MEMBERS LECTURES



SPECIAL EVENTS



FILMS



TRAVEL PROGRAMS

**MEMBERS LECTURE****Searching for Lot of the Bible****Dr. Konstantinos D. Politis****Wednesday 13 October****8:00 PM, Breasted Hall (Reception following)**

Dr. Konstantinos D. Politis was the 1999 Director of the British Museum Excavation at Ras al-Hadd, Oman. Since 1993 he has held the position of Special Curator responsible for the Deir 'Ain 'Abata Excavations in Jordan. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Ioannina in Greece in 1998, has served as chairman on a number of British Museum Conferences, and has lectured extensively for British Museum tours.

Dr. Politis will be speaking on his excavations at the Sanctuary of Lot at Deir 'Ain 'Abata.

**SAVE THE DATE****Romancing the Past 2000****5 May 2000, The Drake Hotel**

The James Henry Breasted Medallion, the Institute's highest honor, will be awarded on 5 May 2000. The black-tie gala benefit to be held that evening promises to be a highlight of the Institute's year. Please mark the date on your calendars now; a profile of the Breasted Medallion recipient will appear in the next issue of *News & Notes*.

**SUNDAY FILMS**

Each Sunday afternoon you can enjoy the best in documentary and feature films on the Middle East at the Oriental Institute. Films begin at 2:00 PM. Running times range from 30 to 50 minutes and admission is free, unless otherwise noted. Free, docent-led guided tours follow each film showing.

3 October *Nubia 64: Saving the Temples of Ancient Egypt* — This film documents the remarkable story of how monumental ancient Egyptian temples were saved from submersion prior to the construction of the Aswan Dam.

10 October *Ancient Treasures of the Deep* — From the PBS *Nova* series. Celebrate the Columbus Day Weekend by experiencing the discovery of an ancient vessel that preceded Columbus by 3,000 years.

17 October *The 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)

24 October Live Concert Production: *Rocking Ancient Egypt* — Rocktober Productions concert featuring *The Goblins*. See page 20 for more information.

31 October *The Mummy* — Celebrate Halloween by viewing this horror classic starring Boris Karloff as a revived Egyptian mummy. Remarkable makeup and atmosphere make this film chills ahead of its many later imitators. (1934, 101 minutes)

7 November *Pyramid* — This acclaimed live-action and animated film captivates both children and adults as it explores the geography, history, and mythology of ancient Egypt, with special emphasis on the construction of the Great Pyramid at Giza.

14 November *Iraq: Cradle 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.

21 November *Egypt: The Habit of Civilization* — Also from the PBS *Legacy: Origins of Civilization* series.

28 November *The Prince of Egypt* — See page 21 for more information, including the admission fee for this film.

5 December *Forgotten Mummies* — From the award-winning *Archaeology* series produced by the Archaeological Institute of America, this film highlights ways that scientists study aspects of Egyptian daily life, work, diet, and disease using an exceptional source of evidence — ancient mummies.

12 December *Mysteries of the Holy Land* — Also from the Archaeological Institute of America's *Archaeology* series.

19 December — No film showing

26 December — No film showing

## EGYPT IN NEW YORK

**13–14 November 1999**

**Escorted by Peter Dorman, Associate Professor in Egyptology, Oriental Institute**

The Oriental Institute is pleased to invite its members to the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art for the weekend of 13–14 November to tour the special exhibit on Ancient Egypt's Old Kingdom.

Professor Dorman is a former curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and thus an able leader for this weekend of Egyptological activity in New York.

Professor Dorman has also served as Director of Chicago House, the Oriental Institute's permanent headquarters in Egypt.

To register or for more information, call the Membership Office at (773) 702-9513.

### EDUCATION OFFICE REGISTRATION FORM

*Total*

|  |  |   |                                     |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archaeology and the Bible; 8-week course:   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$160 for members                       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$180 for non-members  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opulence and Empire; 8-week course:   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$135 for members                       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$155 for non-members  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hieroglyphs by Mail; 16-week correspondence course:   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$165 for members                       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$185 for non-members  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate  |  |   |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ancient Egyptian Society; 16-week audio-tape course:  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$225 for members                       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$245 for non-members  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Y2K BC: The World 4,000 Years Ago; Symposium:   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$51 for members                        | <input type="checkbox"/> \$59 for non-members   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Optional box lunch for \$10.95 (includes beverage)  |  |   |                                     |
| Box lunch choices:   | <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Roast beef             | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuna salad |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Cheese and fruit lunch                  |   |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coming Forth by Day:  |  |   |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 for children under 12   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$12 for members, seniors, and students | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 for non-members   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antony and Cleopatra: Great Book Discussion:  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$9 for members                         | <input type="checkbox"/> \$11 for non-members   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antony and Cleopatra: Theater Evening at Navy Pier:   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$24 for members                        | <input type="checkbox"/> \$28 for non-members   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in round trip bus transportation from the Oriental Institute. Please contact me regarding fees. |  |   |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in a box supper. Please contact me regarding fees.  |  |   |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walk Like an Egyptian:  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$8 for adults                          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$4 for children       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Prince of Egypt:  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 for members                         | <input type="checkbox"/> \$2.50 for non-members | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**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**

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

**EGYPT REVEALED: EXCLUSIVE TOUR OF EGYPT****18 February to 4 March 2000****Escorted by John A. Larson, Oriental Institute****Museum Archivist****Includes lectures by:****Zahi Hawass, Director of the Giza Plateau****Kent Weeks, Director of the Theban Mapping Project****Mark Lehner, Director of the Giza Mapping Project****W. Raymond Johnson, Field Director, Epigraphic Survey****Bassam el-Shammaa, Lecturer in Egyptology**

The Oriental Institute is delighted to offer *Egypt Revealed: An Exclusive Tour of Ancient Egypt*. Nonstop departures are available from New York.

Cost (land only per person, double occupancy): \$4,595; air from New York: \$770, from Chicago: \$995; single supplement: \$1,200; tax-deductible contribution to the Oriental Institute: \$400. For more information or to reserve space on this tour, please call the Membership Office at (773) 702-1677.

**ITINERARY**

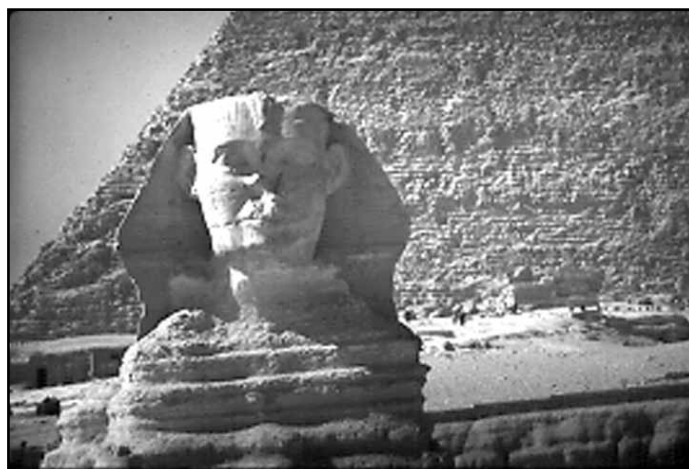
**Friday 18 February: USA/Egypt** — Depart USA from New York via EgyptAir. (Meals in flight)

**Saturday 19 February: Cairo** — You are greeted and assisted through Immigration and Customs, then escorted by private motorcoach to the Mena House Hotel. (Meals in flight)

**Sunday 20 February** — Morning orientation is followed by a lecture, *Discoveries at the Giza Pyramids*, given by Zahi Hawass, Director of the Giza Plateau. Lunch at the Oasis Restaurant. After-

noon at leisure. Late afternoon transfer to the Egyptian Museum for a private visit. After a guided tour you will have time to walk through the museum on your own. A special visit is included to the Mummy Room. During your transfer to and from the Egyptian Museum you will have an opportunity to view the modern city of Cairo. Dinner at a local restaurant. Return to the Mena House Hotel for overnight. (B/L/D)

**Monday 21 February** — Private sunrise tour of the Giza Plateau and a visit to the Solar Boat Museum, the Sphinx, and the Valley Temple of Khafre, builder of the Second Pyramid at Giza. Final stop for coffee, tea, and biscuits at the panorama of the plateau. Return to the Mena House for breakfast and a lecture, *The Lost City? From Ancient Walls and Pot Sherds to People and Pyramids*, given by Mark Lehner, Director of the Giza Plateau Mapping Project. This evening enjoy a Formal Cocktail and Welcome Dinner Party. Overnight Mena House Hotel. (B/D)



**Tuesday 22 February** — Morning visit to Memphis to see the fallen colossus of Ramesses II followed by a visit to the mastabas and the funerary complex of Pharaoh Djoser (2630–2611 BC) at Saqqarah. Lunch at the Saqqarah Country Club. A short drive from Saqqarah is the area where the real pyramid building began, Dahshur. Your visits include two pyramids built by Pharaoh Senefru (2575–2551 BC), founder of the Fourth Dynasty and father of Khufu (Cheops), the builder of the Great Pyramid. Dinner at a local restaurant, then enjoy the Sound and Light performance at the pyramids. Overnight Mena House Hotel. (B/L/D)

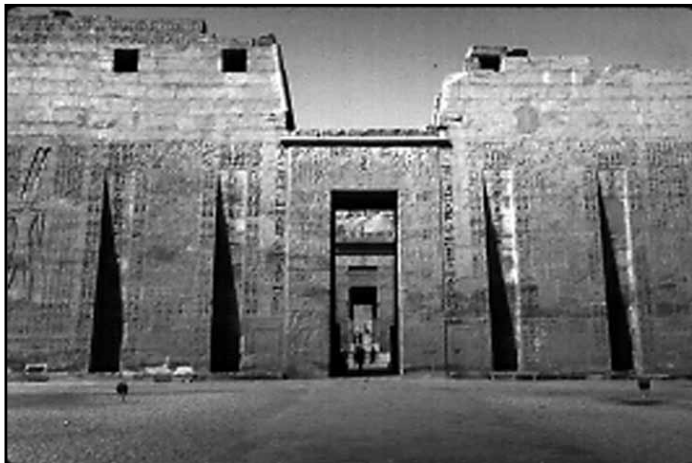
**Wednesday 23 February** — Today is filled with Islamic history and sites. You begin at the Citadel of Salah el-Din who ruled Egypt from AD 1169–1193. Situated within the citadel is the Mosque of Mohammed Ali, which he built after becoming the Ottoman Governor of Egypt in 1805. Next visit the Mosque of Sultan Hassan, of the Mamluk period, and the Mosque of el-Rafay, situated close by. Your final stop of the day is at the Islamic Museum, where nearly every object is a beautifully worked design. Lunch at the Nile Hilton followed by free time to revisit the Egyptian Museum (on your own) or wander the downtown shopping district. Your bus will be available to return you to Mena House Hotel. (B/L)

*continued on page 16*

**Thursday 24 February: Luxor** — Departure to Luxor via EgyptAir. Upon arrival you board a Sonesta Cruiser, your floating hotel for five nights. After lunch you will attend a lecture, *The West Bank and Its Monuments*, given by Kent Weeks, Director of the Theban Mapping Project. Late afternoon visit to Luxor Museum for a private tour. Then visit Chicago House where you will see firsthand the work done by the Epigraphic Survey team of the Oriental Institute. Late evening illuminated tour of Luxor Temple. This is the only religious monument in the world that includes pharaonic, Macedonian, Ptolemaic, Roman, Christian, and Islamic constructions. (B/L/D)

**Friday 25 February** — Morning bus departure to Dendera, the Temple of Hathor. The exterior back wall is famous for its representation of the legendary Cleopatra and the son she bore Caesar, Ptolemy XV Caesar, known as Caesarian. You are driven by bus to Qena where you board your Nile Cruiser for a leisurely return sail to Luxor. (B/L/D)

**Saturday 26 February** — A powerful and exciting day as you visit the West Bank of Luxor. In the Valley of the Kings you visit the tombs of the pharaohs and view the Colossi of Memnon. In the Valley of the Queens you visit Hatshepsut's Temple, Deir el-Bahri. Also included is a visit to the tomb of Kheruef, published by the Epigraphic Survey. Your final stop of the day is at Medinet Habu, where the Epigraphic Survey team of the Oriental Institute is currently working on recording the scenes of the temple. Late afternoon lecture, *The Legacy of Chicago House in Luxor*, given by W. Raymond Johnson, Field Director of Chicago House. (B/L/D)



**Sunday 27 February** — Early morning private visit to Karnak Temple, prior to normal opening hours. A leisurely lunch is enjoyed on board your cruiser, followed by an afternoon lecture by Bassam el-Shammaa, Lecturer in Egyptology, as we set sail to Edfu. Late afternoon arrival in Edfu where you dock and visit the Temple of Horus. Evening sail to Kom Ombo as you enjoy the sunset on the Nile. Overnight in Kom Ombo. (B/L/D)

**Monday 28 February** — Morning visit to Kom Ombo Temple, the only temple dedicated to two gods, Horus the Elder and Sobek the Crocodile deity. Sail on to Aswan, situated at the First Cataract. Afternoon visit to Philae Temple, which was re-erected on Agilkia Island after the building of the High Dam to protect it from the rising water of Lake Nasser. Late afternoon visit to the Nubian Museum. (B/L/D)

**Tuesday 29 February** — This morning you disembark from your cruiser. An optional tour may be taken to Abu Simbel or you may return directly to Cairo for an afternoon and evening of leisure. (B)

**Abu Simbel Option:** A short half-hour EgyptAir flight takes you to Abu Simbel, the grand finale of a voyage up the Nile. Hewn from a mountain for Ramesses II, this magnificent temple is both an ancient and a modern engineering marvel. Return flight to Cairo and the Semiramis Intercontinental Hotel.

**Wednesday 1 March** — Morning departure by motorcoach to Alexandria via the Desert Road. Your visit begins at Fort Qait



Bey, built at the end of the fifteenth century on the site of Pharos Lighthouse, one of the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World. Continue to Kom el-Dikka, the Roman Amphitheater, and current home of the recently rescued statues raised from the floor of the Mediterranean. Next, the Graeco-Roman Museum. Your final stop is at Kom el-Shogafa, where Christian catacombs and chapels were discovered. Follow the corniche on your way to your hotel to view the Mediterranean of Alexandria and Pompeii's Pillar. Dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight on the ground of Montazah, the former summer residence of the royal family, at the Helnan Palestine Hotel. Evening at leisure to stroll along the Mediterranean or enjoy the gardens of Farouk. (B/L/D)

**Thursday 2 March** — Your morning is filled with opulence as you visit the Royal Jewelry Museum. The collection represents the accumulated treasures of the dynasty that ruled Egypt from Mohammed Ali to King Farouk. From the 1920s the villa was the home of Princess Fatma el-Zahraa. You return to Cairo for an afternoon and evening of leisure. Overnight at the Semiramis Intercontinental Hotel. (B/L)

**Friday 3 March** — Today is a full day of leisure to be used to revisit your favorite sites or shop for last minute gifts and treasures. Optional shopping excursion. This evening you board a Nile Dinner Cruise for a private Farewell Dinner and sail on the Nile. Overnight at the Semiramis Intercontinental Hotel. (B/D)

**Saturday 4 March: Egypt/USA** — Today we bid Egypt farewell and transfer to Cairo International Airport for our return flight to the USA. (B/Meals in flight)



## OPULENCE AND EMPIRE: THE NEW KINGDOM IN ANCIENT EGYPT, PART 1 (CA. 1570–1321 BC)

**Frank Yurco**

**Saturdays**

**2 October–20 November**

**10:00 AM–12:00 NOON**

**Oriental Institute**

During the New Kingdom, ancient Egypt stood resplendent on a summit of wealth and power. Egyptian armies conquered a vast empire that stretched from Africa to western Asia, and trade and tribute brought an opulence previously unknown in the ancient world. This eight-session course explores an era ruled by some of the most famous figures in Egyptian history, including Hatshepsut, a woman who usurped the pharaonic crown; Tuthmose III, a soldier-king who brought the Egyptian army to its peak of professionalism; Akhenaten, whose reign was a time of religious and cultural upheaval; and Tutankhamun, whose tomb — one of the few to escape massive depredation by robbers — has made him as renowned as any ruler in the ancient world.

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

This course meets at the Oriental Institute on Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON beginning 2 October and continuing through 20 November 1999.

### Required texts


Grimal, Nicholas. *A History of Ancient Egypt*. Oxford: Blackwells, 1992.

Lichtheim, Miriam. *Ancient Egyptian Literature, Volume 2: The New Kingdom*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1976.

See page 14 to register.

## Project Millennium



Several special events, indicated with the  symbol, are presented as part of Project Millennium, sponsored by The Chicago Tribune. The theme for September–October 1999 is *New Directions*, which explores creative new initiatives in art, music, theater, and dance. The theme for November–December is *Transitions*. For further information, contact the Project Millennium offices at (312) 322-8889 or visit their website at [www.projectmillennium.org](http://www.projectmillennium.org).

## ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BIBLE

**Aaron A. Burke**

**Saturdays**

**9 October–11 December**

**10:00 AM–12:00 NOON**

**Gleacher Center**

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? From Jericho to Jerusalem and beyond, excavations are shedding new light on the Old Testament and turning biblical archaeology into a hotbed of controversy and debate. Against the backdrop of the Old Testament world (ca. 2000–586 BC), this course examines the most recent discoveries related to biblical texts, including an inscription that may historically confirm the existence of King David, the sites of cities built by the Philistines, and caravan routes that might have enabled the Queen of Sheba to visit Jerusalem. Course presentations and special handouts focus on integrating biblical texts with the latest archaeological, historical, geographical, and literary evidence.



**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 Harvard University's Ashkelon Excavations in Israel, where he has worked for the past three years, and he is currently contributing to the publication of seventh-century BC materials discovered there.

This course meets at the Gleacher Center, the University of Chicago's downtown center, located at 450 North Cityfront Plaza Drive, just east of Michigan Avenue along the Chicago River. The course meets on Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON beginning 9 October and continuing through 11 December 1999. There will be no class on 27 November or 4 December.

### Required text

Mazar, Amihai. *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible 10,000–586 BC*. New York: Doubleday, 1992.

See page 14 to register.

**HIEROGLYPHS BY MAIL****Stephen Parker****Beginning 8 November and continuing 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 in Middle Egyptian hieroglyphs as they progress through the eight introductory lessons and exercises of *Middle Egyptian Grammar*, by James E. Hoch. Students with more experience are guided through the eight concluding lessons in Hoch's text. This teaching grammar is the same text the instructor has used for his courses on the University of Chicago campus. During the course, both beginners and more experienced students complete their lessons and mail them to the instructor, who will correct them, answer any questions, and return the lessons by mail or fax. This course begins on 8 November 1999 and continues for sixteen weeks.



**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 University of Chicago.

**Required text**

Hoch, James E. *Middle Egyptian Grammar*. Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities, Publications, Volume 15. Mississauga: Benben Publications, 1997. Please contact the Oriental Institute Museum Education Office, (773) 702-9507, for information on how to order this book.

See page 14 to register.

**ANCIENT EGYPTIAN SOCIETY:  
A COURSE ON AUDIO-TAPE****Frank Yurco****Beginning 15 November and continuing for sixteen weeks**

Featuring audio-taped lectures by Frank Yurco, this correspondence class invites you to explore ancient Egyptian history and culture from the varied perspectives of those who made up the ranks of society. Listen to the lectures at home, or in your car, to encounter farmers who constituted the vast majority of the population; craftspeople and artisans who built ancient Egyptian tombs and fashioned magnificent luxury items as well as everyday objects; scribes who were the bureaucrats of government; priests who were keepers of religious and cultural traditions; and the pharaoh and his royal court who ruled over all. The lectures — and supplemental readings — also examine the roles of women, foreigners, and slaves, as well as the dead, who had their own special place in ancient Egyptian society. The tapes and readings are organized into eight lessons. With every lesson, the instructor provides 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 mail it back to you. This course begins on 15 November 1999 and continues for sixteen weeks.

**Required texts**

Donadoni, Sergio, ed. *The Egyptians*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1997.

Wente, Edward F. *Letters from Ancient Egypt*. Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1990.

Registration must be received by 1 November.

See page 14 to register.

**ON-LINE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

Membership Subscription/Renewal: Renewing your Oriental Institute membership — or encouraging a friend to join — is still only a few clicks away. Simply log on to our website at:

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/MEM/OI\\_Membership.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/MEM/OI_Membership.html)

From this page, you will find details on the various levels of membership and links to the electronic renewal/subscription form as well as a traditional print-and-mail paper form. If you are renewing your membership, simply write "Renewal" in the comments box. Please note that the website address is case sensitive; call the Membership Office at (773) 702-9513 with any questions.

**ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA AT THE SHAKESPEARE THEATER: SEE PAGE 20**

# EGYPT REVEALED

## A CHICAGO SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY 23 OCTOBER 9:00 AM–4:30 PM AND SUNDAY 24 OCTOBER 9:00 AM–3:30 PM

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

East Roosevelt Road and South Lake Shore Drive

James Simpson Theater (West Entrance)

The Oriental Institute and Seven Wonders Travel proudly present *Egypt Revealed: A Chicago Symposium*. Members are invited to join keynote speakers **Zahi Hawass**, **Kent Weeks**, **Mark Lehner**, **Robert Ritner**, and **Bassam El Shammaa** for a weekend of engaging lectures and slide presentations by some of the leading minds in the field of Egyptology. There will be a Question and Answer session on Sunday 24 October.

### LECTURES

#### **The Riddle of the Pyramid and the Sphinx: Recent Discoveries — Zahi Hawass**

Zahi Hawass is an Egyptian Egyptologist and Director General of the Giza Pyramids and Saqqarah. He recently finished the Sphinx Conservation Project for which he received the First Class Award of Art & Science. He is currently excavating around the third pyramid. During his lectures he will discuss his finds inside the Great Pyramid of Khufu, the new theory regarding the age of the Pyramid of Khufu and the Sphinx, and recent discoveries west of the Great Pyramid.

#### **The History of the Exploration of Thebes — Kent Weeks**

Kent Weeks is Director of the Theban Mapping Project and a Professor of Egyptology at the American University in Cairo. The Theban Mapping Project was set up by Dr. Weeks in 1978 to answer the need for a dependable and comprehensive atlas of the numerous monuments in the Theban region. In 1987, the Project began examining an area to the northeast of the entrance to the tomb of Ramesses IX and the re-discovery of KV5, Valley of the kings tomb of the sons of Ramesses II, was made. Dr. Weeks discusses how new techniques in archaeological research are adding to the knowledge of Thebes.

#### **Bakers, Brewers, and Builders at the Pyramids — Mark Lehner**

Mark Lehner is Director of the Giza Plateau Mapping Project and President of the project's sponsor, nonprofit research organization AERA, Inc., and is a Research Associate at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago and at the Harvard Semitic Museum. The Giza landscape tells the story of how the Egyptians organized their construction ramps, quarries, supply routes, and harbors. Bakeries and fish processing areas were excavated in 1991 and in 1995. Lehner is a pioneer in the use of state-of-the-art computer graphics and remote sensing technology to model the ancient configuration of the Giza Plateau.

#### **Death on Swift Wings: The Mummy's Curse in Ancient Egyptian Ritual and Literature — Robert Ritner**

Robert Ritner is Associate Professor of Egyptology in the Oriental Institute and the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. Prior to coming to the Oriental Institute he served as Assistant Professor of Egyptology at Yale University. The fictional curse of King Tutankhamun continues to inspire public fascination. Far less well known, however, are the genuine curses that survive from ancient Egyptian tombs of nobles and officials. These warnings, which promise ghostly apparitions, strangulation, and litigation in the underworld, are part of an elaborate religious system invoking the powers of the dead for healing and fertility as well as for subjugation and death. With illustrations from ancient ritual artifacts, reliefs, incantations, and literature, this lecture examines the varieties of Egyptian curses and the related practices of execration dolls used against foreign enemies, dissidents, and ghosts, love charms designed to produce abject devotion, and popular letters to the dead.

#### **Egypt: Future of the Past — Bassam El Shammaa**

Bassam El Shammaa is a Lecturer in Egyptology and has lectured extensively in England, the United States, South Africa, and Egypt. He recently participated in a BBC documentary, *Kingdoms of the Nile*, and has been interviewed on numerous occasions by BBC radio. Egyptian history records foreigners living on her land since pharaonic times and Egypt has endured under many occupations since the end of the pharaonic epoch. Egypt's future lies in her past.

Symposium cost: \$200 for **Oriental Institute members**

A **limited number** of discounted hotel rooms are available with bus service to and from the Field Museum. Lunches are also available daily for \$10 per day.

To register or for more information call the Oriental Institute Membership Office at (773) 702-9513 or visit our website at <http://www-oi.uchicago.edu>

EGYPTIAN DANCE PERFORMANCE: SEE PAGE 21

**SKETCHING IN ANCIENT EGYPT****Wednesdays continuing through 15 December****5:00–8:00 PM**

Let King Tut be your muse! The Oriental Institute Museum invites artists of all backgrounds to take advantage of its world-renowned collection of ancient Egyptian artifacts. Each Wednesday from 5:00 to 8:00 PM, through 15 December, the Museum offers informal sketching sessions in the new Egyptian Gallery where a myriad of objects and artistic styles ranging from prehistoric times to the days of Cleopatra are on view. Masterpieces of color and form include: a monumental, 17-foot tall statue of King Tutankhamun; exquisite jewelry fashioned of gold and semi-precious stones; and line drawings on papyrus from an ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead. Chairs are provided; participants should bring their own materials. No reservations are required and admission is free. This winter the Museum will display work from the sketching sessions and host a special opening reception. Call the Museum Education Office at (773) 702-9507 for more information.

**HUMANITIES DAY****Saturday 23 October****1:30–4:00 PM**

The Oriental Institute Museum celebrates the University of Chicago's annual Humanities Day by offering free, docent-led guided tours in the new Egyptian Gallery. Tours take place from 1:30 to 2:30 PM and 3:00 to 4:00 PM. The 1:30 PM tour, which features hands-on activities, is designed for children accompanied by an adult.

**CONCERT****Rocking Ancient Egypt****Sunday 24 October****2:00 PM****Breasted Hall**

Get ready for a pre-Halloween experience unlike anything you've ever seen — or heard — before, when Rocktober Productions brings its featured group, *The Goblins*, to the Oriental Institute for a concert exploring the history of pop music about ancient Egypt. Since the mid-1990s, *The Goblins* have been combining elements of performance art, vaudeville, and Chicago-style improvisation to create a truly unique series of concerts, recordings, and videos. This performance pushes the boundaries of pop music presentation all the way to the Land of the Pharaohs. Free. No reservations required.

**GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION  
OF ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA****Wednesday 10 November****7:00–8:30 PM****LaSalle Banks Education Center, Oriental Institute Lower Level**

Before the curtain goes up, prepare yourself for the play! The Oriental Institute, in partnership with the Great Books Foundation and Chicago Shakespeare Theater, is hosting a discussion of Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*. Facilitated by Great Books leaders, the discussion is designed for those planning to attend the play with the Oriental Institute. Others are also welcome if space is available. Registrants are asked to read the play prior to the discussion session. (Bantam paperback series, edited by David Bevington, is suggested).

Fee: \$9 for Oriental Institute members; \$11 for non-members. Pre-registration is required.

See page 14 to register.

**THEATER PROGRAM****Antony and Cleopatra****Tuesday 16 November****6:00 PM****Chicago Shakespeare Theater on Navy Pier**

The Oriental Institute invites you to an evening in ancient Egypt at the city's most exciting new performance space. Chicago Shakespeare Theater, founded as Shakespeare Repertory, opens its grand new home on Navy Pier with an extraordinary production of *Antony and Cleopatra*. Let Shakespeare's exquisite poetry transport you to an Egypt where love and obsession walk hand-in-hand and the laws of empire are tested along the banks of the Nile. Directed by Barbara Gaines, the company's founder and artistic director, Chicago Shakespeare's inaugural play promises to be this accomplished director's most memorable production. Plans for the evening include a pre-performance box supper, as well as a discussion session with the cast. Optional round trip bus transportation from the Oriental Institute to Navy Pier is available by reservation. Parking at a 40% discount is available for those who drive.

Registration fee: \$24 for Oriental Institute members; \$28 for non-members. There are additional fees for bus transportation and pre-theater supper. Call the Museum Education Office at (773) 702-9507 for additional information. Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

See page 14 to register.

**SYMPOSIUM****Y2K BC — THE WORLD 4,000 YEARS AGO****Saturday 4 December****9:30 AM–4:00 PM****Breasted Hall, Reception Following**

Join the Oriental Institute and the University of Chicago's Graham School of General Studies for a millennial event with a unique point of view — the year 2000 BC. Oriental Institute faculty and guest lecturers present a day-long symposium to discuss the world's earliest civilizations, whose locations range from North Africa to Asia, and whose legacies include humankind's most fundamental endeavors in the arts, sciences, politics, and religion.

**Oriental Institute Lecturers:**

Peter F. Dorman, Associate Professor of Egyptology; McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology; and David Schloen, Assistant Professor of Syro-Palestinian Archaeology.

**Guest lecturer:**

Jonathan Mark Kenoyer, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin, Madison. Dr. Kenoyer's special interest is the Indus Valley Civilization of Pakistan and north-western India, whose great cities had cultural contacts with ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia.

Registration fee: \$51 for Oriental Institute members; \$59 for non-members. Fee includes tuition, packet of materials, and closing reception. Box lunches at a rate of \$10.95 each, which include a beverage, will be ordered on request. Pre-registration required.

See page 14 to register.

**DANCE WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES****Walk Like An Egyptian: A Parent / Child Dance Movement Workshop****Saturday 16 October****10:00 AM–12:00 NOON****LaSalle Banks Education Center, Oriental Institute Lower Level**

You don't need to be a dancer to take part in *Walk Like An Egyptian*. If you like to be energetic you'll have a wonderful time at this special dance movement workshop presented by dance educators from the Chicago Moving Company. Join them as they teach you how to create a dance based on imagery from ancient Egyptian art. *Walk Like an Egyptian* is recommended for families with children ages 7–12.

Workshop fee: \$8 for adults; \$4 for children. Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

See page 14 to register.

**DANCE PERFORMANCE****Coming Forth By Day****Saturday 16 October****8:00 PM****Mandel Hall, University of Chicago**

The Chicago Moving Company and the Oriental Institute Museum present *Coming Forth By Day*, a powerful dance performance designed to bring ancient Egyptian beliefs into our own time. Created by Nana Shineflug, the Chicago Moving Company's award-winning choreographer, *Coming Forth by Day* was inspired by a poetic translation of prayers and spells from the ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead. The performance is sumptuously enhanced by wall-sized slide-scapes, live vocals, and brightly colored, imaginative costuming. The production, which will be presented on the stage of Mandel Hall, has received critical acclaim from both the Chicago Tribune and Chicago Sun-Times. Founded in 1972, the Chicago Moving Company is a modern dance ensemble celebrated for its artistic innovation and powerful performance style. The company has toured throughout the state, across the nation, and abroad. The production of *Coming Forth by Day* is recommended for adults and for families with children ages 8 and up.

Registration fee: \$12 for seniors, students, and Oriental Institute members; \$15 for non-members; \$5 for children under 12. Pre-registration is highly recommended.

See page 14 to register.

On Monday 18 October 1999, *Coming Forth by Day* will be presented at Mandel Hall for Chicago-area school groups. Sponsored by Urban Gateways, the program is presented at special reduced group rates. For additional information, contact Sheila Cotten at Urban Gateways, (312) 922-0440 extension 237.

**FAMILY FILM****The Prince of Egypt****Sunday 28 November****2:00 PM****Breasted Hall**

Join us for a special film showing of *The Prince of Egypt*, the 1998 Dreamworks production that tells a timeless tale using the newest and most cutting-edge computer-generated animation. Starring Val Kilmer as the voice of Moses, Ralph Fiennes as Ramesses, and Michelle Pfeiffer as Tzipporah, *The Prince of Egypt* will be presented on the big screen in Breasted Hall. After the movie, visit the new Egyptian Gallery to take part in a film-related museum treasure hunt for the whole family.

Fee for film and museum treasure hunt: \$2 for Oriental Institute members; \$2.50 for non-members. Pre-registration highly recommended.

See page 14 to register.

## EGYPTIAN GALLERY



Nearly 2,000 visitors took part in Celebrating Ancient Egypt, a three-day festival of Museum Education programming that opened the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery to the public. Events and activities for all ages took place continuously throughout the Memorial Day weekend, Saturday 29 May to Monday 31 May.

*Top Left: Dressed in Egyptian costume actress Liz Cruger (left) captivates families as she talks about the mummies on view in the Egyptian Gallery*

*Bottom left: Judy Chavin of the Museum Education Office shows children how to play the ancient Egyptian game of senet*

*Above: A young visitor strikes an Egyptian-style pose after donning clothing from King Tut's Closet, an activity for families*

*Photographs by Carole Krucoff*

# OPENING WEEKEND



***Top left: Judy Barr Topinka, Illinois State Treasurer, offers words of welcome to the public. A lifelong interest in ancient Egypt inspired her to attend the Egyptian Gallery opening***

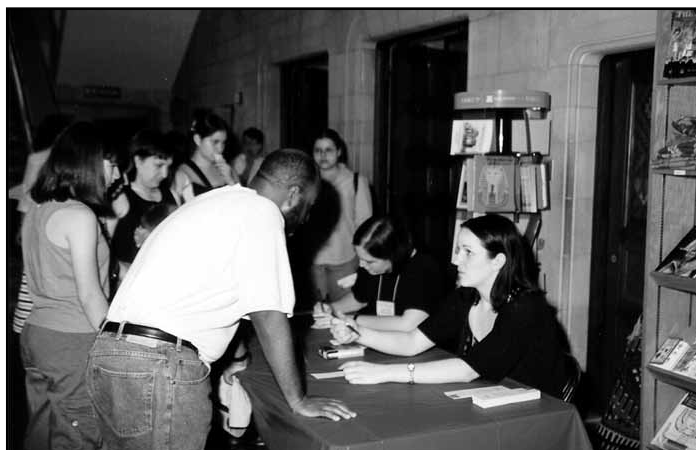
***Top right: Visitors of all ages are fascinated by the exhibits in the new Egyptian Gallery***

***Above: Docent Stephen Ritzel (center) tells a rapt group of visitors about ancient Egyptian board games***

***Center right: Walter Arnold demonstrates the art of stonecarving using tools much like those on view in the Egyptian Gallery***

***Bottom right: Egyptology students Jennifer Westerfeld (left) and Caroline Cracraft (right) wrote hundreds of names in ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs throughout the opening weekend***

***Photographs by Jean Grant***



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The Oriental Institute and more than 180 organizations join Project Millennium, developed to explore themes relevant to our lives as we approach the 21st century, to present nearly 1,000 exhibits, performances, festivals, and educational programs throughout 1999 around the Chicago area and the state of Illinois. See page 17 for more information.

# THE SUQ

**Egypt and the Egyptians**

**Douglas J. Brewer and Emily Teeter**

**Paperback \$19.95**

This book, which is intended for the general reader, serves as an introduction to the geographic setting and culture of ancient Egypt. One of the few books to combine anthropological and Egyptological viewpoints, the text deals with the most current research on town structure, government, and its impact upon its citizens, language, art, religion, and funerary beliefs. The text includes translations of original texts, and many of the illustrations (including the cover) are of objects from the collection of the Oriental Institute Museum.

It is a perfect introduction to ancient Egypt for many readers.

**Autographed Copies Available in the Suq**

**CORNER**

## News & Notes

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Editor: Emily Napolitano • Telephone: (773) 702-9513 • Facsimile: (773) 702-9853 • oi-membership@uchicago.edu  
All inquiries, comments, and suggestions are welcome • World-Wide Website: <http://www-oi.uchicago.edu>