

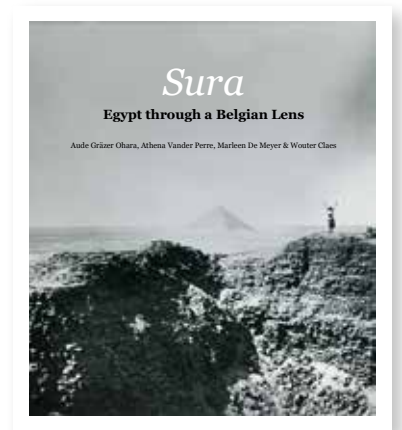


Sura

L'Égypte sous l'optique belge

Au début du XX^{ème} siècle, l'égyptologue belge Jean Capart et ses collaborateurs ont entrepris plusieurs voyages en Égypte. Avec un sens aigu de la photographie, ils ont documenté cette terre sur les rives du Nil sous toutes ses facettes. La bibliothèque égyptologique des Musées royaux d'Art et d'Histoire de Bruxelles abrite cette importante collection d'environ 14.000 négatifs photographiques sur plaques de verre. Les plus de 200 photographies réunies ici illustrent ces années pionnières de l'égyptologie belge. Elles brosent en même temps un tableau kaléidoscopique de l'Égypte d'antan dans toute sa diversité, avec ses paysages spectaculaires, ses monuments antiques, ses expéditions archéologiques et sa vie quotidienne.

Wouter Claes (MRAH) et **Marleen De Meyer** (KU Leuven) sont les coordinateurs du projet SURA. **Aude Gräzer Ohara** et **Athena Van der Perre** sont chercheuses postdoctorales dans le cadre du même projet.



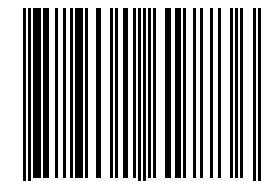
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EXPOSITION

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6. Sayed 'Cid' Mahmud at el-Marg

At the request of the Belgian entrepreneur Édouard Empain, who was to build a new suburb in Heliopolis, northeast of Cairo, Jean Capart excavated part of the 2.500 hectare area to make sure no archaeological remains were present there. During his exploration of the region, Capart was often accompanied by Sayed 'Cid' Mahmud, whom he portrays here sitting on a donkey on the road to the village of el-Marg.

Jean Capart, 13 February–mid April 1907
Inv. EGI 1148



7. Villagers in the area of Heliopolis

Sayed 'Cid' Mahmud on his donkey passes a group of Egyptian women carrying water jars on their head. The women are walking back from a water well to their village visible in the background.

Charles Mathien, 13 February–mid April 1907
Inv. EGI 6013



96. Mastaba K1, Bayt Khalaf

Huge mastabas dominate the low desert behind the village of Bayt Khalaf. With its 2 m thick outer walls, measuring 85 x 45 m, that are preserved to an astonishing height of 8 m, mastaba K1 is the largest. These mastabas were excavated by John Garstang in 1901. Based on seal impressions bearing royal names that were found in these mastabas, he believed that they belonged to kings of the 3rd Dynasty.

Jean Capart, 30 January 1930
Inv. EGI 7203



97. Mastaba K1, Bayt Khalaf

View on one of the shafts of mastaba K1, leading to a stairway that gave access to the burial chamber, located 25 m below the surface. When Jean Capart photographed mastaba K1 in 1930, Garstang's identification of these mastaba at Bayt Khalaf as royal tombs was still accepted. Today however, they are considered as private burial monuments.

Jean Capart, 30 January 1930
Inv. EGI 7202



8. Construction of Heliopolis

With the creation of the Cairo Electric Railways and Heliopolis Oases Company by Édouard Empain and his Egyptian partner Boghos Nubar Pasha, the urban project of Maar el-Gedik (New Cairo) was launched. An entire new city was built in a deserted area northeast of Cairo. Jean Capart captured the levelling works for the construction of roads in the future residential area of this new city of Heliopolis.

Jean Capart, 13 February–mid April 1907
Inv. EGI 1139



9. Construction of Heliopolis

Villas and other buildings were constructed in the so-called 'Heliopolis style', an architectural style that combined elements of Egyptian, Moorish, Persian, European, and Neoclassical traditions to form a homogeneous unit. The domed building on the right is the casino under construction along with several residential units lining Ramses and Boutros Ghali Street. Like the famous Heliopolis Palace Hotel, it was turned into a military hospital during both world wars.

Jean Capart (?), 15 April 1909
Inv. EGI 1338



98. Crowds of Egyptians welcome the Belgian Queen Elisabeth, Ballana

During the royal voyage of 1930 the yacht *Khasedd Kheir*, put at the disposal of Belgian Queen Elisabeth and her entourage by Egyptian King Fuad I, was welcomed throughout the country by enthusiastic crowds of people. Here the dock at Ballana, close to Abydos, is shown decked out with Egyptian and Belgian flags, and a banner wishing 'bonne arrivee' to the royal visitors.

Jean Capart, 19 March 1930
Inv. EGI 7508



99. Arrival of the Belgian Queen Elisabeth, Ballana

Jean Capart photographed Elisabeth, Queen of the Belgians, on the deck of the yacht *Khasedd Kheir* as she arrives at Ballana and is greeted by a crowd of Egyptians on the bank of the Nile. They would visit the site of Abydos later that day, with the magnificent temple of pharaoh Seth I.

Jean Capart, 19 March 1930
Inv. EGI 7488