



Bringing Ancient Egypt to the East Midlands

Are proud to present an illustrated Lecture on
**A One-way Ticket from Egypt to Italy:
The Two Lives of Egyptian Obelisks.**

- Date:** Saturday, December 1st at 2.00 pm
The lecture lasts approximately 2 hours including a break.
- Speaker:** Dr Luigi Prada: University of Oxford
- Location:** The Nottingham Mechanics, 3 North Sherwood Street,
Nottingham, NG1 4EZ
- Admission:** Free to Members, Day-Visitor £4 on the door.
- Requirements:** No previous knowledge required, our group is aimed at everyone with a love of ancient Egypt.
- Topic:** A One-way Ticket from Egypt to Italy:
The Two Lives of Egyptian Obelisks.

Today, there are more obelisks standing in Rome than there are in all of Egypt—with more to be found in other locations around Italy and what used to be the Roman Empire. Starting with Augustus and for centuries since, the Romans removed from Egypt tens of obelisks to display them in their cities as monuments to their power. But the Roman interest in Egypt's obelisks was not limited to their re-use as political propaganda. In several cases, the Romans themselves commissioned new obelisks, having them carved with unique and peculiar inscriptions. Far from being spoils of war, such obelisks stand as ancient monuments of cultural appropriation, through which Rome's emperors and notables claimed for themselves Egypt's linguistic, religious, and artistic traditions. This talk will present the story of Rome's fascination with ancient Egypt and its monuments. By integrating their archaeological context with newly prepared translations of their inscriptions, it will show how Egyptian obelisks fitted not only in the Empire's political agenda, but also as part of the cultural life of its elites.

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