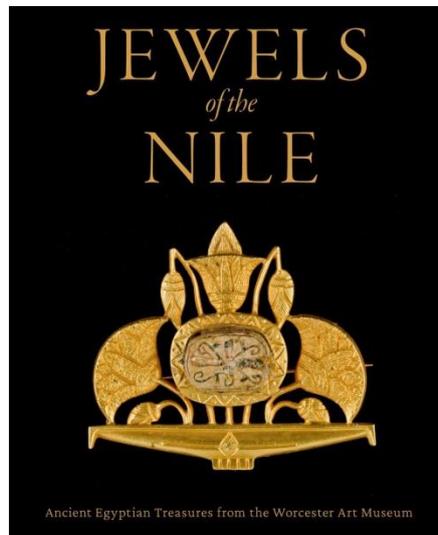




For Immediate Release

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An extraordinary book about one of the most comprehensive groupings of ancient Egyptian jewellery



Jewels of the Nile celebrates the internationally important collection of Egyptian jewellery held by the Worcester Art Museum in Massachusetts, which was assembled by Laura and Kingsmill MARRS during the early part of the 20th century. The Boston couple were advised by Howard Carter, the archaeologist who would later achieve world-wide recognition for his discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun in 1922. Under his guidance, the MARRS couple purchased an outstanding selection of scarabs, amulets, jewellery and cosmetic articles, including rare blue-toned stone vessels. They also acquired a group of Carter's watercolour renditions of important Egyptian sites and royal figures.

The book features beautiful colour illustrations of these artifacts, as well as objects from Worcester's stellar collection of Egyptian antiquities. Essays by the exhibition's curators and other leading scholars focus on the history of ancient Egypt and the story of the collectors, as well as on the conservation and research surrounding the pieces themselves.

There will be an accompanying exhibition at the Worcester Art Museum, June 18, 2022—January 29, 2023

About the Authors

Peter Lacovara is the director of the Ancient Egyptian Archaeology and Heritage Fund based in Albany, NY and a former curator at the MFA Boston and at the Michael C. Carlos Museum, Emory University, Atlanta.

Yvonne J. Markowitz is the Rita J. Kaplan and Susan B. Kaplan Curator Emerita of Jewelry at the MFA Boston.

Paula Artal-Isbrand is the objects conservator at the Worcester Museum of Art.

About the Worcester Art Museum

The Worcester Art Museum creates transformative programs and exhibitions, drawing on its exceptional collection of art. Dating from 3,000 BCE to the present, these works provide the foundation for a focus on audience engagement, connecting visitors of all ages and abilities with inspiring art and demonstrating its enduring relevance to daily life. Creative initiatives—including pioneering collaborative programs with local schools, fresh approaches to exhibition design and in-gallery teaching, and a long history of studio class instruction—offer opportunities for diverse audiences to experience art and learn both from and with artists.

Since its founding in 1896, the Worcester Art Museum has assembled a collection of 38,000 objects: from the ancient Near East and Asia, to European and American paintings and sculptures, and continuing with works by contemporary artists from around the world. WAM has a history of making large scale acquisitions, such as its Medieval Chapter House, the Worcester Hunt Mosaic, its 15th-century Spanish ceiling, and the Flemish *Last Judgment* tapestry. In 2013, the Museum acquired the John Woodman Higgins Armory Collection, comprising two thousand arms and armor objects. It continues to commission and present new works, such as 2017's installation of the immersive *Reusable Universes* sculptural series and *Organic Concept* environment by Shih Chieh Huang.

Title: **Jewels of the Nile: Ancient Egyptian Treasures from the Worcester Art Museum**
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With contributions by Paula Artal-Isbrand, Erin Mysak, and Richard Newman
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