

A communicative society is more interconnected. As a result, NMEC regularly releases a newsletter that highlights the museum's most significant initiatives, successes, and events.

Newsletter published by NMEC

Issue 8 - June 2023

NMEC celebrates its second anniversary and its reception of the Royal Mummies.

On the second anniversary of NMEC and in conjunction with International Music Day, NMEC launched its first event of the "Eternal Egypt" initiative, a performance by the international soprano Amira Selim, with Ain Al Hayat Lake as the backdrop. The event was attended by Mr. Ahmed Issa, Minister of Tourism and Antiquities; Dr. Hala Al-Saeed, Minister of Planning and Economic Development; Dr. Nevin Al-Kabbaj, Minister of Social Solidarity; and several former ministers, public figures, celebrities, lovers of art, music, and heritage, and ambassadors.

The concert came as part of the "Eternal Egypt" initiative, in cooperation with the RMC Company, launched by NMEC as part of a series of artistic and cultural concerts organized to present various musical and artistic performances to audiences with different styles. These events also act as an income-generating stream as they attract more visitors to the museum.

The concert was performed by the Egyptian international Soprano Amira Selim, accompanied by her orchestra, and performed songs that varied from classical, oriental, and Egyptian, including The Song of Isis, which was performed for the first time to the public at the Royal Mummies Parade ceremony two years ago and achieved great success in Egypt and the world, as well as the songs by the world-renowned musician Sayed Darwish.

This celebration came under the auspices of the Egyptian General Authority for Tourism Promotion, E-Finance, Banque Misr, Banque du Caire, Tatweer Misr, SomaBay, EgyptAir, CC Plus, Avis Budget, and Mohamed El Sagheer.



** NMEC's Board of Directors Meeting



The Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Mr. Ahmed Eissa, presided over the Board of Directors of the Museum Authority meeting on Monday, April 10, 2023. Dr. Hala Al-Saeed, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, participated in the meeting virtually via video conference, and Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim, CEO of the Museum Authority, gave a brief presentation on the performance of the museum, the number of visitors during the past month, and the revenues generated, indicating an increase in visitors during the month.

Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim presented in brief the cultural and scientific events organized by NMEC. One of the scientific events was the Second Scientific Forum of the Center for the Conservation and Restoration of Antiquities, which was attended by researchers and specialists in the sciences of conservation and restoration of antiquities. The most recent cultural event was the Sharqia Governorate Heritage event, which was organized within the series: Governorates Heritage Events, highlighting the heritage of all governorates and spreading cultural,

touristic, and archaeological awareness among all the attendees. Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim also highlighted the events and workshops to celebrate the holy month of Ramadan under the title "In the Spirit of Ramadan."



On the technological front, a memorandum of understanding was proposed and approved between the museum authority and the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology to enhance the skills of the youth participating in the Digital

Egypt Builders initiative implemented by the ministry and to implement some of their projects related to museums at NMEC.

It was also discussed and approved for the use of the audio guide system for museum visitors inside the Royal Mummies Gallery, given the inability to provide explanations inside the gallery by tour guides to avoid a long duration of presence inside the gallery, thus maintaining a peaceful and respect-

ful environment for the mummies. The start of implementation will be announced during the coming period.

After the end of the meeting, the members of the council visited the commercial area of the museum and other areas scheduled to open soon to see the latest developments.

The Minister of Tourism and Antiquities also chaired another meeting of the Board of Directors of NMEC on Monday, June 19, 2023 AD, where Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim, CEO of the Museum Authority, gave another brief presentation on the museum's performance, the percentage of revenue it achieved, and the number of visitors. During the meeting, Mr. Ahmed Issa gave his sincere thanks to the CEO of the Museum Authority and the team for their great efforts.

Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim also briefed the members of the council on the most prominent cultural and scientific events and activities organized and hosted by the museum, some of which were organized in cooperation with the embassies of various foreign countries. Most notably the launch of the "Cinema and Civilization" initiative, which is organized by the museum within the framework of cultural and artistic programs to revive the art of cinema. The first of

which was the organization of a cultural and artistic ceremony during the month of June 2023 in the Grand Theater of the museum, showing the movie "The Mummy," directed by the world-famous director Shady Abdelsalam. The story of the film revolves around the Egyptian royal mummies that are present at NMEC.

Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim also referred to the museum's organization of a wide variety of youth activities and events and artistic workshops within the framework of the museum's keenness to raise tourism and archaeological awareness among all segments of society.



Official Visits

NMEC continues to receive official delegations and local and international public figures, which positions the museum as an essential experience in tourism programs. The visitors were received and welcomed by Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim, CEO of the Museum Authority, Dr. Maysara Abdalla, Deputy Director of Antiquities, and Mrs. Fayrouz Fekry, Deputy Director of Management and Operation, and given guided tours by members of the NMEC curators team.



“ Visit of **Ms. Miho Shirotori**, director of Trade Systems, Services, and Creative Economy, Department of International Trade and Commodities, at UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development ”



“ Visit of the President of the Republic of Cyprus, **Mr. Nikos Christodoulides**, and his accompanying delegation ”



“ Visit of the American singing group **Backstreet Boys** during their World Tour ”



“ Visit of the Portuguese Minister of Health, **Dr. Manuel Pizarro**, with government officials in the healthcare sector and representatives of pharmaceutical companies in Portugal ”



“ Visit of **Dr. Mahad bin Saeed Baawin**, Sultanate of Oman Minister of Labor, and his accompanying delegation in the presence of **Dr. Saleh Al-Sheikh**, Head of the Egyptian Central Agency for Organization and Administration ”



“ Visit of Indian Army Chief **Sir Manoj Pandey** and his wife ”



“ Visit of Mr. **Dato' Seri Wan Rosdi Wan Ismail**, Prime Minister of Pahang State, the third largest Malaysian state, and his accompanying delegation, accompanied by Ambassador Zamani Ismail, Malaysian Ambassador to Cairo ”

“ Visit of the Chairman of the Chinese National Antiquities Authority and the Chinese vice Minister of Culture and Tourism, Mr. **Li Qun**, and the Chinese vice Minister of Culture and Tourism, and his accompanying delegation during their visit to Egypt ”



“ Visit of the President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Mr. President **Mohamed Ould Al-Ghazwani**, and his accompanying delegation during their official visit to Egypt ”

“ Visit of the Speaker of the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Dr. **Maulin Achimbayev**, the Ministers of Kazakhstan, and the accompanying delegation during their current official visit to Egypt to participate in the opening of Al-Zahir Baybars Mosque ”

“ Visit of three high-level delegations, which included the Saudi Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources, Mr. **Bandar bin Ibrahim Al-Khorayef**, the Minister of Women and Children's Affairs of Bangladesh, Ms. **Fazelaton Nissa Indira**, the Deputy Minister of Family and Social Service in Turkey, Mr. **Ismail Argüneş**, and Ambassador **Salih Mutlu Shen**, the Turkish Chargé d'Affaires in Cairo, and their accompanying delegations ”



“ Visit of the high representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs, Politics, and Security and the Vice-President of the European Commission, Mr. **Josep Borrell**, and his accompanying delegation during his official visit to Egypt, in the presence of Ambassador **Christian Berger**, Ambassador of the European Union to Cairo ”



“ Visit of Spanish football coach **Pep Guardiola** and his family during their visit to Egypt ”

المتحف القومي
للحضارة المصرية
National Museum of
Egyptian Civilization
NMEC

ورشة صيفية



الرسم على الفخار

الأحد الموافق 11 يونيو 2023

* Pottery Painting Workshop on Sunday, June 11, 2023

المتحف القومي
للحضارة المصرية
National Museum of
Egyptian Civilization
NMEC

Summer Workshop
ورشة صيفية

لعبة مصرية (القرص الدوار)



الإثنين الموافق 29 مايو 2023

* Spinning Top Workshop on Monday, May 29, 2023

المتحف القومي
للحضارة المصرية
National Museum of
Egyptian Civilization
NMEC

ورشة صيفية



الرسم على الفخار

الثلاثاء الموافق 13 يونيو 2023

* Pottery Painting Workshop Tuesday, June 13, 2023

المتحف القومي
للحضارة المصرية
National Museum of
Egyptian Civilization
NMEC

ورشة صيفية



نحت على الطين و صب قوالب بالجبس

الإثنين الموافق 12 يونيو 2023
و الثلاثاء الموافق 13 يونيو 2023

* Clay Sculpture Workshop on Monday, June 12, 2023,
and Tuesday, June 13, 2023



* The Art of Textile Workshop on Monday, June 19, 2023



* The Art of Macramé Workshop on Saturday, June 17, 2023, and Sunday, June 18, 2023



* Origami Art Workshop on Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Storytelling Workshops

The education department continued to organize a series of storytelling workshops that aim to connect the young participants with the life and literature of the ancient Egyptians and how to learn from their experiences. The workshops use elements such as short films, lectures, and artistic elements where children draw the contents of the story and the characters and extract life concepts related to ancient Egyptian life. Storytelling workshop "Workers of Deir el-Medina" on Saturday, May 13, 2023



* Providing a group of storytelling workshops and activities for children with historical content including:



* Storytelling workshop "The Wedding of the Little Princess" on Thursday, June 8, 2023

* Presenting a group of children's storytelling programs related to archaeological discoveries, including:



* Storytelling workshop "The Hidden... Tomb No. 35 in the Valley of the Kings" on Thursday, May 25, 2023

* "Small Garden... Recycling for afforestation" event from Monday, June 5, 2023, until Wednesday, June 7, 2023



Heritage and Community Outreach

“Green Wood” workshop on Saturday, June 3, 2023

On World Environment Day, and in cooperation with a group of Egyptian craftsmen and artists, the Department of Heritage and Community Outreach, under the supervision of Nancy Ammar and Manar Hassan, organized a cultural heritage event titled “Green Wood”, that shed light on traditional crafts and arts using natural materials and from different tree species and how to use them in environmentally friendly products. The event includes many workshops, such as:

- Carving on palm tree trunks in the workshop
- Designing environmentally friendly products and lighting units from bamboo trees
- Painting workshops on tree trunks and natural wood and designing shapes inspired by Egyptian heritage
- Designing three-dimensional panels made of wood using decoupage
- Carving statues and figures of ancient Egyptian symbols from wood
- Designing palm tree products such as bags and other artistic pieces
- A “leaf” workshop and an art workshop for designing a tree with natural foliage
- A live show of artistic pieces executed with tree trunks, tools, and wooden products



Ismailia Governorate Heritage Day Outreach

Within the framework of the activities adopted by the Heritage and Cultural Communication Department at the museum as part of its cultural series, Governorate Heritage aims to shed light on and promote the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of all Egyptian governorates. The museum organized an event on the 6th event of the series on the heritage of Ismailia Governorate, in cooperation with the Public Library of Egypt in the governorate and with the participation of the Suez Canal Authority and a group of artists from the governorate, on Saturday, May 13, 2023. segments of society

The event included a group of artistic workshops on the craft of making fishing nets by hand, making the Semsemeya instrument, which is considered one of the most famous popular musical instruments in Ismailia and the canal cities, and displaying various forms of it; workshops for the manufacture and design of leather products; soap making from natural materials; decoupage arts; and paintings inspired by heritage.

Ismailia, in addition to a live display of crafting handicrafts with seashells, jewelry, and traditional costumes, and flyers explaining more about the culture of Ismailia.

The event also included a display of a variety of the most famous agricultural and food products that the governorate is famous for, especially mangoes, strawberries, and seafood, in the museum's outdoor yard, which received a great turnout from foreign visitors and tourists to learn about the Egyptian heritage.

A temporary exhibition was also organized on Ismailia Heritage Day, including a photographic exhibition and an art exhibition, with the participation of the Suez Canal Authority, on the history of the canal, displaying various



models of the canal, and introducing and explaining to visitors various elements of the canal and its history. In addition to artistic performances of the distinctive folklore arts in the governorate, presented by the Suez Canal troupe The Folklore of Ismailia Folklore and the Sesameya Ensemble At the end of the day, the museum management was keen to hand the participants certificates of appreciation, encouraging and appreciating their participation in this day.

The ceremony was attended by Dr. Maysara Abdullah, Deputy Director of Antiquities at NMEC; Major General Hisham Al-Taweel, Assistant General Secretary to the Governor of Ismailia; Ambassador Reda Al-Taifi, Director of the Public Libraries Fund of Egypt; Dr. Ahmed Aman, General Coordinator of Egypt's Libraries; and the heads of the Suez Canal Authority and the Public Library in Ismailia and the leaders of the governorate.

Cultural and Artistic Events

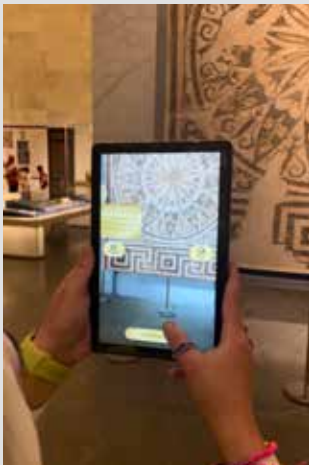
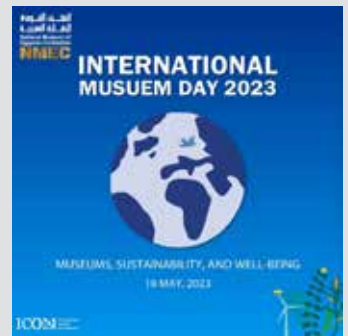
Celebration of World Heritage Day

The world celebrates on the 18th of April every year the World Heritage Day, which was first announced by the International Council of Antiquities and Sites (ICOMOS) in 1982, as well as in coordination with the International Council of Museums. To emphasize the role of museums and the International Museum Day is launched this year under the title «Sustainability and Quality of Life».

It is worth noting that Egypt includes seven sites registered in the list of World Heritage Sites, of which six are cultural heritage sites, which are Historic Cairo, Deir Abi Mina, the Pyramids (Memphis), Old Thebes, Nubia Antiquities, and Saint Catherine, in addition to one natural heritage site, which is Wadi El Hitan in Fayoum. Egypt is also proud of the presence of

34 Egyptian sites on the Tentative List of World Heritage, which have not yet been included.

As part of the celebration of this day, the museum organized free guided tours for its visitors, deaf and mute Egyptians, and people of determination. The museum, in cooperation with the Digital Egypt Builders Initiative, conducted a live experiment in front of visitors on augmented reality for a selected group of the most prominent artifacts on display, which was performed by a group of students in the digital arts field of the initiative.



Tablia Misr Initiative at NMEC

Within the framework of the museum's cultural and societal role in raising cultural and archaeological awareness for all segments of society, the museum organized several lectures during the period (April/June 2023) as part of the heritage activities of the "Tablia Misr" initiative, which was launched by the museum in February 2023 to document the Egyptian food heritage and promote the most important popular Egyptian foods.

The lectures witnessed a great turnout of scholars, researchers, university professors, public figures, and those interested in Egyptian civilization and archeology. Among these lectures was the lecture of Dr. Menna El-Dari, teacher of archaeological plants at the Faculty of Archeology, Ain Shams University, under the title "Stations in the History of Egyptian Cuisine", during

which she spoke about Egyptian food through different eras, starting from ancient Egyptian times until the modern era, and how the early Egyptians knew how to grow many vegetables such as peas, garlic, onions, and lettuce, and fruits such as dates, figs, grapes, and pomegranates, and the manufacture of food and drinks, some of which are continuous and we eat them until now.



As for Dr. Maysara Abdallah, Deputy Director of Antiquities at NMEC, he gave a lecture titled "The Harvest of the Gods... Food and Harvest Celebrations in Ancient Egypt", during which he shed light on the religions, food, and agricultural habits of the ancient Egyptians, the Nile flood and its importance in Egypt since ancient times, in addition to reviewing the ancient Egyptian celebration of it as an annual holiday, the important role of agriculture in stability, and the emergence of the ancient Egyptian civilization. The lecture also covered the most famous agricultural crops that characterized ancient Egypt, which were offered as offerings to the gods, and the association of religions with agriculture.



In conclusion of the series of lectures for the first season of the Tablia Misr initiative, Prof. Dr. Magdy El-Sayed, Head of the Encyclopedia of Egyptian Popular Food Project, delivered a lecture on Monday, June 5, 2023, titled "The Initiative to Document the Egyptian Food Heritage (Encyclopedia of Egyptian Popular Food)," and on the same day, Dr. Nihal Ramadan, researcher at the National Research Center and Vice President of the Egyptian Popular Food Encyclopedia Project, gave a lecture titled "The popular dietary patterns of Egyptians and their relationship to the geography of place: a societal monitoring from the reality of the Egyptian Popular Food Encyclopedia."



popular dietary patterns of Egyptians and their relationship to the geography of place: a societal monitoring from the reality of the Egyptian Popular Food Encyclopedia."

Dr. Hind Salah El-Din, Professor of Coptic Antiquities at the Department of Egyptian Antiquities at the Faculty of Archeology at Cairo University, delivered a lecture on Thursday, June 22, 2023, titled "Glimpses of Coptic Food and Its Symbols in the Roman and Byzantine Ages".

"Tablia Misr" initiative was launched by NMEC to present and document the most important Egyptian folk dishes and revive the disappearing ones. In cooperation with the educational department of the museum, a workshop was prepared on Saturday, June 3, 2023, titled "The Little Egyptian Chef", where the most famous cakes that our ancient Egyptian civilization was famous for were prepared.



“Eternal Egypt” Initiative Celebrating NMEC’s Second Anniversary

Under the title “The King and the Sun: A Journey in the Ancient History of Egypt,” the theater at NMEC witnessed a cultural and artistic ceremony in cooperation with the Bulgarian Embassy in Cairo and the Bulgarian Society for Egyptology in the presence of many public figures and ambassadors of foreign countries in Cairo, Egyptian artists, and lovers of art, music, and heritage.

This celebration is the beginning of a series of activities that the museum will organize as part of the new initiative launched to celebrate the two-year anniversary of NMEC in cooperation with the RMC Foundation.



The Egyptian-Bulgarian collaboration included a distinguished musical performance by the Egyptian harpist Manal Mohy El-Din and the Bulgarian violinist Tsvetilina Krasteva, who performed some of the most famous eastern and western heritage music pieces and played a duet piece that captivated the audience. The audience especially expressed their admiration for it and enjoyed the harp as one of the musical instruments known to have been enjoyed by the ancient Egyptian civilization.

Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim, CEO of NMEC, and Ambassador Dian Katrachev, Ambassador of Bulgaria in Cairo, expressed their great appreciation for the cooperation between the museum and the Bulgarian embassy, which made the celebration come out in such a wonderful and organized manner. This celebration is great evidence of the depth of relations between the two countries, which began more than 90 years ago, focusing on the importance of art and music, which unify the people by listening and enjoying, despite the different languages and cultures.



The Bulgarian award-winning documentary film by Professor Theodore Lykov, “The King and the Sun: A Journey into the History of Ancient Egypt,” was screened. Professor Theodore Lykov is an Egyptologist at the Bulgarian University, head of the Bulgarian Archaeological Mission in Egypt, and author of many scientific works on religion, language, and sacred literature in ancient Egypt. The film was presented by a group of Bulgarian Egyptologists and archaeologists and reviewed the history of ancient Egypt, the strong relationship between the king and the god in the ancient Egyptian religion, and the important role of the personality of the Egyptian king and his royal power throughout history, in addition to the basic ideas of the world and the universe as the ancient Egyptians believed. The film takes the viewers on a journey through the history of ancient Egypt and teaches them about the most famous places, artifacts, and sacred texts throughout the different ages of Egyptian civilization.



The celebration concluded with a musical performance by Emmanuel Kalcheva, the band of the international artist DJAIMA, and the Egyptian trio Accordionella Band, who gathered around their love of eastern and western music, despite the different nationalities and languages among them.

At the end of the ceremony, the attendees were keen to tour the first international Empower Her Art Forum, which was concurrently hosted by NMEC.



The First International Forum for Empowerment with Art

NMEC hosted the opening activities of the first international forum for empowerment with art, "Her Art Forum", from May 20 to May 24, 2023, under the auspices of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, the Ministries of Culture, Environment, Immigration, and Social Solidarity, the National Council for Women, the National Council for Disability, and the Tourism Promotion Authority, in partnership with a group of local and international bodies and organizations.

Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim, CEO of the NMEC, delivered an opening speech during which he welcomed the guests, expressing his happiness with this forum and the confidence of the management of the forum in choosing the museum to host its activities in its first edition. Which highlights the role of the museum as an educational institution and a cultural, societal, and educational beacon that aims to raise cultural awareness, elevate artistic taste, and introduce the public to various types of arts, especially fine arts, which are part of contemporary civilization and an extension of ancient civilization. Dr. Ghoneim also mentioned that the museum's participation in this forum is considered a complementary image of its effective role, especially since the forum is not only for displaying works of art but also has an educational and economic dimension through workshops, panel discussions, and lectures that it hosts.

The Forum also aims to shed light on the role of the Egyptian state in supporting and empowering women, providing an opportunity to bring together international and Egyptian artists, building bridges of friendship and understanding between countries through art, supporting professional female artists in Egypt and around the world through their work, and empowering and supporting women with disabilities and visually impaired women through a show. A collection of Braille panels and 3D panels that give the visually impaired an opportunity to enjoy art and interact.

The forum included a variety of artworks with the participation of 105 female artists from 35 countries around the world, including a distinguished collection of paintings, digital art, sculpture, video art, photography, sustainable art, installations, and NFTs, in addition to organizing a group of workshops, panel discussions, and lectures, education, creating a pioneering platform to hear women's voices, and launching the Artistial website on social networks during the forum to connect all artists from all over the world to display art and talk about women's empowerment and rights. The Egyptian General Authority for Tourism Promotion organized a touristic program for the participating artists in the forum.

The opening activities of the forum were attended by Dr. Nevin Kabbaj, Minister of Social Solidarity, Dr. Nevin Gamea, former Minister of Trade and Industry, Ambassador Nabila Makram, former Minister of Immigration and Egyptians Affairs Abroad, Dr. Maged Oth-

man, former Minister of Communications and Information Technology, and Ms. Sherine Badr, co-founder and CEO of Empower Her Art Forum, Mr. Christian Berger, Ambassador of the European Union in Cairo, Mr. Candido Criss, Spanish Cultural Counselor in Cairo, Mr. Davide Scalmani, Director of the Italian Cultural Institute in Cairo, and representatives of the High Commissioner for refugee affairs, and the ambassadors of Cyprus, Norway, Belgium, Estonia and Turkey, and a number of Egyptian and international public figures and artists, including the international French sculptor Camille Claudel, and the Egyptian artist Zainab El-Segini, in addition to a number of influential bloggers on international and Arab social networking sites specializing in art.

It is worth noting that the visually impaired and blind friends of the museum, in cooperation with the Baseera Foundation, were given the opportunity to enjoy and interact with the holdings of the first international forum for empowerment with art.



Egypt, Spain, and Slovenia in Various Cultural Events at NMEC

Under the title "Searching for the Egyptian Spirit", the theater of NMEC witnessed a cultural and artistic ceremony that mixed the art of Egyptian and Spanish dance, organized in cooperation with the Spanish Embassy in Cairo in the presence of many public figures, celebrities, former ministers, and ambassadors of foreign countries in Cairo, in addition to lovers of art, music, and heritage.



Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim, CEO of the Museum Authority, started the ceremony with a speech in which he welcomed the attendees, expressing his happiness in hosting and organizing such cultural events, which the museum is keen to host within the framework of the museum's cultural and artistic program, emphasizing NMEC's role as a cultural, community, and educational institution to raise cultural and archaeological awareness, improve artistic taste, and introduce the Egyptian people to the various cultures of other peoples. During his speech, Dr. Ahmed spoke about the historical and cultural ties that link Egypt and Spain and the importance of heritage and art for each of them, thanking Mr. Candino Cris, the Spanish cultural advisor in Cairo, and praising the role of the Spanish Cultural Center and its keenness on continuous cooperation in supporting the great cultural and artistic role of the museum.

During his speech, Ambassador Albaroa Eranzo of Spain in Cairo expressed his great appreciation for the effort made to put together the event, stressing the importance of this fruitful cooperation between NMEC and the embassy and mentioning that this celebration further places NMEC as one of the most important cultural projects in the world.

The ceremony witnessed performances by the Spanish band Dani Banolo and young Egyptian artists from the Taksim Institute, during which the artists of the two countries presented a wonderful artistic performance entitled "Search for the Egyptian Spirit", which embodies the character Al-Nadaha, a fictional character from Egyptian folklore, produced by Tarab Group for Performing Arts. The show won the admiration of the audience who attended the celebration, especially the mixing of Egyptian and Spanish folklore.

On a similar note, Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim and Ambassador Sasho Podelsnik, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia in Cairo, inaugurated an art exhibition entitled "The Return of the Goddess Isis" by the Slovenian artist and sculptor Poshtian Kavcic, one of the most important contemporary sculptors in Slovenia, in cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia in Cairo. The exhibition is until May 12, 2023.

The exhibition includes a group of works of art by the sculptor Boshtian Kavcic, which are distinguished by their multiplicity of colors and materials made of bronze and stones, which are inspired by





the ancient Egyptian civilization and the idea of the return of the goddess Isis, the most prominent deity in Ancient Egypt, and express the resurrection and revival of the Egyptian spirit and identity.

Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim emphasized that such activities come within the framework of the various activities that the museum is keen to continuously organize in cooperation with embassies and diplomatic bodies in Egypt, as it is a large edifice that aims to achieve cultural exchange between Egyptians and other people and to introduce Egyptian and foreign visitors to the museum to the ancient civilization of Egypt and its antiquities. For his part, the Ambassador of Slovenia in Cairo expressed his happiness with this fruitful cooperation with the museum, describing the exhibition as an opportunity to introduce Egyptians to Slovenian art and culture represented in the works of the artist and sculptor Bostian Kavcic, which supports the connection and joint relations between the two countries and also comes in light of the cultural activities program that is organized on the occasion of celebrating the month of the European Union in Egypt during the month of May 2023.

The museum organized a sculpture workshop for each of the sculptors, Boshtian Kavcic and Mahmoud Mokhtar Nasr El-Din, an Egyptian contemporary artist who derives his artworks and themes from the ancient Egyptian civilization and has many works of art inside and outside Egypt.

NMEC kicks off the first “Cinema and Civilization” initiative



Under the title “Shady Abdel Salam and the Search for Egyptian Identity”, the museum’s Grand Theater witnessed a cultural and artistic event as part of the first activities of the “Cinema and Civilization” initiative in the presence of public figures, ambassadors, artists, art lovers, critics, writers, and filmmakers.

Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim, CEO of the Museum Authority, gave an opening speech to welcome the guests, expressing his happiness with the museum’s embrace of this event and mentioning that this celebration is the first of the “Cinema and Civilization” Initiative to revive the art of cinema as one of the most prominent Egyptian arts throughout history that dealt with the Egyptian civilization and its archaeological treasures in many cinematic works. The most prominent of the cinematic works is the movie *The Mummy* by the late director Shady Abdel Salam, which tells the story of the Egyptian royal mummies that are displayed at NMEC.

Director Sherif Fathy praised the hosting of such an event in the museum, as it is the most suitable place in the world to celebrate director Shady Abdel Salam, who has a unique cinematic heritage. During the ceremony, a documentary film on the works, history, and life of director Shady Abdel Salam was shown, and an extensive symposium was held in which several colleagues and students of the late Shady Abdel Salam participated in his life and works. Some of the participating colleagues were Dr. Rahma Montaser, assistant editor in the movie *The Mummy*, and Engineer Onsi Abu Saif, assistant set designer for *The Mummy* and set designer for famous films such as “*Ayam Al Sadat*” and *Kit Kat*; Dr. Magdi Abdel Rahman, professor at the Film Institute and researcher in

Egyptian history; Dr. Mahmoud Mabrouk, advisor to the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities for the museum displays; professor of sculpture; and one of Shady Abdel Salam’s students; and Hajj Muhammad Bakr, one of the participants. In the film industry, pioneering Egyptian cinema photography

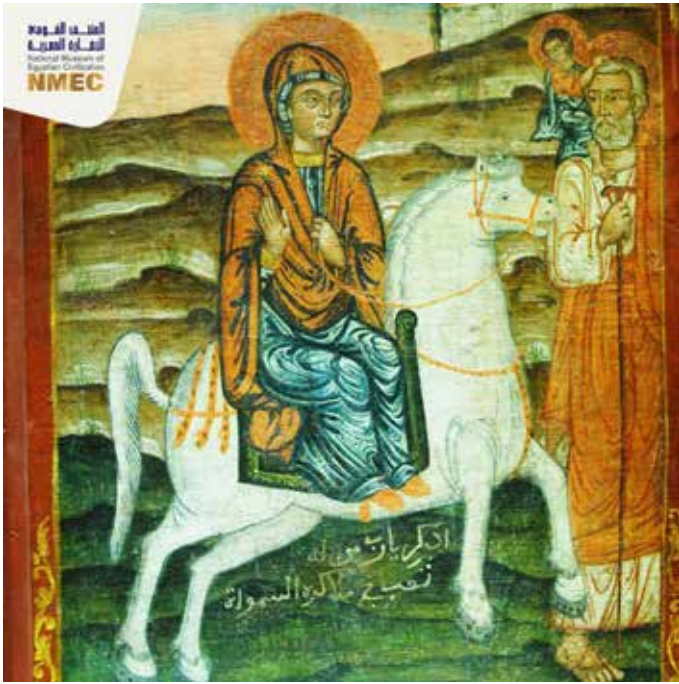
After the symposium, the film “*The Mummy*”, produced in 1969 and directed by the great director Shady Abdel Salam, was shown, which discussed the issue of theft of Egyptian antiquities and the rescue of mummies. The film won many international awards.

The event also included a talk by Dr. Maged Farag, a researcher and historian, in which he talked about his experience working as an assistant to director Shady Abdel Salam and the stage of research and preparation over a period of five years for the project of the movie “*Akhenaten*”, which tells the life story of King Akhenaten, and reviewed photographs of experimental scenes from the film project, for which director Shady Abdel Salam died before its production.

The event concluded with Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim gifting souvenirs to the participants in the *Mummy* movie and those in charge of the initiative.



NMEC commemorates the journey of the Holy Family in Egypt



As part of the celebrations of the anniversary of the journey of the Holy Family in Egypt, which falls on the first of June of each year, the museum organized a celebration in cooperation with the AlQowa Al Naema Foundation for Artistic Production, in the presence of Dr. Mona Zaki CEO of the foundation and among public figures and officials, including Dr. Nevin Al-Kilani, Minister of Culture, representatives of Al-Azhar, the Dar Al Iftaa and the Church, Cardinal Nicholas Tevendenal, the Vatican's ambassador to Egypt, and Mother Kyria Iskandar, the head of St. George's Monastery in Fustat, and a number of ambassadors of Arab and foreign countries in Egypt, and a group of Egyptian and foreign guests, lovers of history, civilization and art.

Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim, CEO of the Museum Authority, started the ceremony with a speech in which he welcomed the attendees, expressing his happiness with this celebration, which celebrates an important occasion and has a historical and religious place with the Egyptian people, stressing the museum's keenness to shed light on this important occasion, which the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities attaches great importance to, and in line with the museum's strategy as a cultural, recreational, archaeological, and educational beacon, to enhance the cultural and archaeological tourism product that characterizes the museum.





Dr. Ghoneim further mentioned that the celebration came as part of the museum's efforts to revive the heritage in various forms, and it is a message of peace, love, and security from the land that embraced the Holy Family, revived its path, and maintained over hundreds of years the celebration and celebration of the journey to Egypt. He pointed to Egypt's efforts to include the popular celebrations associated with the journey of the Holy Family in Egypt on the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List.

The celebrations began with the Egyptian National Anthem, by the soprano artist Dalia Farouk, and a virtual reality tour in cooperation with the Blessed Egypt Foundation and Dr. Maher Asham. The virtual tour took the visitors on a historical journey and toured historical and archaeological stops along the way, with interesting stories about antiquities and history.

NMEC made this experience available to its visitors as part of a temporary exhibition inside the Textile Hall on Friday and Saturday, June 2 and 3, 2023 AD. The celebration also included honoring several Egyptian and international figures who contributed to promoting the path of the Holy Family internally and externally, in addition to holding an exhibition of photographs and paintings by the Egyptian artist Manal Metwally, which showed the path of the Holy Family that had been displayed in Italy before. Manal also painted the Bird Mountain painting, which she gifted to Pope Francis, the Pope of the Vatican, and it was placed in the Vatican.

The event also included an exhibition of photos and videos in seven languages about the Great Escape, as well as a virtual tour with virtual reality technology, so that visitors can live the historical journey from inside historical and archaeological stops that were part of the path of the Holy Family, all at NMEC.



* *Storytelling Workshop the Journey of the Holy Family on Thursday, June 15, 2023 (ages 10-15 years old)*

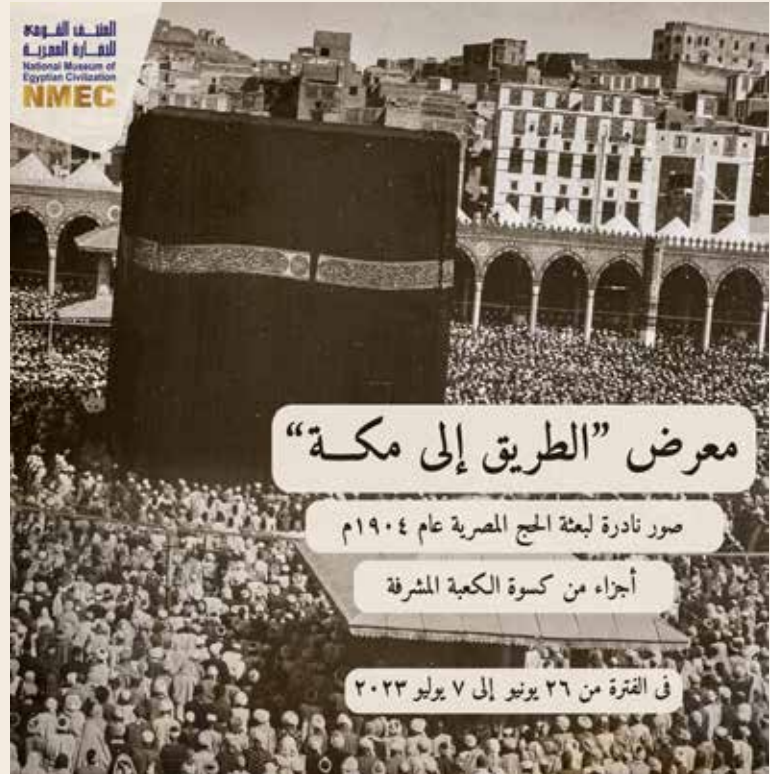
Temporary Exhibition “The Road to Makkah: The Journey of the Kiswa of the Holy Kaaba from Cairo to Makkah

As part of the celebration of the Hajj season and Eid al-Adha, NMEC organized a temporary exhibition under the title “The Road to Makkah: The Journey of the Kiswa of the Holy Kaaba from Cairo to Makkah”, from June 26 to July 7, 2023, at the Textile Gallery of NMEC. The exhibition displayed a rare collection of the museum’s holdings, including the belt of the Holy Kaaba and the Bayrak al-Mahmal from the era of Khedive Ismail, which was written by the calligrapher Abdullah Zuhdi, the calligrapher of the Two Holy Mosques, in addition to a collection of rare photographs of the journey from Cairo to Makkah and of the rituals of Hajj.

The rare image collection was commissioned by Imam Muhammad Abdo, the Grand Mufti of Egypt, in 1904 and captured by Muhammad Effendi Saudi Arabia. These images are a complete documentation of the journey and aspects of life at that time.

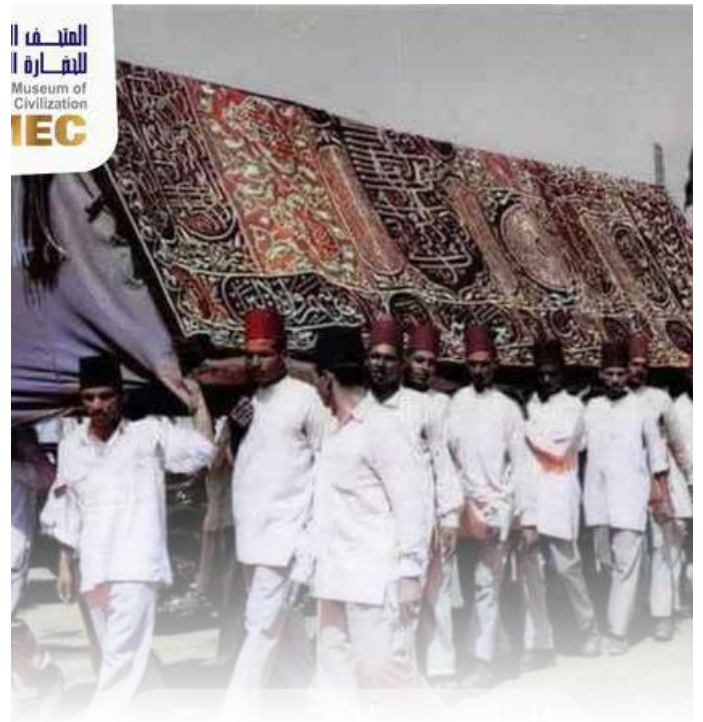
The educational department also organized educational and artistic workshops in Junction. First a storytelling workshop about the pilgrimage journey for children on Thursday, June 22, 2023, which elaborated on the rituals of Hajj, and another storytelling workshop about the Mahmal and its history and the significance of its journey to Mecca.

Also on June 22, 2023, the “Art of Sirma” workshop was organized for adults. The sirma is em-



broidery and decoration on textiles and is one of the traditional arts that were famous in the past in many countries of the Islamic world. The Sirma's association with the Kiswa popularized it and introduced it to the homes of the Mamluk's nobles. The versatility and originality of the sirma allow it to remain part of modern-day décor.





The crafting of the Kiswa is believed to be one of the greatest and most honorable acts in Arab and Islamic culture. As the tradition of the Kiswa goes back to the king "Tubba Asaad Al-Kamil," King of Himyar (387–430 CE), as the first to cover the Kaaba completely in the pre-Islamic period, this tradition has lived on to this day.

The Kiswa varied between cotton, velvet, linen, and silk, and its color also varied between white, red, green, and yellow, until the Abbasid caliph al-Ma'mun (813–833 CE) established the tradition of covering the Kaaba once a year with black silk. The Kiswa covers the four facades of the Kaaba and is decorated with sashes, an inscription from the Holy Qur'an embroidered with silver and gold threads, and the top of the cladding is surrounded by a silk belt embroidered with verses from the Holy Qur'an, 47 meters long, then two ribbons hanging from the top of the rib of the door of the Kaaba, and the rib opposite it is called cradles.



Since the era of Caliph Abi Bakr Al-Siddiq, the places for making the Kiswa varied between Egypt, Damascus, and Yemen, and with the era of King Najm Al-Din Ayyub (1240–1249 CE), Egypt gained the honor of making the Kiswa and sending it annually to Makkah Al-Mukarramah, where many factories were established for its manufacture in Tanis, Tuna, and Shata, the most recent of which was the "Dar Al-Kiswah Al-Mushrifah," which was established by Muhammad Ali in Al-Kharanfash in 1818 CE, and it included hundreds of the most skilled workers in the textile industry and embroidery.

Lecture on the recent advances in 3D tomography analysis and virtual reality in relation to the archaeological field and museum displays

As part of NMEC's continued efforts to activate and enrich the scientific laboratories, a scientific workshop was organized on Monday, May 22, 2023, in the lecture hall, titled "Recent developments in the analysis of 3D tomography and virtual reality in relation to the archaeological field and museum displays," in cooperation with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and the National Research Center (NRC). The lecture touched on several topics, such as: introducing anthropology and various disciplines; virtual anthropology and its applications between the present and the past; how to create and study 3D images; and recent developments in analyzing CT images, 3D, and virtual reality.



Egypt Air presents a new safety instructions film shot at NMEC

Egypt Air produced a new version of the safety instructions film with a new vision inspired by ancient Egyptian civilization, with the help of NMEC, at the Main Gallery at NMEC.



Our Team

• *Nermine Moustafa*

On Sunday, June 25, 2023, Nermine Moustafa, Senior Arts Specialist & Exhibition Designer, obtained a PhD from the Department of Interior Design and Furniture at the Faculty of Applied Arts, Helwan University. The thesis is presented under the title "Applying Universal Criteria of Museum Design to Rehabilitate Open Archaeological Sites: Case study: Revival of Virgin Mary's Tree Site at Al-Matareyah Converting it to an Open Museum", under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Ali Mohamed Senousy, Professor of Tourism Establishments, Head of Interior Design & Furniture Department, Faculty of Applied Arts, Helwan University, and Professor Dr. Ashraf Hussein, Professor of Environmental Design, Faculty of Applied Arts, Helwan University.



• *Walaa Abdel-Fattah Ali*

On Sunday, May 28, 2023, Walaa Abdel-Fattah Ali, Manager of the CEO's Office, obtained a master's degree in heritage and museum studies from the Faculty of Tourism and Hotels, Helwan, with her thesis presented titled "Proposal of green ethics for museums: a case study at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization", under the supervision of both Prof. Dr. Mary Keplian, Professor at the Department of Tourist Guidance at the Faculty of Tourism and Hotels, Helwan University, and Dr. Maha Swailem, Director of the Training Center at NMEC.



• *Sherine Abdel Raouf*

On Thursday, May 25, 2023, Sherine Abdel Raouf, a restoration specialist at the Organic Antiquities Laboratory, Textile Department, obtained a master's degree in heritage and museum studies from the Faculty of Tourism and Hotels at Helwan University with her thesis titled "Baskets in ancient Egypt and methods of preserving, displaying, and storing them", under supervision. Both Prof. Dr. Mary Keplian, a professor at the Department of Tourist Guidance at the Faculty of Tourism and Hotels, Helwan University, and Dr. Manal Abdel Moneim Ghannam, Head of the Central Administration for Maintenance and Restoration in the Projects Sector at the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities.



Our Team



• Muhammad Ezzat Muhammad

On Tuesday, May 30, 2023, Muhammad Ezzat Muhammad, a specialist in the restoration of the organic antiquities' laboratory, the Textile Department, obtained a master's degree in heritage and museum studies from the Faculty of Tourism and Hotels at Helwan University. The National Institute of Egyptian Civilization submitted the thesis titled "The Role of First Aid in Preserving Archaeological Materials, Case Study: The National Museum of Egyptian Civilization", under the supervision of Dr. Mai Muhammad Rifai, Assistant Professor of Mineral Conservation, Department of Restoration, Faculty of Archeology, Cairo University, and Dr. Osama Abdel Warith, Director General of the Children's Museum, and a member of the Executive Council of the International Council of Museums.



• Nourhan Adel Sayed

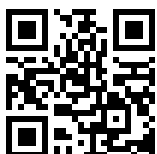
On Monday, May 23, 2023, Nourhan Adel Sayed, a specialist in physics, obtained a master's degree in heritage and museum studies from the Faculty of Tourism and Hotels at Helwan University, and the thesis that was presented was entitled "The societal role of museums during climate change, a case study: The Science Center in the Children's Museum, Egypt". This is under the supervision of Ali Omar, Professor at the Department of Tourism Guidance at the Faculty of Tourism and Hotels, Helwan University, and Dr. Osama Abdel-Warith, Director General of the Children's Museum and a member of the Executive Council of the International Council of Museums.

NEWSLETTER TEAM :

- * Prepared by : Dr. Fatma Bakar
- * Translated by : Mrs. Malak El Khadem
- * Designed by : Mr. Abdallah Yassin

Museum Opening Hours:

The museum is open all days of the week from 9 am to 5 pm, except on Fridays, two shifts from 9 am to 5 pm and from 6 pm to 9 pm.



 Ain Al-Sira - Fustat - Cairo

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