

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

Albany Institute of History & Art

125 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12210

T: (518) 463-4478; F: (518) 462-1522

www.albanyinstitute.org

www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute

www.twitter.com/albanyinstitute

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 19, 2013

CONTACT:

Tammis K. Groft,
Executive Director and Chief Curator
grofttk@albanyinstitute.org
(518) 463-4478 ext 423

Aine Leader-Nagy,
Marketing Associate
leader.nagya@albanyinstitute.org
(518) 463-4478 ext 408

THE MYSTERY OF THE ALBANY MUMMIES LECTURE WITH GUEST CURATOR DR. PETER LACOVARA

Sunday, September 22, 2013 at 2PM

Part of the GE Presents: The Mystery of the Albany Mummies Lecture Series

In conjunction with its newest exhibition, *GE Presents: The Mystery of the Albany Mummies*, the Albany Institute of History & Art will host an international lecture series, *GE Presents: The Mystery of the Albany Mummies Lecture Series*. The first lecture will take place on Sunday, September 22, 2013, at 2 PM. Dr. Peter Lacovara, Senior Curator of Ancient Egyptian, Nubian, and Near Eastern Art at the Michael C. Carlos Museum in Atlanta, and guest curator of the new *GE Presents: The Mystery of the Albany Mummies* exhibition, will explore how he helped solve the mystery of the Albany Mummies, gathered objects from around the world to tell the story of Ankhefenmut and his coffin, and how the exhibition offers a window into the life in ancient Egypt's 21st Dynasty. The lecture is free with museum admission.

GE Presents: The Mystery of the Albany Mummies Lecture Series features archaeologists, curators, and scholars from around the world who will share their insights into ancient Egyptian life, art, and funerary practices, as well as recent scientific revelations about the Albany Mummies. This new information includes CT scans and X-rays done by Albany Medical Center in 2012. Upcoming speakers for 2013 are listed below. More speakers are scheduled for Winter/Spring 2014.

- ❖ Nicholas Reeves, Lila Acheson Wallace Associate Curator, Department of Egyptian Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art
Amenhotep's Mask and His Book of the Dead
Sunday, October 27, 2PM

- ❖ Anna Tobin D'Ambrosio, Director, Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute Museum of Art

Shadow of the Sphinx: Ancient Egypt and Its Influences

Sunday, November 17, 2PM

- ❖ Joyce Haynes, Consultant Egyptologist

Reading Ancient Lives: Translating Hieroglyphs

Sunday, December 8, 2PM

GE Presents: The Mystery of the Albany Mummies lecture series will be held at the Albany Institute of History & Art, located at 125 Washington Avenue in Albany, New York. *GE Presents: The Mystery of the Albany Mummies* exhibition runs from September 21, 2013 through June 8, 2014.

GE Presents: The Mystery of the Albany Mummies is the largest exhibition on Ancient Egypt ever presented in New York's Capital Region. Art and artifacts from around the world, combined with advanced medical technologies help unravel the mystery of the Albany Mummies. Acquired directly from the Cairo Museum in 1909, the Albany Institute's mummies have kept secrets that only recently have been revealed. Visit the exhibition to discover how new research, new technologies, and a team of experts have helped uncover their hidden stories. Learn about their lives and the ancient practice of mummification, all at the Albany Institute of History & Art.

- **From Cairo to Albany** highlights the 1909 acquisition of the two mummies and their coffins from the Cairo Museum.
- **Preparing for the Afterlife** examines the science of mummification through interactive stations and shows the results of new CT scans and x-rays taken at Albany Medical Center.
- **Ankhefenmut and His World** explores the daily life and culture of ancient Egypt during the 21st Dynasty.
- **Egyptomania** will showcase our ongoing fascination with ancient Egypt.

Interactive stations include: How to Make a Mummy, Pharaoh for a Day, Learn Hieroglyphs, and more!

Family Festivals, Art for All activities, and an **International Lecture Series** will be offered.

A special **Museum Shop** will offer Egyptian-themed items.

The museum is open Wednesday-Saturday 10AM-5PM, Thursdays until 8PM (starting October 2013) and Sunday Noon-5PM. On Tuesdays, the museum is open to registered groups only. The museum is closed on Mondays and major holidays. Admission is FREE for Albany Institute members; \$10/adults; \$8/seniors and students with ID; \$6/children 6-12; FREE/children under 6. For more information, visit www.albanyinstitute.org or call (518) 463-4478.

* * * * *

The Albany Institute's distinguished collections and acclaimed exhibitions comprise the definitive expression of the cultural, historical, and artistic heritage of Albany and the upper Hudson Valley. From its world-renowned Hudson River School collection, to the famous Albany Mummies, to the wide range of lectures, outstanding educational and family programming, and special events, this distinctive and engaging institution provides visitors of all ages and interests with a splendid museum experience. One of America's oldest museums, the Albany Institute of History & Art was founded in 1791, during the presidency of George Washington, making it older than the Louvre, the Smithsonian, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

For more information, please visit www.albanyinstitute.org and be sure to follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/albanyinstitute).

#