



October 2017



EGYPT EXPLORATION ORGANIZATION
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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Recently retired as Professor of History and Archaeology at the American University of Beirut (AUB), **Peter Dorman** is a humanist and an international leader in the study of the ancient Near East, in particular the field of Egyptology, in which he is a noted historiographer, epigrapher and philologist. He is the author and editor of several major books on the study of ancient Egypt and is probably best known for his historical work on the reign of Hatshepsut and the Amarna period. His primary research interests are epigraphy, the history of the Egyptian New Kingdom, the archaeology of ancient Thebes (Luxor), and the intersection of art, text, and religious iconography.

Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017, 5:00 p.m.

" The Surprising Emergence of the Egyptian Book of the Dead at the Beginning of the New Kingdom"

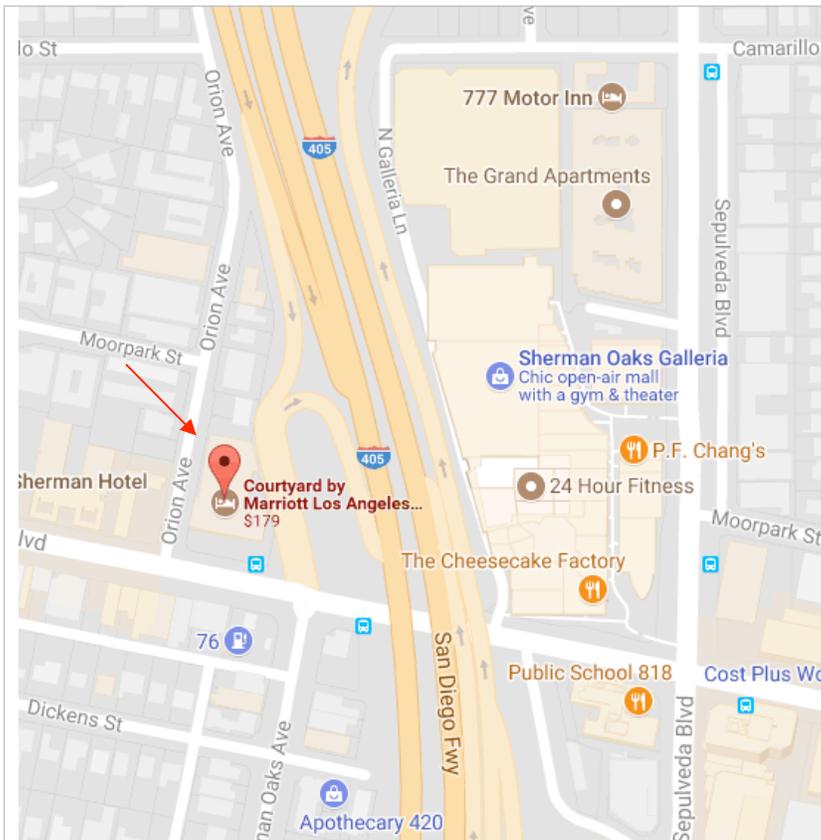
Dr. Peter F. Dorman

Professor Emeritus, University of Chicago

The ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead is an integral part of the long tradition of mortuary literature that descends from the earlier Pyramid Texts of the Old Kingdom and Coffin Texts of the Middle Kingdom. Included in private burials in the form of brilliantly illuminated papyrus scrolls beginning in the early New Kingdom, these scrolls were known in ancient times as the "Book of Coming Forth by Day," and their purpose was to help effect the transfiguration of the deceased's soul as an immortal, effective spirit.

The formulation of the Book of the Dead as a series of texts on a papyrus scroll, however, was by no means foreordained. In fact, the transmigration of ritual spells from coffins of the Middle Kingdom to papyri of the New Kingdom was determined by major changes in burial custom, which also entailed experimentation with different materials that could most effectively be used in private burials. This lecture traces those burial changes, the evolution of textual transmission, the origin of illustrated vignettes, the central role of Theban region in the creation of this new funerary tradition, and the somewhat surprising end product—namely, Books of the Dead that could be afforded only by the wealthy elite.

Lecture location, map and directions on next page.



Nov. 4 Meeting Location

Brentwood Room
 Marriott Courtyard Sherman Oaks
 15433 Ventura Boulevard
 Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
(Just west of the Sherman Oaks Galleria on the other side of the 405 Freeway.)

Parking: Traveling west on Ventura, pass the hotel and turn right on Orion. Follow signs for self-parking. After parking, follow signs to entrance of the hotel and find your way to the lobby. NOTE: There is a \$5.00 parking fee payable at parking cashier.

Finding the Brentwood Room: A sign will be posted in the hotel lobby pointing to the Brentwood Room (just off lobby).

Ancient Egypt in the News



Sept. 30, 2017 – Gypsum head of King Akhenaten statue unearthed in Egypt's Minya – A British-Egyptian archaeological mission from Cambridge University has discovered a gypsum head from a statue of King Akhenaten (around 1300 BC) during excavation work in Tel El-Amarna in Egypt's Minya governorate. The head – which is 9cm tall, 13.5 cm long and 8 cm wide – was unearthed during excavation work in the first hall of the Great Atun Temple in Tel El-Amarna [Read full article](#)



Sept. 25, 2017 – Two toes of King Psamtik I statue excavated in Matariya – Parts of the eight-meter statue were found submerged in groundwater in the Matariya area in Ain Shams district at the location where King Ramses II is believed to have built his Temple, in a city called Oun in Ancient Egypt. The mission also found the statue's pedestal made of limestone and bearing a hieroglyphic inscription. [Read full article](#)



EGYPT EXPLORATION ORGANIZATION
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Our Organization

The **Egypt Exploration Organization of Southern California** (EEO/SC) is a nonprofit organization that hosts Egyptologists from all over the world to give public lectures.

Requested donation for attending a lecture is **\$15 for EEO/SC members and \$20 for nonmembers**. Light snacks and beverages are served at the meetings. For additional information about our organization or events, please visit our website at www.egyptexploration.org or contact one of the following:

Susan Spohr (213) 792-0832

Stephen Schimpf (310) 951-8128

To learn more, go to: <http://www.egyptexploration.org>

Save These Dates!



November 4, 2017

Dr. Peter F. Dorman, Professor Emeritus, University of Chicago, will speak about “**The Surprising Emergence of the Egyptian Book of the Dead at the Beginning of the New Kingdom**”



December 9, 2017

Dr. Salima Ikram, Professor of Egyptology, American University, Cairo
Topic & Location TBD