

FREE EGYPT LECTURE

Nicholson Museum Invitation

Sunday 6 September 2009

Pamela Chauvel

THE CURSE OF TUTANKHAMUN

'Death shall come on swift wings to him who disturbs the peace of the King'



Pamela Chauvel is a senior education officer with Sydney University Museums.

She has a particular interest in the truth of historical excavations compared with popular perceptions, and it is this that forms the basis of her fascination with Tutankhamun and the mummy's curse.



From the moment Howard Carter broke the seals of Tutankhamun's tomb in November 1922, the world has been fascinated by this once all but forgotten young king and the wonderful treasures buried with him.

The death of Carter's backer, Lord Carnarvon, a few months after the opening of the tomb, sent the press into a frenzy of rumours about a curse.

Was there any basis for these rumours? Is there any truth in the idea of a mummy's curse?

This talk will examine the circumstances surrounding Lord Carnarvon's death, the part played by Egyptomania and Gothic fiction in the public's imagination, and whether there is any historical evidence for curses in Ancient Egyptian tombs.

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2 pm

In the Nicholson Museum
Main Quadrangle, University of Sydney

FREE EVENT

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL 9351 2812 or m.turner@usyd.edu.au

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