THE
KELSEY
MUSEUM
of
ARCHAEOLOGY

# $K \cdot E \cdot L \cdot S \cdot E \cdot Y$ $M \cdot U \cdot S \cdot E \cdot U \cdot M$ $N \cdot E \cdot W \cdot S \cdot L \cdot E \cdot T \cdot T \cdot E \cdot R$

PUBLISHED BY THE ASSOCIATES OF THE MUSEUM

SPRING 1999

# Meetinghouse to Museum: The Legacy of Newberry Hall

If you have passed by the Kelsey Museum in the past few months, you have probably noticed workmen busily digging, removing material, or laying fieldstone. This project, underway since last September, is a renovation to the front façade of our building in order to accommodate a new access ramp.

University planners sought to develop a design that would allow the building to conform to current access codes but also maintain the historic "feel" of the original architecture and do as little damage to the shell of the building as possible. After a number of possible designs had been considered, they opted for a functional and appropriate alternative. First, they removed the overgrown shrubbery at the front of the building, elevated and graded our

front lawn, and added a new walkway. They then raised the level of the existing front porch to facilitate access and removed and rebuilt the front stairs to accommodate the new entrance. Finally two new fieldstone planters, closely matching the original stone of the building, were added flanking the stairs. This spring the front lawn will be reseeded and planted with grass, flowers, and shrubs. The result will be a beautiful new façade that blends unobtrusively with the original architecture but meets the mandates of contemporary building codes.

When we talk about such improvements or changes to the structure of the Museum, often the first reaction is, "But it's such a beautiful historic building as it is. It seems a shame to change it!"

While most of us here share that notion, at least in principle, it is also important to recognize that, in order to accommodate the changing needs of our curators, staff, and students, we must be continually on the alert for ways to improve our physical plant.

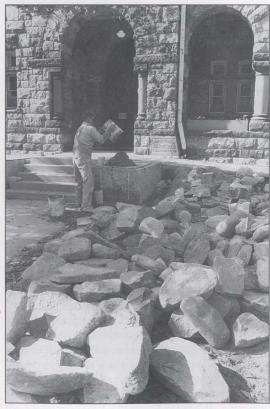
#### Students' Christian Association

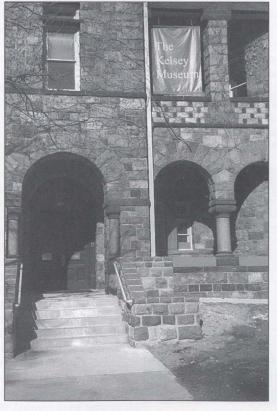
In fact, this process of continual change and upgrade has been going on almost since the building was completed. Newberry Hall, which was built to house the Students' Christian Association, had originally been conceived as a modest, one-story structure. Construction began in 1888 but suffered numerous delays as the design expanded. The building in its present form was completed in 1891, for the then-considerable

sum of \$40,000.

A meeting place for students, the building had several small rooms on the first floor (the current Museum galleries), while a large auditorium occupied the entire upper level, complete with sloped floor, a semicircular lecture stage at the west end of the building, and a small choir loft at the east end. The focal point of the auditorium was the lovely Tiffany stained-glass window on the north wall (currently the Kelsey Library).

The need for the building as a meeting space eventually declined, partially due to the later construction of the Michigan Union, and after a few years Newberry Hall was rented to the University as classroom space. The





At left a workman prepares to face the new planters with fieldstone. At right, the newly renovated façade awaits landscaping.

2 SPRING 1999

# Notes from the Director

As this issue of the Newsletter illustrates, the Kelsey is full of surprises—from hidden fireplaces to misplaced corpses. "Excavating" within our own building is one of the things that makes the director's job so pleasurable. This and the people—staff, students, and volunteers—with whom I share the fun of exploring and displaying the Museum's treasures.

This has been a good year at the Kelsey. We put up two shows. The first, *Expedition!*, brought the Museum's long and ongoing fieldwork to public attention. The second, *Music in Roman Egypt*, shows off our collection of ancient musical instruments and explores the intricacies of ancient music.

The Kelsey Associates' activities ranged from a fall tour of Israel and Jordan to the very successful Kelsey Cabaret, which celebrated the opening of the *Music* show. With the Associates' help, and under the capable supervision of Laurie Talalay and Todd Gerring, we have reinstituted the popular family days with a Mummy Day on April 24 and another planned for May 15.

Personally this has been a particularly rewarding year for me. I enjoyed leading the fall tour to the Mideast and the chance to get to know better a number of our friends and associates. The news, received just this past month, that my new field project at Kedesh in Israel has received three years of funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities considerably brightened my spring. I look forward to reporting to you on this and the other myriad activities of the Kelsey in newsletters to come.

Sharon C. Herbert, Director

newly amassed museum collections, obtained by Francis Kelsey and others, were moved there in 1928, and the building was ultimately sold to the University in 1937. It remained Newberry Hall until 1953, when the name was officially changed to the Francis W. Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.

Transformation into a Museum

In the evolution of Newberry Hall from a meeting house to a museum, many changes have been made to the interior to accommodate the changing needs of its occupants. Originally coal-heated, the building had several chimneys, a dumbwaiter to haul coal from the

The Associates group at Petra, October 1998.

basement to the upper floors, and a coal chute into the basement. All these were boarded up when the building was converted to steam heating. The upper floor, where the bulk of the Museum's collections were stored until the third floor was added in 1993, was particularly unsuited for its new purpose. Although part of the stage and the pew seating had been removed, the slope of the floor required that artifact storage cabinets, shelving, and even desks and tables had to be drastically shimmed in order to make them level. Over time the cavernous space was carved into small offices, a library, a conservation laboratory, and a collections study area.

The old choir loft, which could only be reached by ascending a beautiful solid cherry circular staircase in the northeast turret, became the Museum's archival storage. For security reasons the set of stairs originally at the northwest corner of the building was removed and replaced with an outside fire escape. In the 1950s the pounded-earth floor of the basement was poured with cement, a basement fire escape was added, and more workspaces and artifact storage rooms were created there.

Throughout the 1970s and

1980s it became increasingly clear that the Museum had filled and outgrown its space. Staff members began to think about ways to ameliorate the problem. Suggestions included constructing an addition, relocating to a different building, or splitting the Museum's function and personnel into multiple locations.

#### Renovation in the 1990s

In the early 1990s newly hired Conservator Geoff Brown devised the SAFE project. Motivated by a desire to provide a controlled environment for sensitive artifacts in the Museum's collections, such as paper, wood, textiles, and glass, the original plan called for the construction of a large enclosed and air-conditioned storage area in the existing second floor collections storage spacein effect, a "safe box." To recoup some of the workspace lost to the new storage area, a set of stairs leading to the roof of the "box" was incorporated into the design. But it was soon apparent that, since there was enough room to add a workspace to the top of the new construction, it was more sensible to add an entirely new floor to the building. This plan would provide an opportunity to add better fire suppression, air conditioning, an elevator, and many other changes that would improve the safety, security, and comfort of the artifacts and occupants in the building.

Consequently, the steel and cement third floor was added, which involved coring through the walls and installing new structural beams into the foundations of the building. Along with the collections storage, the registry and the conservation lab were relocated to the new level, leaving the second floor free for curatorial and administrative offices, student areas, and the library. Parts of both the first and second floors were removed, and an elevator shaft was constructed. The sloping second floor was leveled. Two massive air handlers were installed—one to control temperature and humidity in the new artifact storage area, the other to cool the new offices and halls. The old choir loft was removed and the cherry stairs replaced by code-approved metal fire stairs. Sprinkler pipes were added to all three upper levels, and a new computercontrolled electronic security system was installed.

It has taken several years for us to determine how best to live in our "new"

SPRING 1999 3

# Undergraduates Contribute to Life at the Kelsey





At left Adam Hyatt, a junior concentrating in Classical Archaeology, attends the opening of Music in Roman Egypt, which he helped to organize; at right Mary Stock, a junior concentrating in History, staffs the Kelsey guard desk.

If there was a fire drill at the Kelsey Museum, a mixed collection of people would be found standing chatting outside the building: visitors, curators, docents, staff members, graduates in the Interdepartmental Program in Classical Art and Archaeology—and undergraduates. An important element in the life of the Kelsey are the undergraduate students who either work or volunteer their time in various aspects of the Museum's activities.

Some of these students help in the administration office; some work with Geoff Brown in the Conservation Laboratory; some do computer entry of data on the Kelsey's holdings; some assist with parties and public functions; some work with Robin Meador-Woodruff in the SAFE collections; some help prepare objects for display; some

work in the Education Office; some build and help to install exhibits; some change the hydrothermagraph charts; some assist with the Kelsey "civilizations-ina-crate"; some stand guard at the entry desk. Undergraduates have been known to move ancient storage amphorae about in the basement; to hold up traffic on State Street while objects are delivered to the

Museum; to patch up and repaint a (modern) mosaic dropped in the course of building renovation; to finish the food from Kelsey receptions. In one way or another, undergraduates are involved in almost all the Kelsey's doings.

This involvement can be beneficial to the students, as well as to the Kelsey. Will Pestle (who wrote the story on pages 4–5) developed his senior honors thesis (on burials from Seleucia-on-the-Tigris, an early Kelsey Museum excavation) while volunteering; his dissection of the contents of Punic cremation urns from the Kelsey also fanned his interest in mortuary archaeology, a subject he will pursue through a masters degree in Human Osteology/Forensic Archaeology. In the conservation laboratory people have enjoyed the opportunity of working on a range of

materials, from mosaics to papyri to coins and more. A recent project for two volunteers, Brittany Mullins and Chris Newth, required work on a papyrus scroll—one reportedly not unrolled since its use in ancient times. While suitably awed, Brittany predicted it would be blank-which indeed it proved to be! Nonetheless, Chris remarked, "it was still exciting." Two other students, Amy Bennett and Adam Hyatt, worked closely with Curator Terry Wilfong on the current exhibition Music in Roman Egypt: identifying relevant objects, advising about flute playing, and learning, as Amy ruefully remarked, just "how much work went into planning an exhibition!"

into planning an exhibition!"

Many, though by no means all, of the

students are concentrators in Classical Archaeology or History of Art. Several of them currently intend to go on to graduate school, with museum studies as a special interest. The students agree that their Kelsey work has been a priceless experience—and a rare one for undergraduates. Especially gratifying has been the chance to work with actual ancient artifacts and the chance (at an earlier age than most!) to teach the public about the classical past. They also agree that working in the Kelsey is a great deal of fun or, in their own words: "a relaxing break from in-class pressures"; "you get to play :)"; "it is fun to say that I work with really old objects"; "just a blast."

Sue Alcock

Undergraduates in the Kelsey Museum Sabrina Adelman, Amy Bennett, Jennifer Biohm, Christina Coger, Lacea Curtis, Renee Galli, Eric Hoopfer, David Huppert, Adam Hyatt, Fumie lizuka, Ilana Johnson, Nicholas Katopol, Kathleen Lindsay, Brittany Mullins, Chris Newth, Will Pestle, Stephanie Pulaski, Jason Sprague, Mary Stock, Beth Tyszkiewicz, Shamelle Watkins, Wendy Wong, Sera Young, Erik Zempel

space. Since the 1993 renovation, we have relocated the photography lab, the publications storage area, the director's office, and the administrative offices. Also, thanks to a generous contribution from Dr. Henry L. and Helga Hosmer, we have further renovated the basement level, creating an archaeological research laboratory containing state-of-the-art computer imaging facilities. Future plans call for the construction of a connector between the Museum and the LSA Building to the south, which should provide even more storage room

and, at long last, air conditioning for the gallery space.

Each time a change is made to the building, there is a period of adjustment as we "fine tune" the new spaces to make them as efficient and attractive as possible. Sometimes the newly created spaces are used in ways not originally planned. And, once in a while, we still uncover a surprise or two: In 1998, during a renovation of the Egyptian and Near Eastern Gallery, we removed some old drywall and found yet another boarded-up fireplace on the north wall!

Like our predecessors, we strive to improve the facility in each new permutation in order to protect our priceless collections, as well as to expand and enhance the opportunity for scholarly research and interpretation. Such changes are always carefully considered so that we might maintain, to the greatest extent possible, the wonderful legacy that has been passed down to us: the historic architectural beauty and unique character of the original Newberry Hall.

Dana Buck

# A Slipper Coffin "Excavated" from the Kelsey Basement

According to an old Arabic proverb, "Were it not for the living, the dead



would have died long ago," a sentiment that is doubly applicable in the case of a Parthian slipper coffin (KM 4768) housed in the Kelsey

Museum collections. The story of this piece is a prime example of the ongoing "excavation" of the Kelsey.

### Context and Acquisition

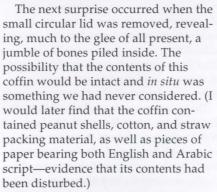
The Parthian slipper coffin was unearthed on December 27, 1927, early in the first season of the University of Michigan's excavations at Seleucia-on-the-Tigris, a grand Hellenistic city situated some 20 miles south of modern Baghdad. Soon after its excavation, the contents of the coffin were examined by someone affiliated with the excavations at Seleucia, Samuel Yeivin being the most likely candidate. The result of this examination was a one-line mention in the grave records Yeivin compiled, stating that the coffin contained the remains of two infants.

While this coffin was just one of several hundred funerary containers excavated during the six seasons of Michigan's involvement in the Seleucia expedition, it is unique in that it was the only coffin to be brought back to the Kelsey. Following its incorporation into the Kelsey collection, however, the coffin mysteriously disappeared, swallowed up by the sheer size of the Museum's holdings. For more than 70 years thereafter, the very fact that such a unique and intriguing piece even existed was forgotten, and the coffin sat unnoticed in the Kelsey's basement ranges.

### Rediscovery

In the summer of 1998, as part of a research assistantship to Kelsey Museum Registrar Robin Meador-Woodruff, I was given the task of organizing the archives of the University's Seleucia expedition. Among the stacks of handwritten field notes and diaries of the excavators of Seleucia, I stumbled upon a brief mention of a small coffin containing the remains of two infants held somewhere in the Kelsey's collection. Given my interest in funerary archaeology and the study of human remains, the very hint that such a piece existed was enough to set me on the trail of this elusive piece. Working with Robin Meador-Woodruff, I examined various field registers and accession books. These led to a cabinet in the Kelsey's basement ranges, which we hoped would contain the coffin.

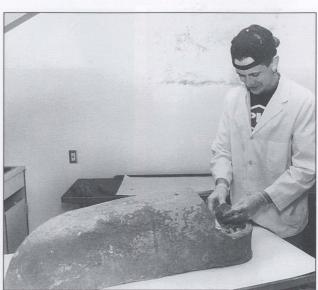
When we came upon the actual coffin, we understood immediately why anyone who was not expressly looking for it could easily have missed it. As its name implies, the coffin's shape is reminiscent of a ballet slipper, narrower at one end than the other, with a hole in the wide end to accommodate the lid; it looks nothing like what we would term a coffin.



After obtaining permission to examine the coffin and its contents from the Kelsev's curatorial committee, we moved it into the climate-controlled comfort of the SAFE facility to perform an osteological examination of its human remains. The results of that examination appear as an appendix to my honors thesis, "The Graves of Seleucia-on-the-Tigris," and are summarized below. Before beginning such an examination, however, I scoured the Kelsey archives for any further information about the coffin or details of any previous study of its contents. Unfortunately, the only reference to this piece was Yeivin's description of its contents as consisting of two infants, a hypothesis that would turn out to be incorrect.

#### The Coffin

The coffin itself is made of a drab brown/red clay broken by plaster patches. It measures 93.5 cm long; at the lid it is 31



Will Pestle, an LS&A senior concentrating in Classical Archaeology, begins to examine the contents of the rediscovered slipper coffin.

cm high and 32 cm wide, but only 30 cm wide at the toe. According to Yeivin's classification, it was found underneath a building.

From above, the coffin seems to form an oval pinched at one end to a narrow point. From the side it looks like a slipper with a hole for the lid in the location where the ankle would leave the shoe. The lid is made of the same material as the body of the coffin and sits in a lipped hole in the larger end. It appears to have been fastened to the body of the coffin by means of U-shaped pegs inserted into four sets of holes that bridged the gap between the coffin and its lid. Small fragments of these pegs were found in two of the holes.

In marked contrast to coffins found at other Parthian sites, such as Uruk, this coffin lacks any obvious decoration. But under raking light certain incised lines on both the lid and the top of the body appear to form symbols of an unknown nature. The date range for the coffin has been established by two independent means. First, the datable lamps found near the coffin would probably assign it to Level III (143 BCE–43 CE) of the excavation. And second, of the six coffins of this exact type, four of them have been assigned to this level.

### The Human Skeletal Remains

The coffin contained a mixture of unburnt human skeletal remains, soil, and other assorted ancient and modern materials. I removed this material from the coffin by hand and cleaned it with soft-bristled brushes, when such a cleaning was needed for the purpose of identification. Wearing latex gloves, I. hand-sieved the soil from inside the coffin, then tried to identify the remaining small fragments. I divided all of the bones into their appropriate groupings as specifically as possible and when possible also by size. Next, I counted the groupings, weighed them, and placed them in archival bags. Any fragments with obvious joins were grouped together but not affixed. All of the nonbone materials were also sorted by broad categories, as well as counted, weighed, and labeled. Finally, the coffin and its contents were photographed both before and after the sorting.

Once this process was completed, it became apparent that instead of the two infants identified by Yeivin, the coffin contained four individuals, none of whom was an infant. The first individual, by far the best represented of the four. My age assessment was based on both dental eruption and bone fusion. Sex assessment was based on the shape of a pelvic fragment tentatively attributed to this individual. Of the four individuals, this is the only one with any apparent pathology: The canine and premolar teeth, both upper and lower, show somewhat uneven growth, perhaps indicating some sort of adolescent nutritional stress.

The second individual was 6 to 8 years old and of indeterminate sex. In this case I based my age assessment on dental development and general lack of bone fusion. Based on dental development alone, I estimated the third individual to be 4 to 6 years old and of indeterminate sex. The fourth individual, an adult male, is represented by only one fragment, a femoral head. But I was able to assess sex by measuring its vertical diameter.

The one unanswerable question raised by my examination of the contents of this coffin is why so many individuals were present in such a small funerary container. Perhaps the individuals here interred were part of a family group; they may have been siblings. This hypothesis could be tested with the aid of mitochondrial DNA testing. Otherwise, the coffin could represent a secondary reburial of these individuals, which would rather nicely explain why all but one of the skeletons are so poorly represented. Also, if the primary inhabitant of the coffin was exposed for the purpose of defleshing prior to burial, it is very possible that when the defleshed remains were gathered for interment, fragments of other individuals were mistakenly included. While all of these are possibilities, a definitive answer is almost impossible to formulate.

Will Pestle

# The Kelsey Model Boat

One kind of excavating performed at the Kelsey is the unearthing of information that sheds light on objects already in the Museum's collection. An ancient Egyptian model boat (KM 88804) offers a good example of how radically such information can alter our interpretation of Kelsey holdings.

The Museum acquired this boat from the well-known Cairo dealer Tano in 1952, along with five seated figures, one standing figure, and one "drum-shaped" object. Over the years these artifacts have been displayed as a group, with the six human figures as "crew" for the boat. But research by students, former Curator of Conservation Amy Rosenberg, and most recently visiting doctoral candidate Ann Merriman, has established that not only do the figures not belong with the type of boat represented in the Kelsey example, but in fact most were parts of other types of models.

Wooden models replicating "daily life" scenes were placed in elite Egyptian graves of the late First Intermediate Period into the 12th Dynasty of the Middle Kingdom (2075–1784 BCE). These models represented the activities of a great estate, travel on the Nile, and journeys in the Afterlife. Ancient Egyptians clearly considered boats to be the single most important component of such an assemblage—not surprising given the primacy of this mode of

transportation in the Nile Valley. Burials of the Middle Kingdom made use of different kinds of boats for different purposes, including traveling boats and ceremonial funerary boats.

The Kelsey boat is a Type IV papyriform funerary boat, originally painted yellow. On either side of the hull at the prow were painted *wedjat* eyes, a powerful symbol of wholeness and revitalization; traces of these eyes are still visible. Such a boat would have included a baldachin, or canopy, protecting a bier on which a mummy figure might have lain. Parallels for this type of boat can be seen in Cairo, Berlin, and Turin.

Although the Kelsey figures have been fitted into the deck, it is clear that they do not belong to this particular boat. The standing figure and one of the seated figures are from a Type II traveling boat, where they represented pilot and rower respectively, and the

other four "seated" figures, who are actually kneeling, probably formed part of a butchering scene. The "drum-shaped object" is most likely a basket, perhaps from a butchery or weaving shop.

Such mismatched assortments of ancient Egyptian artifacts were and are not uncommon. Antiquities dealers frequently sold model components separately to enhance their profits and just as frequently pieced together "whole" sets from disparate acquisitions. The Kelsey's popular bound ox and butcher figures (KM 88759 and 88740) are additional examples of this practice.

Examples such as the Kelsey boat raise the question of truth-in-exhibition: should the boat be displayed with the figures as a cultural artifact of Egyptomania in this century with an accompanying explanation? Or should it be more authentically displayed with no figures and an accompanying representation of

how it might originally have looked? The former principle has been applied for its current display, but future exhibitions may present this group along more anciently "correct" lines.

Janet Richards



This late-1980s incarnation of the Kelsey boat represents an earlier attempt to fit the various "associated" figures onto the boat deck. In this version, the seated figure is mixed in among the kneeling men, with the standing figure at the stern. Although this latter position for a standing figure is, in fact, encountered in Type I funerary boats, the figure itself belongs with a Type II boat.

6 SPRING 1999

# The Associates of the Kelsey Museum, 1998-99

#### **Benefactors**

Mrs. Alice Berle Crawford Mr. and Mrs. Edwin E. Meader William and Doris Weese

#### **Patrons**

Dr. and Mrs. Ethan Braunstein Mrs. Agnes Miner Amnon and Prudence Rosenthal Julie A. Sandler

#### **Sponsors**

Michael and Lisbeth Fried
Mrs. Ernest J. Gazda
Dr. Gregory L. Henry
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Jensen
Robert and Pearson Macek
Mr. and Mrs. Cruse W. Moss
Mr. and Mrs. David G. Richardson
Mrs. Richard Schneider
Dr. and Mrs. Anthony Scioly
Mrs. Barbara Stieler Thompson

#### Contributors

Mrs. Lolagene Coombs Ms. Helen Adams-Murray Mr. and Mrs. John Beatty Professor Lawrence Berlin Rebecca and Harold Bonnell Robert and Jeannine Buchanan Judith and Edwin Carlson Mr. and Mrs. William D. Coates Jeffrey and Christine Crockett Jane and Peter DeChants Dr. and Mrs. Duderstadt Professor Ilene Forsyth Professors Elaine Gazda and James McIntosh Mr. and Mrs. John R. Griffith Susan and Hayden Harris Dr. James Harris Donald Hitt Dr. and Mrs. Henry Hosmer John Jascob Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Laity Mr. and Mrs. Carl Lutkehaus Helen Metzner Mr. and Mrs. Wade Peacock Dr. and Mrs. M. Joseph Pearson John and Mary Pedley Mr. and Mrs. Stephen J. Rogers Iane and Tom Schwenk Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Slote David and Ann Staiger Mr. and Mrs. Helmut Stern

### Dual/Family

Jan Carroll and Alex Azary Julie Bedore John and Leora Bowden

Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Van Liere

Glenora Brown David G. Cameron Ms. Jean W. Campbell Professor and Mrs. Charles Cares Carolyn Carty and Thomas Haug Ms. Carol Carzon Guy and Phyllis Coykendall Dr. Clifford Craig Mr. Richard M. Cundiff Mr. David C. Darr Mr. and Mrs. Peter Darrow Tom and Jean Dickinson Dr. and Mrs. Stefan Fajans Alice Fishman and Michael DiPietro John and Esther Floyd Don and Ann Fowler George R. Francoeur Professor and Mrs. Bernard Galler Naomi Gottlieb and Theodore Harrison Cozette Grabb Ms. Lois Groesbeck Professor and Mrs. Joseph Hawkins Ruth and Paul Hays Lynn Hobbs Professor and Mrs. Gerald P. Hodge Mary L. Krasny John K. Lawrence Dr. Leonard Lerner Barbara and Mike Levine Mr. and Mrs. Alan R. Marshall Professor and Mrs. Ernest McCarus John and Carolyn McKeon George E. Mendenhall Carmen and Jack Miller Dr. and Mrs. George Morley Professor and Mrs. Clifton C. Olds Dr. and Mrs. Robert Oneal Ionathan F. Orser Mr. and Mrs. David Osler Stan and Dorothy Rehak Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rosenfeld Professor Charles Sawyer Dr. and Mrs. Courtland Schmidt Haldon and Tina Smith Lois and William Solomon Mrs. Evelyn Tielking Anna Laura Von Buren

#### Individuals

Fred Albertson
Dick and Rho Bank
Elizabeth A. Benn
John Brent
Ms. Anita Burck
Lynn Button
Margaret Coudron
Jean A. Diekoff
Lois Kuznets Dowling
Gerald A. Earles
William P. Edmunds

Charles Witke and Aileen Gatten

Professor Richard Edwards Alisa C. English Elizabeth Ettlie Steven A. Ferris Carol Finerman Mary Lou Freiman Patricia L. Frye Priscilla Gallinger Ianice R. Geddes Esther M. Goudsmit Laurel Grove Mrs. Rosemary Harm Frances Holter Mrs. David Huntington Professor Meredith Klaus Shirley Knudsvig Professor Ann Koloski-Ostrow Doris Langford Judith L. McIntosh Dr. James A. McLean Kay Oldstrom Amy Rosenberg Esther R. Rubin Ms. Marilyn Scott Grace Shackman **Jerry and Dottie Sims** Dr. Denny Stavros Dr. E. Marianne Stern Marjorie Talalay M. Chris Triola Ms. Ann Van Rosevelt Ms. Janet Vavra Ms. Edith Wacksman Mrs. Esther Warzynski Dr. James F. Zender

#### **Students**

Amy E. Bennett Margo Stavros Betsy Walker

#### Mummy Club

Rebecca Blascak Adam Blascak Michele Blascak Danny Blascak Charlie DeChants Carolyn DeChants Tiffany Freeman Nicholas Gies Stefanie Peyton Nate Sloan

The Kelsey Museum Associates sponsor the Museum's outreach and development activities and provide program support. The public is encouraged to join the Associates and participate in Museum activities. For more information call (734)763-3559.

SPRING 1999

# Staff Update

On leave this year, Research Scientist Sue Alcock has been working on a book entitled Archaeologies of Memory: Landscapes, Monuments and the Greek Past. She has also spoken in symposia at Dumbarton Oaks, the Society for American Archaeology, and the University of Pennsylvania (in a colloquium organized by Archaeology magazine), as well as organizing a session at the Roman Archaeology Conference in Durham, UK. She will deliver the Ian Sanders Memorial Lecture in Sheffield, UK, in May 1999. She was awarded the 1998 Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award by the Archaeological Institute of America.

The plans of Research Scientist John Cherry to commence archaeological fieldwork in Albania have been canceled, at least for the present, due to the current crisis in Kosovo. He will be on sabbatical leave throughout the coming academic year, with partial support from a Michigan Humanities Award. He plans to write a major, commissioned article (for the American Journal of Archaeology) on the impact of regional surveys on Aegean Prehistory and to complete a book for Cambridge University Press (coauthored with Sue Alcock) entitled Regional Landscapes of Classical Greece.

Hellenistic and Roman Curator Elaine Gazda served as interim director of undergraduate studies in the Department of the History of Art during Winter Term 1999. She also won a generous grant from the University's Institute for Research on Women and Gender for an exhibition tentatively titled Women and the Cult of Bacchus in Italy: The Villa of the Mysteries Revisited, scheduled for 2000 at two venues—the Kelsey and the Museum of Art. In June she will travel to Pompeii and Rome to do research in connection with this show.

Curator of Dynastic Egypt Janet Richards has a chapter entitled "Conceptual Landscapes in the Egyptian Nile Valley" in Archaeologies of Landscape: Contemporary Perspectives (Blackwell, forthcoming). She gave a paper at the April meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt and will lecture at the Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University in May. In late May she plans a short trip to Cairo to do museum research leading into a major field season next fall at Abydos. This summer, in collaboration with Terry

Wilfong, she will research the University's hieratic papyri.

Greece and Near East Curator Margaret Root finishes her five-year term as chair of the Department of the History of Art this August and will resume active faculty curatorship at the Kelsey after a leave in 1999-2000. She has won a Humanities Award to revise her book Persia and the Parthenon: Comparative Studies on the Art of Empire. The first volume of the three-volume catalogue of seal impressions on the administrative tablets from Persepolis, heartland capital of the Persian empire, will appear in 1999 (coauthored by Mark Garrison, IPCAA Ph.D. 1988). Publications appearing this year include several articles relating to this important corpus of seal impressions as well as an article coauthored with Ann Gunter entitled "Replicating, Inscribing, Giving: Ernst Herzfeld and Artaxerxes' Silver Phiale in the Freer Gallery of Art" in Ars Orientalis. After twenty years' lack of access to Iran, she will lead a Smithsonian tour to Iran this May.

Curator of Educational Outreach Lauren Talalay's article "Archaeological Ms.conceptions: The Iconography of Power in Mediterranean Prehistory' will appear in Gender and Material Culture: Representations of Gender from Prehistory to Present (Macmillan); "Visual Metaphors: Half-body Images from Neolithic Greece" in The Human Body in the Ancient Near East (Styx); and, with Alison Rautman, "Introduction: Diverse Approaches to the Study of Gender in Archaeology" in *Interpreting the Body*: Insights from Anthropological and Classical Archaeology (University of Pennsylvania Press). She also has two electronic publications: "Reflections on Identity and Ethnicity in the Ancient World" (www.brynmawr.edu/Acads/Arch/ guesswho/talalay.html) and "Prehistoric Figurines from Franchthi Cave, Greece" (www.indiana. edu/~archaeo/ franchthi/essays/talalay.html).

In summer 1998 Post-classical Curator Thelma Thomas worked with two undergraduate assistants: Adam Hyatt on a Virtual Gallery of Historic Textiles for the Kelsey web site and Kelly Goodknecht on archival information for the upcoming exhibition on textiles from Karanis (Winter 2001). She guest-edited Topoi: Investigations into Some Social and Spiritual Geographies of Post-Pharaonic Egypt, a special issue of the Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists. During Fall Term 1998 she



oto: L. Talala

Deanna Relyea, vocalist, and Frank Ponzio, jazz pianist, pictured above, were among the performers at this year's benefit, the Kelsey Cabaret, on March 28. The evening began with a special tour (by curator Terry Wilfong) of the Kelsey's current exhibition Music in Roman Egypt, followed by food and entertainment at the Kerrytown Concert House. We are particularly grateful for contributions from Nielsens Flower Shop, Mediterrano, Zingerman's, Food for All Seasons, Katherine's Catering, Big Ten Party Store, Carol Pryor Cakes, Great Harvest Bread, Shahrayar, and Lamplighter. We would also like to thank Christine Crockett and Todd Gerring for making the evening a success.

taught the Kelsey's first undergraduate course on archaeological museum practices and concluded her year as president of the Byzantine Studies Conference. In January she became associate dean for the humanities and humanistic social sciences at the Rackham School of Graduate Studies. She is also consulting for major new Byzantine installations at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the Walters Art Gallery in Baltimore.

In Fall Term 1998 Curator of Graeco-Roman Egypt Terry Wilfong taught Coptic and Advanced Middle Egyptian, while in Winter 1999 he offered "Ancient Egypt: Religion and Society." He continued editing Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists, coauthored Women and Society in Greek and Roman Egypt, and has articles in Cambridge History of Egypt, Encyclopedia of the Archaeology of Ancient Egypt, and Constantine: History, Historiography and Legend. His public lectures include "Music in Roman Egypt" for the opening of the Kelsey exhibition of the same title, which he curated, and "Hieratic and Hieroglyphic Papyri at the University of Michigan" for the April meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt.

# **Upcoming Events**

### **Members Event**

Friday, May 7, Kelsey Museum 6:30: Member's business meeting 7:00: View newly unrolled papyrus

#### **Family Day**

Saturday, May 15, 10:00–12:00 Registration required; call 734-647-4167



Guests enjoy the March 19 opening reception for the ongoing exhibition Music in Roman Egypt.

# The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology

#### **Director** Sharon Herbert

Associate Director Lauren Talalay

#### Curators

Geoffrey Brown, Conservation
Elaine Gazda, Hellenistic and Roman
Robin Meador-Woodruff,
Slides and Photographs
Janet Richards, Dynastic Egypt
Margaret Cool Root (on leave),
Greece and Near East
Lauren Talalay, Educational Outreach
Thelma Thomas, Post-classical
Terry Wilfong, Graeco-Roman Egypt

#### **Research Scientists**

Susan Alcock John Cherry Traianos Gagos Sharon Herbert Ann Taylor-Van Rosevelt E. Marianne Stern

### **Editor**

Margaret Lourie

Exhibits Preparator Dana Buck

### Program Assistant Todd Gerring

#### **Administrative Offices**

Helen Baker, Administrative Associate Donna Herron, Student Services Assistant Jackie Monk, Office Assistant Lydia Allison, Secretary Michelle Biggs, Gifts Manager

#### **Museum Hours**

Tuesday–Friday 9:00–4:00 Saturday–Sunday 1:00–4:00 Admission is free and open to the public.

### World Wide Web Address http://www.umich.edu/~kelseydb/

## University of Michigan Regents

Laurence B. Deitch Rebecca M.
Daniel D. Horning Andrea Fis
Olivia P. Maynard Philip H. P.
Shirley M. McFee S. Martin T
Lee C. Bollinger, ex-officio

Rebecca McGowan Andrea Fischer Newman Philip H. Power S. Martin Taylor

THE
KELSEY
MUSEUM
of
ARCHAEOLOGY

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID ANN ARBOR, MI PERMIT NO. 144

