

Discover the Enigmatic Portraits of the Ptolemies and Uncover Ancient Egypt's Royal Lineage

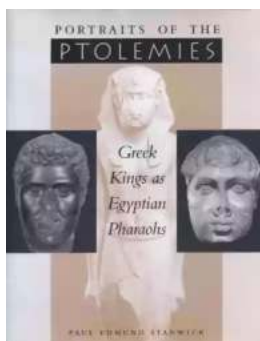


Ancient Egypt is a treasure trove of mysteries and secrets. Among the most captivating mysteries are the extraordinary portraits of the Ptolemies, the ruling

dynasty of Egypt during the Hellenistic period.

The Royal Lineage of the Ptolemies

The Ptolemies were a Macedonian-Greek dynasty that ruled Egypt for nearly three centuries, from 305 BC to 30 BC. Founded by Ptolemy I Soter, a general in the army of Alexander the Great, the Ptolemaic Dynasty left an indelible mark on Egyptian history.



Portraits of the Ptolemies: Greek Kings as Egyptian Pharaohs by Paul Edmund Stanwick(Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 685 pages



One of the most fascinating aspects of this dynasty is the way the Ptolemies portrayed themselves through art. Unlike most other ancient Egyptian pharaohs who adhered to strict artistic conventions, the Ptolemaic rulers depicted themselves in a unique style that combined Greek and Egyptian artistic influences.

The Enigmatic Portraits

The portraits of the Ptolemies are distinct from traditional Egyptian portraits. Instead of portraying themselves as god-like figures, they depicted themselves realistically, showcasing their individual features, personalities, and emotions.

These stunning portraits provide us with remarkable insights into the lives of these ancient rulers.

What distinguishes the portraits of the Ptolemies even further is the combination of Greek and Egyptian artistic elements. The artists skillfully blended the naturalistic style of Greek portraiture with the symbolic and rigid conventions of Egyptian art. This fusion resulted in unique and captivating depictions that mesmerize art enthusiasts to this day.



Elaborate Symbolism and Hidden Meanings

Each portrait of a Ptolemaic ruler is rich with symbolism and hidden meanings. Through the intricate details, the artists conveyed not only the physical appearance of the ruler but also their lineage, divine connections, and political aspirations.

The portraits often included crowns adorned with various symbolic elements representing their royal status, alignment with gods, and connections to the Hellenistic world. The regalia worn by the Ptolemies reflected their power and authority, making these incredible works of art much more than mere representations of the rulers' physical appearance.

A Glimpse into the Ancient World

The Ptolemaic portraits bring us face-to-face with the ancient world. They offer us a direct connection to the past, allowing us to witness the intricate details of the rulers' appearances, their clothing, and the artistic techniques used during this period.

Looking at these portraits, one cannot help but wonder about the lives these rulers led and the impact they had on the state of Egypt. Through the artistry of these portraits, we gain insight into their ambitions, their relationships, and their aspirations for themselves and their empire.



Preserving the Legacy

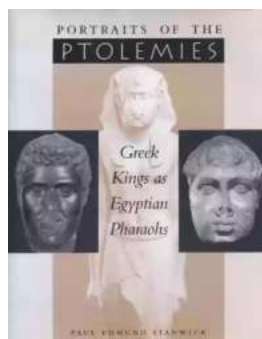
Many of these remarkable portraits have been preserved, allowing us to study and appreciate their significance today. Institutions such as the British Museum, The Louvre, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art house some of the most iconic Ptolemaic portraits, providing us with the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the beauty and grandeur of ancient Egypt.

Uncover the Secrets of the Ptolemies

The portraits of the Ptolemies continue to captivate and inspire people from around the world. They serve as a reminder of the extraordinary blend of cultures that characterized ancient Egypt and the Hellenistic world.

By exploring these enigmatic portraits, we can delve deeper into the lives of the Ptolemaic rulers, understand their influence on Egyptian history, and appreciate the artistic elegance that emerged from this fascinating period.

Allow yourself to be transported back in time as you gaze into the eyes of the Ptolemies and embark on a journey through the intriguing world of ancient Egypt.



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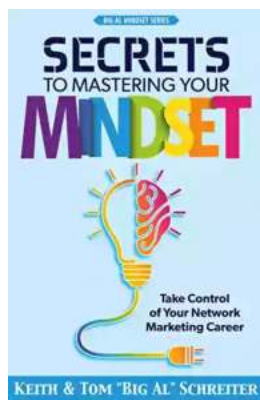
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As archaeologists recover the lost treasures of Alexandria, the modern world is marveling at the latter-day glory of ancient Egypt and the Greeks who ruled it from the ascension of Ptolemy I in 306 B.C. to the death of Cleopatra the Great in 30 B.C. The abundance and magnificence of royal sculptures from this period testify to the power of the Ptolemaic dynasty and its influence on Egyptian artistic traditions that even then were more than two thousand years old. In this book, Paul Edmund Stanwick undertakes the first complete study of Egyptian-style

portraits of the Ptolemies. Examining one hundred and fifty sculptures from the vantage points of literary evidence, archaeology, history, religion, and stylistic development, he fully explores how they meld Egyptian and Greek cultural traditions and evoke surrounding social developments and political events. To do this, he develops a "visual vocabulary" for reading royal portraiture and discusses how the portraits helped legitimate the Ptolemies and advance their ideology. Stanwick also sheds new light on the chronology of the sculptures, giving dates to many previously undated ones and showing that others belong outside the Ptolemaic period.



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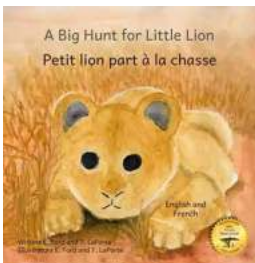
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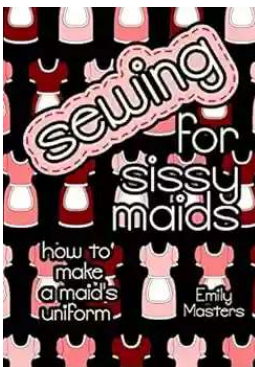
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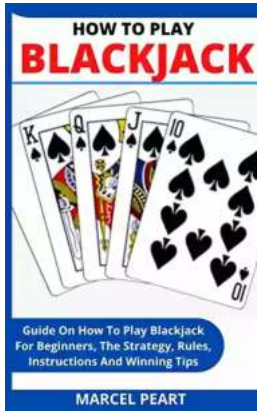
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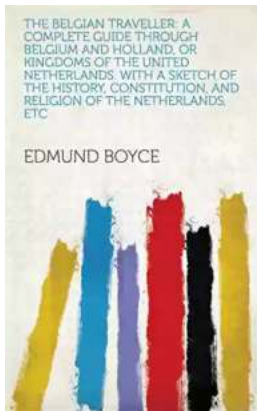
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