



SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY
MUSEUMS



When the Greek writer and traveller Herodotus arrived in Egypt in about 450 BC, the pyramids at Giza were already 2000 years old and the Sphinx partly buried by sand.

In his great work, the Histories, Herodotus describes a visit to the Temple of Bastet at Bubastis. The centre piece of the exhibition is a four tonne column capital from that temple that Herodotus will quite possibly have looked at. Last month, it was dramatically relocated especially for the exhibition.



Nicholson Museum Invitation

EXHIBITION OPENING

Egyptians, Gods & Mummies Travels with Herodotus

Exhibition to be opened by Phillip Adams AO

with further contributions from:

Janet Davey (Forensic Archaeologist, Monash University)

Michael Turner (Exhibition Curator, Nicholson Museum)

Derek Welsby (British Museum. Assistant Keeper, Archaeology of Sudan and Egyptian Nubia)

Wednesday 26 August 2009

6 for 6.30 pm

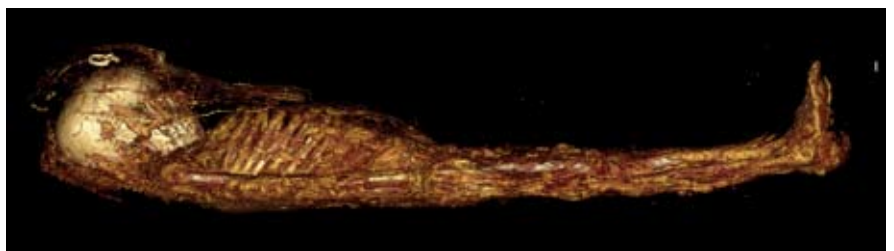
In the Nicholson Museum

Main Quadrangle, University of Sydney

\$30 (\$20 Friends of the Nicholson Museum)

Champagne and our famous pies

Booking essential 9351 2812 or m.turner@usyd.edu.au



Herodotus is our great source for the practice of mummification, describing in graphic detail the three methods used. He reports how the pyramids were built. He check-measured them himself. He describes finding seashells in the sand close to them concluding that the surrounding area must have once been a gulf of the sea. He offers his own theory on why the Nile, 'unlike all other rivers', flooded in summer. He describes what made the Egyptian people different from all other races. He talks about crocodiles and hippopotamuses, flying snakes, the odd behaviour of cats, the phoenix, the gods, and any sexual peculiarities he came across that might confound and amuse his audience.

He asked, he listened, he observed, he wrote. He informed, enlightened, and entertained and continues to do so today – rightly or wrongly but always gloriously.



The
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of Sydney