



Associates Newsletter

Kelsey Museum of Archaeology

Fall 1987

Letter from the Director

As this first issue of the *Associates Newsletter* goes to press, I want to thank the Associates of the Kelsey Museum for sponsoring its publication and to give you an idea of what we are hoping it will accomplish. Through the *Newsletter* we hope to keep you better informed about Kelsey programs, special events, staff, and volunteers. Regular features will highlight objects and collections of special interest; current excavations; special exhibitions and research projects on the collections; profiles of members of the staff, research associates, visiting scholars, and volunteers; new publications; Associates-sponsored activities such as lectures, films and mini-courses, archaeological tours, exhibition openings, and the annual jazz benefit; the work of our new docents and museum assistants; and our recent efforts in development. I hope you will let us know if there are other topics you would like us to include.

I would also like to take this opportunity to communicate my own aspirations for the future of the Museum. As you know, the Kelsey has had a long history of distinction in archaeological excavation and publication and, in recent years, under the vigorous directorship of Professor John Griffiths Pedley, the Museum instituted lively programs of special exhibitions, acquisition, and conservation. These areas of our activity are at the heart of our mission as a research and teaching unit of the University, and they are ones that I hope during my term as Director to nurture through increased funding, staff support, and new facilities. Our mission, however, extends beyond these professional goals to more broadly educational and public spirited ones. As a unique resource of the University, the State of Michigan, and Ann Arbor, we have a commitment to share the knowledge we gain through our research not only with colleagues and students but also with the wider community. To that end we are now engaged in an energetic effort to build effective educational programs that will reach a broad sector of the general public as well as departments and units across the University. In this issue of the *Newsletter*, Dr. Lauren Talalay describes what her Associates-sponsored work as Coordinator of Public Programs has meant

for the Museum and its public during the past year. The support of the Associates has been vital to this effort, and I am hopeful that it will lead to an ever increasing audience for what we have to share.

In order to fulfill the potential of the Museum's programs it will be absolutely critical to provide enough space and a proper environment. We are working with the University officers toward a solution of the problems we face, and I look forward to keeping you informed of our progress. Currently under discussion is the possibility of a new complex of museums that would house the Kelsey along with the Museum of Art and the Museum of An-

thropology. We should know within the next few months whether this or another solution will be decided upon. Whatever the solution, however, we will be mounting a large scale fund-raising campaign aimed at a new or expanded facility and at strengthening the Museum's basic programs. I hope I can count on your continued participation as we face the challenge of building a stronger base of support for the Kelsey. The Museum will be 60 years old in 1988 and the building it occupies will be 100. The traditions they represent can only be kept alive if we all work together for a mutually enriching future.

Elaine K. Gazda

Egyptian Mummies: from Ancient Cult to Modern Science

Egyptian mummies will be the focus of an exciting special exhibition at the Kelsey Museum beginning in February and running through August 14, 1988. This exhibition will feature Egyptian mummies as the subject of antiquarian, mystical, and scientific interest from ancient times to the present day. Of special interest to the medical and dental communities will be the focus on the work of Dr. James Harris, famous for his pioneering x-ray analysis of the mummies of the New Kingdom Pharaohs, such as Ramses II and Amenhotep I, a study which also involved Dr. Robert Aldrich and the late Dr. Walter Whitehouse of Ann Arbor. A large number of Dr. Harris' x-rays will be displayed, with commentary on their historical and scientific significance.

This material will be shown in the context of much related documentation, from actual mummies and tissue samples, to the paraphernalia of the Egyptian mummy (which transformed it into a godlike embodiment, according to Egyptian religion) to material documenting the uses and abuses of mummies retrieved from their burial contexts in later times. The latter will incorporate ancient papyri, medieval black magic texts using Mummy Powder, and much more!



Professor Root with Kelsey Mummy Mask

Bob Kaimbach

For the exhibition we hope to have the Brooklyn Museum's two fine representations of Ramses II and Amenhotep I. Curator Margaret Root says, "they will make a compelling visual statement about the *artistic* record of these two pharaohs as historical personalities, with creative mandates of artistic patronage, which it would otherwise be all too easy to lose sight of when these men are viewed as radiological specimens. These reliefs would point out vividly the interesting art historical issue of interplay between verism, idealism, and politically motivated archaism, which is so important in understanding Egyptian royal portraiture. We will, in effect, be able to show these two pharaohs in the full range of their physical embodiments from the actual to the sublime."

Portrait Mosaic from Gerasa in Roman Syria

An important new acquisition is highlighted at the Kelsey Museum this fall in a special exhibition, "A Portrait Mosaic from Gerasa in Roman Syria." The large panel from an elaborate floor mosaic was given to the Museum by the Associates through the generosity of Ann Taylor van Rosevelt. The mosaic, which dates to the second century A.C. was discovered in the early 1900s at the site of ancient Gerasa in what was formerly Roman Syria, now Jordan, just north of Amman. The panel depicts a vivid portrait bust of the 7th Century B.C. Greek poet, Alcman, and is one of only two surviving portraits of this early literary figure well known in antiquity for his choral odes.

The portrait of Alcman was originally one of a series of depictions of literary per-



*The Greek Lyric Poet Alcman
Roman, Mid-2nd Century AC 874.1*

sonages, muses, and personifications of the seasons, all of which once framed a rectangular panel at the center of the mosaic pavement. Within the frame of portraits

were scenes of Dionysus, patron of the theater, and scenes illustrating segments of Greek dramatic works. From this we may imagine that the owner of the mosaic was a patron of the theater who wanted to be associated with the current fashion for things Greek, made popular in Rome by the Emperor Hadrian and his successors.

The Alcman mosaic is a beautiful example of figural work in this medium. In the exhibition it is placed within the context of the site of Gerasa and is displayed alongside textiles, wall paintings, and other mosaics from Roman, late antique, Jewish, and Byzantine (early Christian) traditions.

Following the close of this special exhibition, the Alcman mosaic will become part of the permanent display in the Greek and Roman Gallery. Please note that the Museum will be closed from December 24, 1987 through January 3, 1988.

Margaret Root

Docent Program

"Get yourselves ready," shouts the portrait of Augustus to the other objects in the Greek and Roman galleries of the Kelsey Museum. "It's 8:00 Tuesday and they'll be here any moment!" A commotion ripples through the halls as the various objects ready themselves for important visitors.

"I hope I get to see the pretty mortal with the blonde hair," coos the small bronze Zeus. The standing figure of Venus casts him a disapproving stare. Hermes runs back from his lookout spot at the front door, takes his usual place in the gallery and warns the others, "THEY'RE H. . E. . R. . E. . ."

Through the door walk a carpenter, a homemaker, a doctor, a dental hygienist, a librarian, two professors, a fiction writer, a psychologist, an amateur archaeologist, an economic analyst, an array of thirty people in all.

Since March, 1987 this unusually talented and interesting assortment of people have been convening once a week at the Museum as part of their training in the newly instituted Docent and Assistant Program. The Kelsey Museum has always been committed to public outreach; however, the size of the Museum's staff and their engagement in university teaching and curatorial responsibilities have limited their ability to provide tours and special programs to the community. Elaine Gazda, Director of the Kelsey Museum, decided that the Museum could best meet the need for public outreach by establishing a Docent Program which would involve individuals in the community willing to devote three years of service to the Museum.

The program, though new, is already

successful; the Museum is delighted by the response it has received. A cadre of 30 dedicated and inventive volunteers are becoming artful discussants of the ancient world through classes, exams, oral reports, and lectures. Classes are conducted by the new Coordinator of Public Programs, Lauren Talalay, and other members of the Kelsey staff who lecture on various aspects of the Museum's collections and provide a general framework for understanding the arts and cultures of the ancient Near East and the Mediterranean.

Eventually, the docents and assistants will undertake a wide array of assignments including: giving tours of the Museum, designing traveling suitcases, offering slide presentations, developing games and hands-on projects which will circulate to schools and institution-bound populations throughout Michigan, creating self-guided written tours for children who visit the Museum, and devising special classes for the Hands-on Museum as part of the newly instituted liaison between the two facilities.

Despite their busy schedules outside the Museum, the group has already demonstrated that they are an indefatigable lot. Stroll through the Museum on any given weekday and you will find a number of docents pouring over one task or another. Jane Schwenk can be found wiping her brow in the hot coin room as she helps Barb May reorganize the coin collection; Terry Weingarden is in-putting data for Professor Herbert's excavations at Tel Anafa, Israel; Sheila Ingersoll carefully (very carefully) counts and records objects in the Kelsey's enormous collection of blown and mold-made glass; Esther Warzynski is typing lists for Professor John

Humphrey, whose excavations at Carthage have uncovered a number of unusual burials: Raymond Warzynski, Michelle Kotowicz, and Janet Vavra assist Giovanna Costantini, the Development Officer at the Museum; Janice Beatty presides over the library for several hours a week; and Meredith Klaus' experienced hand edits this newsletter.

Other projects demonstrate that we are only beginning to tap the skill and imagination of our group. Betsy Anderson designed a charming self-guided tour for children of the Egyptian galleries. Beautifully illustrated and written in verse, the guide comes complete with Mummy Club Card, which each child receives after successfully answering the questions on the tour. Barbara Riordan conducted a week-long session this summer for the Hands-on Museum on the ancient Egyptians, which received rave reviews. It included a mummy-making project, an Egyptian banquet, a lesson in hieroglyphic writing, and a visit to the Kelsey Museum.

With all this talent, the Museum feels very optimistic about the future of its outreach program.

It's 10:00 on a Tuesday night. The docents and assistants are gathering up their notebooks after a session at the Museum. Bob, from security, is turning out the lights and locking up. As Bob closes the door, Hermes takes his place at the look-out window. For a split second Bob senses something and turns around. He shrugs his shoulders thinking it's just his imagination. Everyone leaves, none the wiser.

Lauren Talalay

The Docent and Assistant program has been funded by the Associates and a grant from the Ann Arbor Area Foundation.

Profile: Roger McCleary

Portals to Eternity, the impressive exhibit currently occupying two special exhibition galleries at the Kelsey is based on the work of Dr. Roger McCleary, visiting curator from Toronto. With Dr. Marti Allen, Coordinator of Collections, and Kelsey's artist-technician, David Slee, Roger spent five months working assiduously to produce the effective installation of Terenouthis material excavated by Dr. Enoch Peterson in 1935.

Roger was born near Toronto in the small village of Swansea, since swallowed by metropolitan Toronto. He remembers it as a quiet and comfortable place to live "where the garbage was collected three times a week, and the collectors would return your garbage cans to their proper place." Swansea and Roger both became part of urban Toronto: Swansea by a reorganization of the local government; Roger by enrolling at the University of Toronto, where he later received his BA in Classics.

Distracted by personal concerns, he did not continue his academic career immediately, but spent the next four years as a social worker in metropolitan Toronto, concerned with, among other things, efforts to return patients to the community. Careful husbanding of his financial resources during these years enabled him, in 1973, to travel to England and enroll in Cambridge University. He entered the Sec-



Roger McCleary

ond Tripos program which confers both BA and MA in a two-year period.

Concentrating in Egyptology, Roger recalls the rigorous schedule demanded of the students—a weekly essay "we would research one essay while writing another"—as well as a weekly four-hour oral exam with a supervisor of studies, not at all intended as a friendly social hour. In addition, there was practical gallery work in the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge, a museum which Roger highly recommends to anyone on a tour of England.

Returning to the University of Toronto he entered the field of art history, earning an MA and PhD between 1978-85, writing his PhD dissertation on *Funerary Stelae with the*

Orans—Motif: Workshop Traditions in Terenouthis during the Roman Occupation of Egypt. It was this work that first brought Roger to the Kelsey, since one-third of the stelae discussed in his thesis are in our collection.

Finishing his doctoral work, Roger returned to the Kelsey in September, 1986. He has since taught a course on the art and architecture of Ptolemaic and Graeco-Roman Egypt and is assisting in a course taught by Professor Sharon Herbert on the art and architecture of Ancient Egypt. Each week he assembles 40 or 50 objects from the reserve collection and discusses them with students. He enjoys this task and, in the future, plans to work with other museum collections.

Meanwhile, he is hard at work on 200 stelae from Terenouthis. These were first published by Finley A. Hooper in the Kelsey Studies series, *Funerary Stelae from Kom Abou Billou*. Roger is continuing this effort and has created an impressive array of charts that describe the stones in minute detail—from the position of the hands of the orants to the shape of the Greek letters in the inscriptions. From these analyses he hopes to be able to establish a chronology for the stones, which are now "floating in a 400 year span." Publications of this material will, it is hoped, establish a model for dating of these stones and their counterparts in other museum collections around the world.

Meredith Klaus

Olivia Street Stompers Once Again Benefit "The Kelsey and All That Jazz"

January 29, 1988 will mark the fourth annual KELSEY AND ALL THAT JAZZ benefit. Associates of the Kelsey Museum and their friends are, once again, going to enjoy Ann Arbor's premier Dixieland jazz band, The Olivia Street Stompers, in another unique concert/dance at the Michigan League. The Stompers are led by U-M Professors of Classical Studies, David Ross, trumpeter, and John D'Arms, pianist, who is also Dean of the Rackham School of Graduate Studies. Other band members are tenor banjo player Kate Ross, drummer Howard Shumann, trombonist John Teachout, and clarinetist Herschel Wallace.

The benefit will begin at 8 p.m. in the Ballroom of the Michigan League, North University at South Ingalls. Tickets are \$20 per person, \$5 for students. Refreshments are included and there will be a cash bar. Kelsey Associates will receive further information in the mail in the upcoming weeks. Hold this date open for an evening of foot-stomping fun!

Excavation News

During the past year, Professor John Pedley was on sabbatical in England and Italy preparing the first of two volumes on his excavation of the Greek and Roman sanctuary of Santa Venera at **Paestum** in southern Italy, which the Kelsey Museum has co-sponsored with the University of Perugia and the Soprintendenza di Salerno since 1981. The Paestum volumes will be published in Rome by the firm of Giorgio Bretschneider. In September, we welcomed Professor Pedley back to Ann Arbor to teach full time in the Department of Classical Studies and to serve on the Kelsey Museum's Executive Committee.

Professor Sharon Herbert, Associate Curator of Excavations, continues work on the publication of her excavation at **Tel Anafa**, a Hellenistic and Roman trading center in Israel, which the Kelsey has co-sponsored with the Museum of Art and Archaeology of the University of Missouri since 1978. The first volume, to be published in the Kelsey Museum Studies, is anticipated in 1989. In December, Professor Herbert, together with Professor Henry Wright of the Department of Anthropol-

ogy and Professor William Farrand of the Department of Geology, is initiating field work at the well-known site of **Coptos** in Upper Egypt under the joint auspices of the Center for Near Eastern and North African Studies, the Kelsey Museum, and the Departments of Geology and Anthropology.

Last summer, Professor John Humphrey was back in the field at **Carthage** to excavate a cemetery of the late Roman period located just outside the Theodosian city wall. Numerous burials were uncovered along with a large mosaic pavement. Professor Humphrey plans another season for the coming summer.

Future issues of the *Newsletter* will feature each of these Kelsey projects.

Meredith Klaus, Editor

Kelsey Museum Staff

Director

Elaine Gazda

Curators

Sharon Herbert, *Excavations*

Roger McCleary, *Visiting Curator*

Margaret Root, *Collections & Exhibitions*

Amy Rosenberg, *Conservation*

Research Scientists

John Humphrey

John Pedley

Coordinator of Collections

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Jackie Monk, *Office Assistant*

Julie Endicott, *Associates Secretary*

The Kelsey Museum Associates

The Kelsey Museum **Associates** help the Museum to acquire important objects, sponsor educational activities and provide general museum support. The Public is welcome to join the **Associates** and participate in Museum activities. Information is available by calling (313) 764-9304.

Associates Board Members

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The Museum is open to the public
Monday-Friday 9:00-4:00
and Saturday-Sunday 1:00-4:00

Calendar of Events

Portals to Eternity—closes January 24

The Kelsey and All That Jazz—January 29

Egyptian Mummies: From Ancient Cult to Modern Science—opens February 5th
(reception on March 25th, see below)

Lecture by Dr. Mieczyslaw Rodziewicz,
Visiting Professor, "Alexandrian Wall
Painting"—February 16

Mini-course on **Egyptian Mummies**
Saturdays in March, 1988

Lecture by Dr. Olga Soffer, "Ceramics Before
Pots, Ground Stones Before Grain:
Moravian Mammoth Hunters at 25,000 B.P."
March 22

Lecture by James Harris, D.D.S. followed
by a reception at the Kelsey Museum
March 25

Spring Members' Dinner Meeting—April
(date to be announced)

Archaeological Tour of Turkey
May 7-18, 1988

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