THE KATOWICE COFFIN CONFERENCE

Conference Schedule

Start at 10.00 am

- Welcome Speech by Professor Antoni Cygan Chancellor of the Academy of Fine Arts in Katowice.
- Greeting guests, acknowledgement of participation and cooperation and presentation of the agenda of the conference.
- 1. DR ANDRZEJ ĆWIEK, Body and Chest: Cosmography of Ancient Egyptian Burials in a Diachronic Perspective.

(10.15-11.00)

Ancient Egyptian beliefs on the afterlife, and the funerary customs related to them, originated in the Predynastic Period and were constantly developed during the Pharaonic times. It was reflected in the complex character of burials: architecture and decoration of a tomb, funerary goods, associated texts, but first of all in the burial proper, including the body and its container. The orientation and position of the body, and the form of the coffin, were closely interrelated. They were set in the structure of the universe, in its vertical dimension formed by the heaven, the earth and the Duat, as well as inside the frame of the cardinal points. The goddess Nut identified with the coffin, and the four Sons of Horus protecting its four sides and the four viscera of the deceased, are the best known examples of this phenomenon.

The cosmography of burials influenced – and was influenced by – major changes in the position of the body and the form of the coffin, which occurred several times in Egyptian history, most notably in the Third and Twelfth Dynasties. The emergence and development of anthropoid coffins ultimately led to appearance of an ideal set of an anthropoid inner container and a box outer coffin/sarcophagus, with a complex, multifaceted and multilayered meaning.

2. PROF. DR HAB. ANDRZEJ NIWIŃSKI, The Development of the Iconographic Repertoire of the 21st Dynasty Coffins as New Criterion for Dating.

(11.00-12.00)

The 21st Dynasty coffins have a complex iconography. A typology of these objects was proposed 30 years ago (A. Niwiński, 21st Dynasty Coffins from Thebes. Chronological and Typological Studies = THEBEN V, Mainz 1988) and is generally still in use. This typology was based on the formal criteria of the decoration and will be re-discussed during this lecture. Five phases of the development of the iconographic repertoire have been distinguished, which follow subsequent sub-periods of the history of the 21st Dynasty, marked out by some important events at Thebes. During this lecture it will be also discussed how the iconographic study of coffins helps the understanding of the phenomenon of the coffin re-use, which is often encountered in the 21st Dynasty.

3. DR PATRICIA RIGAULT, The Cartonnage Cases and Coffins from 22nd Dynasty in the Louvre Museum.

(12.00-12.45)

Coffee (12.45-13.00)

4. DR ANNE HASLUND HANSEN, Unwrapping the Unwrapped – the Historical Examination of a 700 BC. Mummy and Cartonnage Case in the National Museum of Denmark.

(13.00 - 13.45)

5. DR MONIKA DOLIŃSKA, Collection of Third Intermediate Period Coffins in the National Museum in Warsaw.

(13.45-14.30)

Coffee (14.30-14.45)

6. DAGMARA HAŁADAJ, The Book of the Dead in Iconography of qrsw Coffins from the "Priests of Montu" Group.

(14.45-15.15)

7. ARKADIUSZ HAJDA, Selected Iconographic Motifs of the Cartonnage Case of Djed-Amonet-ius-ankh (The Museum in Racibórz).

(15.15 - 15.45)

Lunch (15.45 - 16.30)

8. JOANNA BABRAJ, The Conservation of the Wooden, Polychrome Egyptian Coffin from 800 B.C. from the Sarcophagus Group of the Museum in Racibórz.

(16.30-17.00)

9. EWA KASSALA, Women of Power: Hatshepsut, Nefertiti, Cleopatra – Icons of Pop Culture. A Mini Powershow by Ewa Kassala.

(17.00-17.30)

Ewa Kassala (Dorota Stasikowska-Woźniak) – the author of the only trilogy about the queens of Ancient Egypt in the world. Writer, trainer, social action creator, self-presentation and image creator, screenwriter and television programmer, conferences, conventions and sessions, mainly women's. Author of Cleopatra and Portrait of a Woman of Perdition, Mandragora, Cleopatra's Passionst and guides: Public Speaking and Image Creation, How to be a Modern Lady, Savoir-vivre at the Table, Dress for Success. The latest novel: Divine Nefretete (2016), Hatshepsut (2017). Director Dress for Success Poland Queens, wives, mothers, geniuses of political strategies, prospering in the harsh world of rules set by men – such strong, yet sensitive and full of ideals, and wise women. The divine Nefertiti, the passionate Cleopatra, the brave and wise Hatshepsut – to what extent can be role models for modern women? Which one of them (and why) speaks to the contemporaries the most? The archetypes of femininity and the modern mass imagination presented on the example of Cleopatra, Nefertiti and Hatshepsut.

Conclusion of the conference (17.30-17.45)

Coffee (17.45-18.00)