THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF ANCIENT EGYPT S.S.A.E.







Are proud to present an illustrated Lecture on

"'Forgotten hands: Spotting the individual marks and ocuvres of Ancient Egyptian artists".

Date: Saturday, December 2nd at 2.00 pm

The lecture lasts approximately 2 hours including a break.

Speaker: Marcel Marée,

Assistant Keeper at the Department of Ancient Egypt & Sudan in the British

Museum

Location: The Nottingham Mechanics, 3 North Sherwood Street, Nottingham ,NG1 4EZ

Admission: Free to Members, Day-Visitor £4 on the door.

Topic: Forgotten hands:

Spotting the individual marks and oeuvres of ancient Egyptian artists.

The monuments of ancient Egypt advertise the names and societal roles of kings, officials and other members of the elite, with scant room for less privileged folk.

The people who actually made the monuments go typically unmentioned: Egyptian artists did not sign their work, as this would be an intrusion on the sacred sphere for which their products were destined, as someone else's property.

The modern observer might infer that we stand little chance of discerning the oeuvres of individual artistic hands. The task is compounded by the fact that many artists certainly worked in multiple places and varying teams. After completion and handover, the products themselves might travel also.

How, then, could we ever know where and by whom particular statues, stelae, coffins, tombs etc. were made and decorated?

Despite the striking uniformity of pharaonic art, the answer is to be found in variations of style. The key lies not so much in elements of layout and design, which an artist can vary at will, but in small peculiarities and flourishes that he repeats unthinkingly, no matter the overall composition. Detection of such personal quirks reveals artistic links between widely dispersed monuments, including many that have no documented provenance.

Each re-assembled 'artistic dossier' sheds more light on the organisation of draughtsmen and sculptors, on the contexts and places in which they worked, on the ranges of patrons they served, on the artists' mobility, and even on some of the artists' identities.

The SSAE was formed in 1992 and is aimed at people in the Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and south Yorkshire areas with an interest in Ancient Egyptian history and art.

Please see our website **www.egyptology-ssae.org** for further details. Email us at **egyptologyssae@gmail.com**

Or give us a call on **01246 276771 or 0115 9235912**