



ARCE - NY Newsletter

**Winter
2026**

Volume 3, Issue 1



Ceiling and Columns of Esna Temple

(Photo Credit: Anh Nguyen)

Upcoming Events

Egyptian Day Festival

Divine Egypt Members' Tour

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Egyptological Exhibits in New York City



Letter from the Editor

Dear ARCE-NY Members,

Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed a restful and joyful holiday season.

As we begin the year, ARCE-NY is pleased to share an exciting lineup of talks and events planned for the next six months. In addition to our chapter programming, there are three remarkable Egyptological exhibitions in New York City this winter, which are highlighted in this newsletter.

In this fifth issue, we look back at the Egyptian Day Festival held this past September and include a brief recap of our Members' Tour of the *Divine Egypt* exhibition at The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

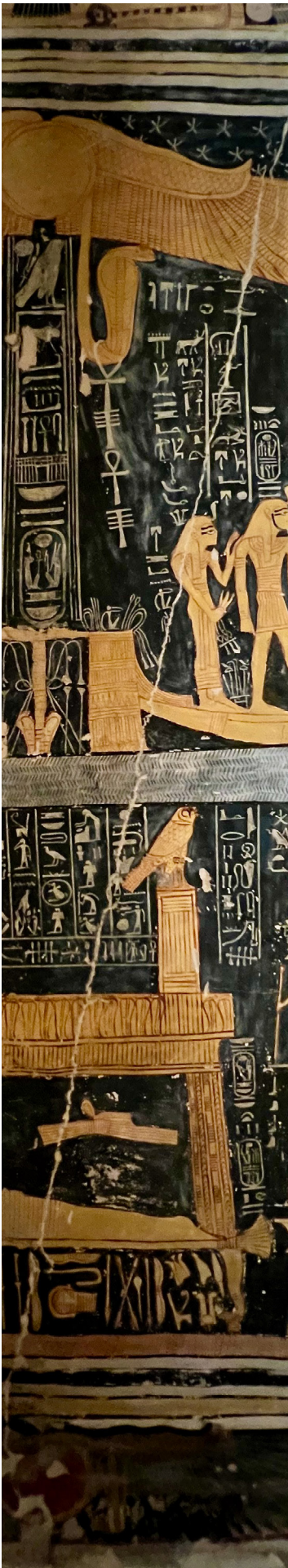
We warmly invite member contributions. If you are interested in submitting an article or short book review, or if you have news or events you would like us to feature in a future issue, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Get in touch with us at: arcenychapter@gmail.com.

All the best,



Anh
ARCE-NY Communications Officer





Upcoming Lectures and Events

January 9

Rita Lucarelli — *“Punishers or Protectors? Demons in Ancient Egypt”*

Salmagundi Club

February 24

John Freed — *“Queen Tausret and the Mysterious Chancellor Bay”*

Virtual Zoom Lecture

March 10

Chris Naunton — *“Ancient Egypt Lost and Found ... and Lost Again”*

Salmagundi Club

March 16

Bob Brier — *“Pierre Lacau: Villain or Hero?”*

National Arts Club

April 16

Luigi Prada — Topic to be announced

Salmagundi Club

April 21

Aidan Dodson — *“Amenhotep-son-of-Hapu: High Official, Architect, Demigod”*

Salmagundi Club

May 2

“There Is More to Egypt Than Tut” Conference

Virtual Zoom Lectures

May 12

Peter Feinman — *“Reginald Stuart Poole: Unsung Co-founder of the Egypt Exploration Fund”*

Virtual Zoom Lecture

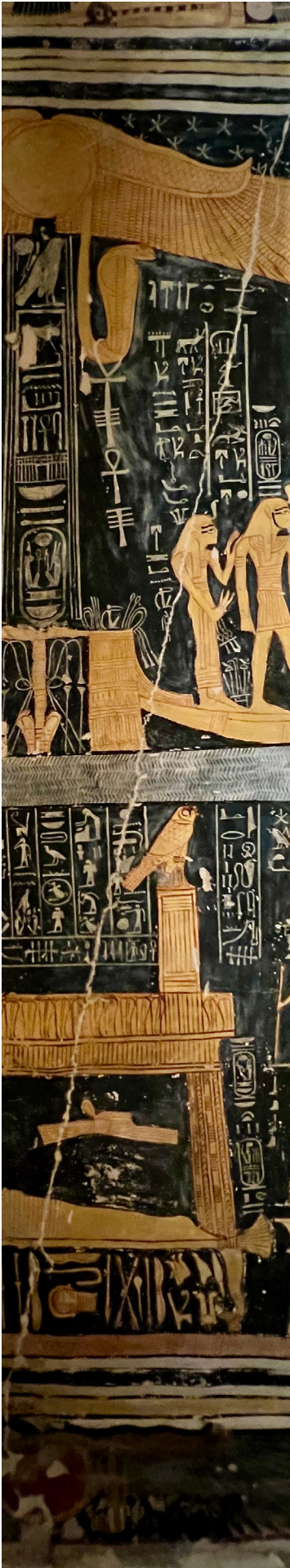
June 12

Rita Freed — *“Toward a Definition of Nubian Art”*

National Arts Club

All these events are subject to change. Some events require pre-registration and links, which will be sent out closer to the event dates.

We look forward to seeing you at these events.



The Egyptian Day Festival

On September 6th, 2025, ARCE partnered with the Egyptian-American community in New York City to co-host Egyptian Day. Located in Midtown Manhattan on 50th street, the festival was filled with Egyptian music, art and crafts, and vendors highlighting Egyptian street food, including koshary and mousakka!

ARCE's booth was staffed by ARCE US Outreach & Programs Director Dr. Fatma Ismail along with Dr. Adela Oppenheim and Dr. Isabel Stünkel from the Metropolitan Museum of Art. ARCE-NY chapter members who attended included Linda and Ira Rampil, and Zachary Lu.

The event was well attended and was a wonderful celebration of cultural heritage.



Ira Rampil with Dr. Fatma Ismail in front of ARCE's booth



A selection of Egyptian street food from a vendor



Festival attendees browsing through the different stands



All photos copyrighted 2025 by Ira Rampil.



Divine Egypt - Members' Tour

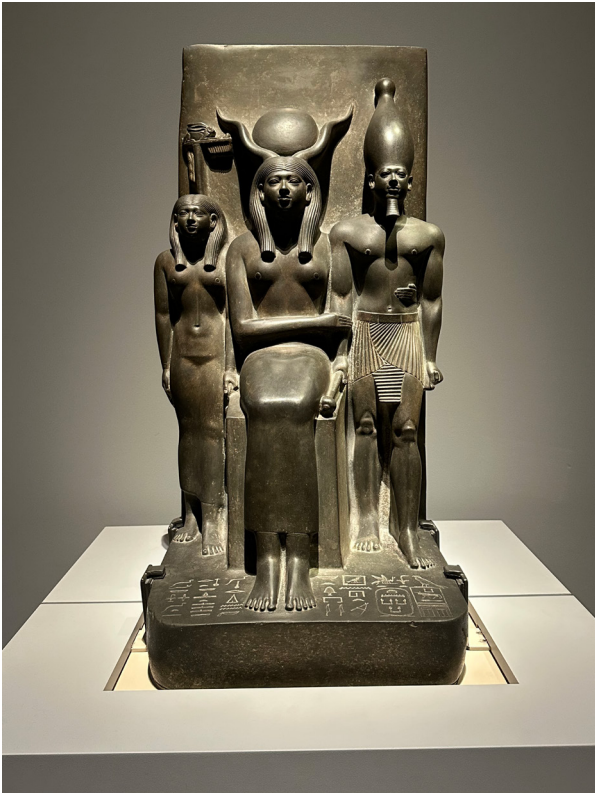
On November 17th, 2025, ARCE-NY hosted a Member's Tour to the Metropolitan Museum of Art for a guided tour of the museum's new special exhibit "*Divine Egypt*." The tour was led by Dr. Brendan Hainline, who is part of the team that curated the exhibit.

[*Divine Egypt*](#) is on view through January 19th, 2026, featuring almost 250 remarkable works of art and objects. Highlights include the Menkaure triad and a granite sculpture of a seated Amun at the entrance of the exhibit. During the tour, members took a closer look at this statue and learned about evidence of an effort to erase the memory of Tutankhamun. His small figure, once sheltered between Amun's legs, was hacked away, and his cartouches on the back of the statue were partially erased. Interestingly, no later pharaoh—such as Horemheb—added their own name in its place.

ARCE-NY thanks the Metropolitan Museum of Art for hosting this memorable tour, which offered members an engaging and insightful look at the *Divine Egypt* exhibition.



ARCE-NY members with Dr. Hainline on the tour
Photo courtesy of Ira Rampil



Menkaure Triad
Photo Courtesy of Anthony Bellov



Granite Statue of Amun
Photo Courtesy of Anthony Bellov



Members taking a closer look of the Amun Statue at the entrance of the exhibit
Photo courtesy of Ira Rampil





Egyptology News

Possible New Entrance to the Pyramid of Menkaure at Giza

Researchers have found two hidden, air-filled anomalies that could be a previously unknown entrance to the pyramid. For more information, [click here](#) and [here](#).

Ushabtis of Shoshenq III Found at Tanis

The recent discovery of a cache of 225 ushabtis inside a tomb with a large sarcophagus in Tanis has led archaeologists to finally identify the burial as belonging to [Shoshenq III](#).

Niuserre's Valley Temple Found at Abusir

The temple is part of Niuserre's solar complex and the building seems to be more than 1,000 square meters in size. For more, [click here](#) or [here](#).

Ancient Workshops and Roman Cemetery Unearthed in Egypt's Western Delta

Archaeologists have uncovered [industrial complexes](#) dating back from the Late Period and Ptolemaic period in Egypt's western Nile Delta, revealing workshops used for activities such as fish processing and tool production. The team also excavated part of a [Roman-era cemetery](#).

Colossal Statues of Amenhotep III Reinstalled on Luxor's West Bank

Following decades of restoration and conservation, two colossal alabaster statues of Amenhotep III have been reinstalled at his mortuary temple, Kom el-Hettan. For more information, [click here](#). A video can also be [viewed here](#).

3,500-Year-Old Egyptian Military Fortress Discovered in the Sinai Desert

Archaeologists discovered a 3,500-year-old [military fortress](#) in Egypt's Sinai, featuring defensive walls, towers, and signs of daily life. Built under Pharaoh Thutmose I, it once housed soldiers and protected Egypt's eastern borders.

Ancient Relief Goes Missing from Saqqara Necropolis

A [limestone relief has disappeared](#) from the Old Kingdom tomb of Khentika in the Saqqara necropolis. [The relief](#) shows Khentika at work on an easel, painting the three seasons that organized the ancient Egyptian year.

3,000-Year-Old Pharaoh's Gold Bracelet Stolen and Melted Down

A gold bracelet that once belonged to Pharaoh Amenemope was stolen from the Egyptian Museum in Cairo and passed through a chain of dealers before being sold for its melt value and destroyed. Authorities arrested four suspects, after tracing the artifact's disappearance. For more, [click here](#) and [here](#).

This issue's Egyptology News items were contributed by Dana Ivey, Stephanie Denkowicz, Anh Nguyen, and John Freed.

Egyptological Exhibits in New York City

Through January 19th, 2026

Metropolitan Museum of Art — “[Divine Egypt](#)”

Divine Egypt explores how ancient Egyptians connected to their gods through images and rituals and the deities’ roles in shaping daily life, offering guidance, protection, and meaning in a world of uncertainty.

Through March 15th, 2026

Institute for the Study of the Ancient World — “[Rodin’s Egypt](#)”

Rodin’s Egypt explores Auguste Rodin’s fascination with ancient Egypt, highlighting the Egyptian artifacts he collected and the sculptures they inspired. The exhibition, featuring over sixty works from the Musée Rodin, reveals how Egyptian art influenced his approach to the human form and sparked a lasting dialogue on the body across the centuries.

Opening January 30th, 2026

Brooklyn Museum — “[Unrolling Eternity: The Brooklyn Books of the Dead](#)”

Experience one of the only complete and gilded Books of the Dead, painstakingly restored by the Brooklyn Museum over three years. *Unrolling Eternity* showcases this 21-foot papyrus alongside early funerary texts and artifacts, highlighting ancient burial practices and the remarkable artistry behind this rare masterpiece.

