

Minneapolis Institute of Art

Egypt's Sunken Cities

November 4, 2018 – April 14, 2019

Logistics session

Mia



Talking Points: Race, Place, and the Ancient Egyptians

- Egypt's location in North Africa made it easily accessible over water (the Mediterranean Sea) by people from the Near/Middle East, Greece, and Rome. In the ancient world, the fastest and preferred mode of travel was by ship (see map).
- As a result, Egypt was a crossroads of many cultures. Many people traveled there, traded goods, and intermarried.
- Various groups or kingdoms were vying for power: the Nubians, Persians, Greeks, and Romans all invaded and ruled Egypt at one point.
- Ancient Egyptians depicted their skin color as somewhere between their neighbors to the south (who were shown as darker) and to the east (who were shown as lighter).
- The way Egyptians look today is the way the ancient Egyptians looked.
- Historians have whitewashed ancient Egypt. They used light-skinned or European-appearing people to represent ancient Egyptians. This isn't accurate; ancient Egyptians didn't look European or white.
- The ancient Egyptians called their country Kemet, which means "Black Land" a reference to the rich, dark soil along the Nile River where the first settlements began.



Art Adventure Tours

- Led by docents; wear some kind of identifier (button)
- Confirmation form will indicate both Egypt's Sunken Cities and Art Adventure tour
- Five stops visited in **rotation you are assigned by the lead**; seven objects
- Hapy: work out with the school and amongst your groups about a stop here
- There is not enough time to show the 6-minute in-gallery video**

Other School Tours

- MPS tours: lead calls the contact! They can choose ESC, Highlights, or Ancient Cultures (VTS expectations?)
- Walk through African galleries on the way to the exhibition to highlight that Egypt is in Africa (pointing out mummy and false door)
- Hapy: work out amongst your groups about a stop here
- No activities in galleries; can give to teachers for use in classroom

**We are working on having a link on the website to the 6-minute in-gallery video for teachers to show in the classroom before they come for the tour.

Adult/University Tours

- All adult (public and private) tours begin in second floor rotunda and use listening devices; VE volunteers will be stationed to help with devices
- Neck loop on each cart – people with hearing aids may inquire
- All university (private) tours begin in second floor rotunda and **do not** use listening devices
- Public Tour Route form – available at 24th Street desk, fill out for first 3 objects (for stragglers)
- Hapy: a logical stop (as you are in the rotunda) at beginning of the tour
- Photos allowed: no flash, no tripods
- Encourage people to come back through the galleries to watch the 6-minute video after the tours
- Gallery stools **are allowed** in the exhibition; we will have one rack somewhere in/near the rotunda
- Leads call your contact! Ask about wheelchairs or other mobility issues in advance
- Public tours at noon and 6 pm limited to 30 people/2 docents (limited number of tickets sold for those time slots); private tours can have up to 60 people/4 docents (but rare for this exhibition)
- Going in sequentially should be fine; 2 groups possible in one gallery

Friends & Family Tours

- During scheduled tour days/times: just like other private tours
- During “no tour” weeks:
 - Small groups only; very informal conversation
 - Do not wear your badge
 - Schedule late in the day (less crowded)
 - No headsets

Royal Decree found in Heracleion, mentioning taxes in Thonis (380 BCE)

Blue labels/walls: objects found underwater



Osiris on deathbed (probably 18th c. BCE)

Gold labels/walls: Dendera chapel of gold; rituals on land



Abydos
Middle Kingdom, Dynasty 13,
in the reign of Khendjer

**Osiris on his Funeral
and Revival Bed,**
1773–1650 BCE
black diorite

Osiris-Apis bull (around 120 CE)

Red labels/walls: outside forces in control: Alexander the Great/Greeks, Romans

Alexandria
Roman period,
in the reign of Hadrian

Apis Bull, 117–138 CE
black diorite



Statue of Queen-Goddess Arsinoe II (3rd c. BCE)

Terra-cotta labels/walls: outside forces (plus underwater)

Canopus
Ptolemaic period

Statue of Arsinoë II,
c. 300–200 BCE
granodiorite



Key of gods

FAQ

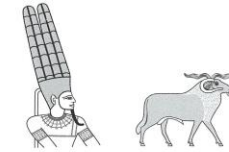
then

Resources!

“Nearly all the names of the gods came to Greece from Egypt”

(Herodotus, *Histories* II, 50 [440 BCE])

Egyptian



Amun



Greek (Roman)

Zeus (Jupiter)

Mut



Hera (Juno)

Khonsu
(as a child
and adult)



Herakles (Hercules)

Osiris



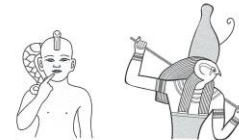
Dionysos (Bacchus)

Isis/Hathor



Demeter/Aphrodite
(Ceres/Venus)

Horus
(as a child
and adult)



Apollo (Bacchus)

Seth



Typhon

Neith



Athena (Minerva)