



THE TEAMS





Fig. 1 Lecture of Prof. Julia Schultz during the autumn school at Hildesheim (October 2021)

THE TEAMS: SELECTION OF OBJECTS FOR THE CATALOGUE, AND EDITING PROCESS

by Helmut Brandl and Sven Kielau

We are pleased to introduce here the Egyptian and German students and conservators participating in our project. They worked in four interdisciplinary and bi-national teams, called "Ibis", "Lady Pepy", "Statue Head", and "Shepherd".

TEAM "IBIS"

Amani Talaat Ahmed Ali, B.A.

(Teaching assistant of Archaeology, Minia University)

Carina Rosenlehner, M.A.

(Student of Archaeology, Göttingen University)

Mazen Khaled Gamal Abd el-Hamid

(Student of Conservation, Minia University)

Reem Maher Abd el-Wahab Mohamed, M.A.

(Conservator, assistant lecturer at Minia University)

TEAM "LADY PEPY"

Dalia Ahmed Mohamed Dardir

(Student of Conservation, Minia University)

Jovana George Lamea Gawargi

(Student of Conservation, Minia University)

Lin Mombartz, B.A.

(Student of Conservation, HAWK Hildesheim)

Noura Gomaa Ali Ahmed

(Student of Archaeology, Minia University)

TEAM "STATUE HEAD"

Karim Amr Ahmed Sayed

(Student of Conservation, Minia University)

Kassandra Wirth

(Student of Conservation, HAWK)

Mahmoud Ahmed Mahrani Selim, B.A.

(Conservator, Ministry of Antiquities)

Mohamed Mohamed Hashim Gaber

(Conservator, Ministry of Antiquities)

Rebecca Hemmy

(Student of Archaeology, Göttingen University)

TEAM "SHEPHERD"

Ahmed Gamaleldin Nassary Mohamed, B.A.

(Teaching assistant of Conservation, Minia University)

Amal Wageeh Adly Twadros

(Student of Conservation, Minia University)

Gesine Philipp

(Student of Archaeology, Göttingen University)

Nahla Bahaa Muhammad Abd el-Rahman

(Student of Archaeology, Minia University)

Pia Neitemeier (Student of Conservation, HAWK Hildesheim)

Furthermore the authors of this publication are introduced on pp. 278-283.

Team "Ibis" investigated a funerary portrait panel (mummy portrait) of a woman (PM 3066; [cat. VIII.1](#)) and the figure of a sacred ibis (PM 4749; [cat. V](#)).

Team "Lady Pepy" discussed a group statue of the Old Kingdom (PM 17; [cat. I.2](#)) and worked on a tomb model from the First Intermediate Period (PM 1694; [cat. II](#)).

Team "Statue Head" researched a variety of objects: the wooden figure of a royal child (PM 54; [cat. III](#)), a royal statue head in Hildesheim (L/Sch 774; [cat. IV.2](#)), two royal statue heads in Mallawi (inv. no. 570; [cat. IV.1](#), and inv. no. 558; [cat. VI.1](#)), a pair statue of the Old Kingdom in Mallawi (inv. no. 615; [cat. I.1](#)) and a wooden figure allegedly representing a tomb model of the Old Kingdom (currently in Hildesheim, [cat. IX](#)).

Team "Shepherd" worked on the funerary portrait panel (mummy portrait) of a man (Hildesheim, PM 3067; [cat. VIII.2](#)). They also participated in the discussion of other objects including the limestone royal statue head ([cat. VI.1](#)), which is believed to date to about the same period as the Hildesheim bronze royal bust (PM 384; [cat. VI.2](#)). During online meetings which took place in the

project's preparatory phase, the basic content of the catalogue was discussed. As the project coordinators who also functioned as lecturers and tutors for the students, we agreed to select for the catalogue objects from different chronological phases of the Pharaonic Period (Old Kingdom to Late Period) and the Greco-Roman Period.

From each of the two museums we selected "couples" of objects, i.e. objects, which are related to each other in one way or another, e.g., with regard to either their iconographic type or their chronological placement or both. The "couples" are listed here:

- I. A private pair statue of the Old Kingdom in the Mallawi Museum ([cat. I.1](#)) is discussed next to an Old Kingdom private group statue in the Roemer and Pelizaeus Museum ([cat. I.2](#));
- IV. A limestone head of a New Kingdom pharaoh in the *nemes* headdress with additional double crown (destroyed) in the Mallawi Museum (inv. no. 570; [cat. IV.1](#)) is discussed next to the limestone head of a pharaoh similarly in the *nemes* in Hildesheim (inv. no. L/Sch 774; [cat. IV.2](#)). The investigation led to its chronological placement in the 4th century BCE.
- VI. The mutilated statue head of an anonymous Late Period pharaoh in the *khepresh* crown, in the Mallawi Museum (inv. no. 558; [cat. VI.1](#)) is looked at next to the unique bronze bust of a

Late Period pharaoh similarly in the *khepresh*, in the RPM (PM 384, [cat. VI.2](#)).

Hildesheim's wooden statuette of an anonymous royal child from the Amarna Period (PM 54) was investigated by conservators and archaeologists during the autumn school (cat. [III.](#)). In the preparatory phase of the project and during the autumn school it appeared desirable to select the Mallawi Museum's limestone figure of an anonymous Amarna princess (inv. no. 615) as the Hildesheim figure's (PM 54) "counterpiece". However, in the course of the investigation it became apparent that this sculpture poses problems which led to its exclusion from the present catalogue to be published elsewhere. The Hildesheim autumn school lasted for two weeks (27 October to 6 November 2021) while the winter school which took place at Minia and Mallawi shortly afterwards was but a one-week event (11 to 19 December 2021). As a consequence thirteen objects are now described and analyzed in our catalogue. Three of the antiquities belong to the Mallawi Museum ([cat. I.1](#), [cat. IV.1](#) and [cat. VI.1](#)) while nine ancient objects are preserved in the RPM ([cat. I.2](#), [cat. II](#), [cat. III](#), [cat. IV.2](#), [cat. V](#), [cat. VI.2](#), [cat. VII](#), [cat. VIII.1](#) and [cat. VIII.2](#)). A thirteenth object ([cat. IX](#)) – a wooden figure in the ancient Egyptian style – was additionally included in the catalogue. This object had only recently been conveyed to the

museum for investigation because its authenticity was considered doubtful. The piece was entrusted to the particularly interested students and conservators because it was believed that this object would make an interesting study object for the project's participants instructed and guided by Helmut Brandl and Antje Zygalski. The team of teachers included accomplished conservators specialising in the restoration of wooden artifacts and archaeologists specialising in the Greco-Roman Period. Hence six wooden objects were selected for the first hand investigation in Hildesheim ([cat. II](#), [cat. III](#), [cat. V](#), [cat. VIII.1](#), [cat. VIII.2](#), and [cat. IX](#)). From the Greco-Roman Period a plaster plaque representing Ptolemy I (PM 1120; [cat. VII](#)) and two (anonymous) painted wooden funerary portrait panels (mummy portraits; PM 3066 and PM 3067; [cat. VIII](#)) were chosen. During the autumn and winter schools 2021 the students participated in workshops and heard lectures in both restoration and in archaeology. Some of the talks provided general background knowledge concerning Egyptian antiquities and their materials. Others were more specifically related to the work of conservators. For example, Prof. Mahmoud Massaoud lectured on "Glass and glazes in the medieval Islamic period" while Madeleine Alsen, M.A., lectured on "Packaging of ancient glass objects". Antje Zygalski, M.A., directed a "coffin workshop" and lectured

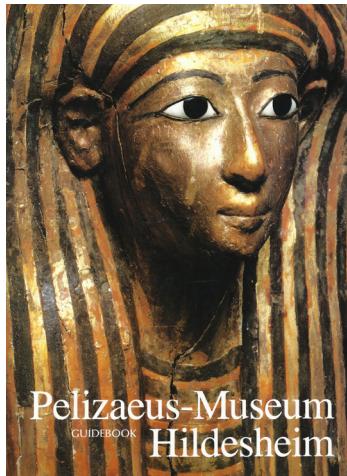


Fig. 2 Guidebook of the Pelizaeus Museum Hildesheim (English version, 1996).

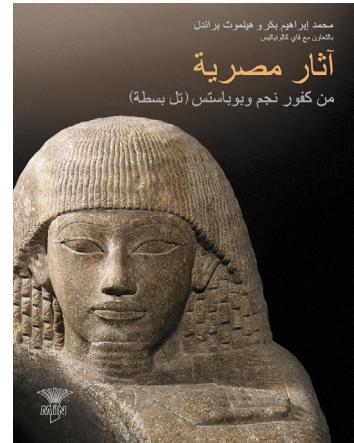
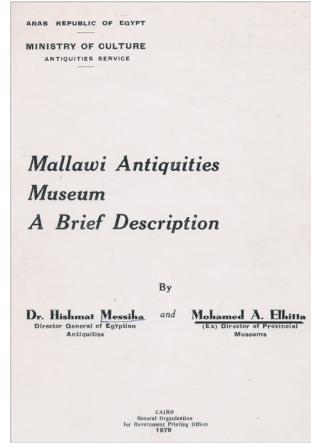
on "Basics in art-technological investigations" while Mr. Mahmoud Mahran, B.A., the director of the restoration of the monuments of Minia, explained the important work of Egyptian conservators restoring the Mallawi Museum's antiquities which were so badly damaged during the sad events of 14/15 August 2013. These expert talks were important sources of information. All of the participants were asked to contribute to our catalogue observations, comments and discussions, and where possible written descriptions which would help to compile the texts describing and categorizing the selected objects from both a conservator's and an archaeologist's point of view. It was pleasing to witness the participants enjoying the opportunity to work with the antiquities, to discuss their observations within their teams and with their tutors, and to note down important points for the present publication.

The catalogue is therefore the result of our combined efforts. Students of Restoration and students of Archaeology from Egypt and Germany and also accomplished conservators and archaeologists contributed to it. As this publication also intends to serve didactic purposes, the student's contributions were thoroughly reviewed and edited. Where no written texts could be collected, Helmut Brandl and Antje Zygalski who had attentively witnessed the teams' discussions noting

down all relevant points cared for the respective entries in the present catalogue.

During the editing process new, relevant information concerning several of the selected objects emerged which led to further corrections and additions in some of the already prepared texts. This relates especially to the objects which could not be thoroughly investigated during the autumn and winter schools for lack of time. Moreover, illustrations of antiquities addressed in the texts were occasionally added during the editing process. Some of them depict objects said to have been discovered together with the object which was chiefly investigated (see [cat. IX](#)). Further illustrations were added in order to visualize the author's considerations regarding an object's chronological placement (cf. [cat. IV.1](#), [cat. IV.2](#) and [cat. VI.1](#)). Lastly, the editing process included the addition of the bibliography of the selected objects.

During the Hildesheim autumn school a selection of relevant literature was made available to the students by the RPM's librarian, Mrs. Sabine Boltzendahl, M.A. This included the English version of the Pelizaeus Museum's highlight catalogue of 1996 (Fig. 2); all of the participants received a free copy of this catalogue which was their basic source of information for the antiquities in the RRM. Moreover they were instructed to use the website "Global Egyptian Museum"



which offers online database information regarding the Egyptian antiquities preserved in various museums worldwide including the RPM. There are English and Arabic versions of this website (<https://www.globalegyptianmuseum.org/?lan=E> and <http://www.globalegyptianmuseum.org/?lan=A>; Fig. 3). Dr. Hishmat Messiaha's and Mohamed A. Elhitta's brief description of the antiquities in the Mallawi Museum of 1979 (in English; Fig. 4) served as the principal source of information for the Mallawi Museum's exhibits. The English version of Dr. Hourig Sorouzian's and Dr. Mohamed Saleh's "Official Catalogue" of the Egyptian Museum Cairo published in 1987 (Fig. 5)

offered well-written descriptions of antiquities in that museum which could be used as models for the English description of the ancient objects in the present catalogue. Additionally, each of the participants received a free copy of a volume describing the principal antiquities of the University Museum of Zagazig in both Arabic and English language (Fig. 6). This was a donation from the project M.i.N. – Museums in the Nile Delta (Humboldt University Berlin, AKNOA; see <https://www.project-min.de/home/arabic/project.html> and www.project-min.de/home/english/project.html

Fig. 3 (left): Screenshot of the web page "Global Egyptian Museum" (Arabic version; 2003).

Fig. 4 (center, left): Catalogue of the Mallawi Museum (in English; 1979).

Fig. 5 (center, right): Highlight catalogue of the Egyptian Museum Cairo (English version; 1986).

Fig. 6 right): Highlight catalogue of the antiquities kept in the archaeological Museum of the University of Zagazig (Arabic / English; 2010).