

Dear CIPEG-members, colleagues, and friends,

We are pleased to invite you to attend our exciting new online programme

MUSEUM MATTERS 2022

Egyptian and Sudanese Collections in Latin America and the Caribbean

Saturday, 23 April

4pm to 5:30pm (Paris time)

Registration required; max. 300 participants

Please contact Lara Weiss: L.Weiss@rmo.nl

MUSEUM MATTERS

Panel discussion series powered by CIPEG

The series is meant to get aspiring and experienced museum professionals in touch about important museum matters. Discussions will centre on themes relevant to the museum community today and address issues specific to Egyptology and Nubiology and associated collections worldwide.

PROGRAMME

Egyptian and Sudanese Collections in Latin America and the Caribbean

The inaugural panel discussion of the Museum Matters series focuses on the formation of Egyptian and Sudanese collections in Latin American and Caribbean countries. What was the impetus for the creation of the collections in Mexico City, Havana, La Plata, and Rio de Janeiro? How do these collections fit within European colonialism, the 'Age of Enlightenment' and the building of national identity?

All presentations will be in English.

4:00-4:05pm **Welcome and Introduction to 'Museum Matters' series** (Denise Doxey)

4:05-4:10pm **Introduction to theme and keynote speaker** (Caroline M. Rocheleau, moderator)

4:10-4:30pm **Keynote Talk - Mexico: An American Egypt** (David H. Colmenares)

In 1517, an expedition led by Francisco Hernández de Córdoba landed on the coast of Yucatan. In the ancient site of Ekab, the Spanish encountered monumental architecture that triggered deep-seated cultural memory. They named the land "Great Cairo." Since then, an Egyptian imaginary never ceased to haunt pre-scientific Mesoamerican archaeology. Whether mediated by Renaissance Egyptomania, the Napoleonic campaign, or Victorian exhibition culture, Egypt became Mesoamerica's archaeological unconscious. This presentation charts the turning points and articulations that led to the imagined entanglement of these otherwise unrelated civilizations.

4:30-4:35pm **Introduction of Panellists** (Caroline Rocheleau)

4:35-5:05pm ***Egyptian and Sudanese Collections in Latin America and the Caribbean***

Mexico: The *Museo Nacional de las Culturas del Mundo* (MNCM-INAH) in México City holds a small but interesting ancient Egyptian collection of more than 150 artefacts from almost all historical periods. This presentation will bring forth the history of this collection and how it is being documented, contextualised, conserved, and promoted to both the public and the international Egyptological community. (Gerardo P. Taber)

Cuba: The Egyptian collection of the *Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes* in Havana features 140 artefacts. This presentation will focus on the history and the thematic display of these objects, the majority of which were donated to the museum by Count Lagunillas in 1956. (Aymee Chicuri Lastra)

Brazil: This brief presentation will focus on the Egyptology collections at the *Museu de Arte de São Paulo*, *Museu de Arqueologia e Etnologia-USP* and the *Museu Nacional*, Rio de Janeiro. The central idea is to present the objects in the Brazilian collections and showcase Egyptology in Latin America. (Cintia A. Gama Rolland)

Argentina: This brief presentation will focus on the *Museo de la Plata* and the different motivations that led to the creation of an Egyptian antiquities section at the end of the 19th century. Also under discussion will be the objects from the Temple of Aksha, a gift for the Argentine participation in the UNESCO Nubian Campaign as well as the Egyptian casts that illustrate each period of pharaonic history. (Andrea P. Zingarelli)

5:05-5:25pm **Moderated discussion** (all speakers)

5:25-5:30pm **Thank you** (Lara Weiss)

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Aymee del Carmen Chicuri Lastra is Curator of the Ancient Asia and Egypt collections of the National Museum of Fine Arts of Cuba. She has taught postgraduate courses in Egyptology, Islamic architecture and Oriental philosophies at the University of Havana and the Office of the Historian of Havana and currently teaches Oriental religions at the Ecumenical Institute of Religions.

David Horacio Colmenares is the Moorman-Simon Assistant Professor of Spanish and Latin American Studies at Boston University. His research, previously supported by the John Carter Brown Library, Dumbarton Oaks, and the Max-Planck-Institut's Kunsthistorisches Institut, sits at the intersection of early modern antiquarianism, Mesoamerican, and visual studies.

Cintia A. Gama-Rolland, PhD, is Fellow Researcher at Museu de Arqueologia e Etnologia -USP and Museu Nacional in Rio de Janeiro. She is also Professor and Director of the History Department at Centro Universitário das Faculdades Metropolitanas Unidas (FMU) in São Paulo.

Gerardo P. Taber, MA, is an archaeologist and Curator of Ancient Egyptian Collections at the Museo Nacional de las Culturas del Mundo (MNCM) in Mexico City. He worked on major ancient Egyptian exhibitions such as *Faraón: El culto al Sol en el antiguo Egipto* (2005) and *Isis y la Serpiente Emplumada. Egipto faraónico/México prehispánico* (2007-2008). The latter presented loans from Egyptian museums alongside ancient Mesoamerican artefacts for the first time.

Andrea Paula Zingarelli, PhD, is Professor of Ancient Near Eastern Studies and Egyptology in the Faculty of Humanities and Educational Sciences at National University of La Plata, Argentina. She is a researcher at the Humanities and Social Sciences Research Institute. She is currently Director of the Tomb of Amenmose Study and Conservation Project (TT318), Luxor, Egypt.

ABOUT THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Denise Doxey is Curator of Ancient Egyptian, Nubian, and Near Eastern Art at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. She is a CIPEG Board Member and Vice President of the Board of the American Research Center in Egypt.

Caroline M. Rocheleau is Director of Research and Curator of Ancient Collections at the North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA), overseeing the archaeological collections of the ancient Mediterranean and ancient Americas. She is a CIPEG Board Member and the Managing Editor of the *CIPEG Journal: Ancient Egyptian & Sudanese Collections and Museums*.

Lara Weiss is Curator of the Egyptian Collection in the National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden (The Netherlands) and co-field director of the Leiden-Turin Expedition to Saqqara. She received her PhD in Egyptology from Göttingen in 2012 and her Habilitation in ancient religious studies at the Max Weber Center for Advanced Cultural and Social Studies at the University of Erfurt in 2022. She is the CIPEG treasurer.