

News Release

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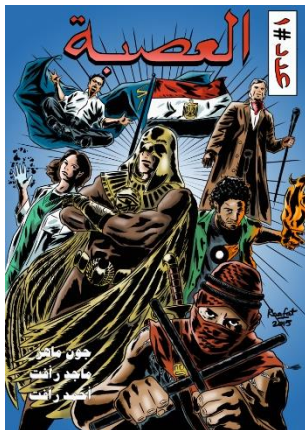
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Young V&A

Young V&A announces new details of its second exhibition *Making Egypt* exploring ancient Egypt's creativity and how it continues to influence art, design and pop culture today



15 February – 2 November 2025

Young V&A

Exhibition pass £10 per person, which gives unlimited visits to *Making Egypt* throughout its run

Tickets on-sale now via vam.ac.uk/young

- The **UK's first child-centered museum exhibition around creativity in ancient Egypt**, showcasing Egypt's potential for inspiring design creativity through **ancient artefacts, contemporary art and design**, and **captivating scenography**
- **Over 200 creative works spanning over 5,500 years** from the V&A's expansive collection and national loans to be displayed, from the extraordinary **fully painted inner sarcophagus of Princess Sopdet-em-haawt** and **ancient inscribed stelae** to **contemporary comics, games and film**, including **EI3osba (The League)** and **Moon Knight, Minecraft, Lego** and ***The Mummy* (1999)**
- **Hands-on activities** including **drawing with scale, deciphering hieroglyphics** and **designing your own amulet**, plus **'touch' objects** bring young visitors closer to the tools, materials and skills used by ancient Egypt's makers
- **Contemporary craft and design responses to ancient Egyptian creativity** including work by solar designer **Marjan van Aubel Studio** and jewellery designer **Azza Fahmy**

- **New film commissions** with artists **Zahed Tajeddin** and **Miriam Johnson** explore the process of ancient Egyptian art techniques of stone carving and faience amulet making

Today, Young V&A announces new details of its second exhibition ***Making Egypt***, created for children and families, which takes visitors on a fascinating journey through the ancient past to modern day, **exploring ancient Egypt's creativity and how it continues to influence art, design and popular culture.**

Told across three sections exploring themes of **Storytelling, Communicating and Making**, with gods guiding each step of the way, *Making Egypt* will journey through the Nile, inviting young visitors to **uncover ancient Egypt's myths and gods and the landscape and culture that inspired them.**

Making Egypt will feature **ancient artefacts** – many on display for the first time including **decorative funerary masks and linen shrouds dating back over 2,000 years - contemporary fashion, jewellery, comics, film, games, sculpture, ceramics** and more from across V&A's collection, as well as national loans. Young visitors can try their hand at deciphering the mysteries of hieroglyphs, discover meaning and messages communicated through colour, as well as explore hands-on the making of objects that populated ancient Egypt.

Benjamin Hinson, Curator of *Making Egypt*, says: “Ancient Egypt fascinates us like no other society. As a fundamentally visual culture, Egypt has influenced art, design and performance for centuries and remains just as compelling today. From exploring Egypt's stories, making processes and techniques to thinking about the heritage and cultural presentation of objects from an ancient society, *Making Egypt* will offer our young visitors fresh insights into the creative practices of one of the longest-lasting civilizations in the world, showcasing how an ancient culture can inspire the future makers of today.”

Dr Helen Charman, Director of Learning, National Programmes and Young V&A, says: “We are delighted to be opening *Making Egypt*, our second exhibition at Young V&A, designed and curated specifically for children and young people. Through its exploration into the lasting impact of creativity from an ancient culture, we hope to continue Young V&A's commitment to excite, provoke curiosity and fire the imagination of our young visitors.”

The exhibition is divided into three sections – **Storytelling, Communicating and Making** – each exploring Egyptian creativity through a different lens. Journeying from sunrise to sunset along the Nile, *Making Egypt* invites visitors to encounter the landscapes, stories and people that inspired ancient Egypt's creative language, with playful illustrations of gods **Amun, Thoth and Ptah** by artist **Jean Wei** guiding the way.

Throughout, **contemporary responses from jewellery and fashion designers, graphic novelists, ceramic artists** and beyond will spotlight ways in which ancient Egypt's beliefs, stories and characters continue to inspire makers today. Their works will be shown alongside sketches and design images, photos of workshops, tools and quotes from the artists themselves, unpacking their creative processes.

Free educational tickets for schools will be available for Monday-Thursday mornings during term time, from 3 March – 18 July 2025 and 8 September – 17 October 2025. On Thursday 28 November 2024, teachers are invited to join Young V&A for a free online talk with *Making Egypt*'s curators, exploring the content of the exhibition and what classes studying ancient Egypt can gain from a visit.

Notes to Editors

For further PRESS information about Young V&A, please contact press.office@vam.ac.uk or 02079422490. A selection of press images is available to download free of charge from pressimages.vam.ac.uk.

- *Making Egypt* opens at Young V&A on Saturday 15 February and runs until Sunday 2 November 2025
- V&A Members go free
- An exhibition pass costs £10 per person, which gives unlimited visits to *Making Egypt* throughout its run
- Under 4s go free, with further concessions available
- The exhibition is open to all ages. There's content and activities to engage the whole family, with emphasis on children aged 8-12 years
- Tickets for *Making Egypt: Online curator talk for teachers* are available to book [here](#)
- Teachers can request a free account for their school [here](#), which allows them to log in and book their free visit to the exhibition, with self-guided entry access

About Young V&A

Young V&A is a museum sparking creativity now and for the future. Created with 0-14-year-olds, it is a place for young people to imagine, play and design, and get inspired by a collection of 2000 toys, characters, objects and artworks from around the world and throughout history. Rooted in its local community with 150-year heritage as East London's first museum, Young V&A works to energise young creators everywhere, as well as empower everyone to promote creativity for the next generation and support the teaching of art and design education for all.

With support from:

Dr Steve and Mrs Lorraine Groves, The William Brake Foundation and the estate of the late Sabina Stevenson, in memory of Hugh James Stevenson.

Image credits: (L-R) El3osba (The League). Art by Ahmed Raafat; Wooden Funerary Boat, approx. 300 years old, Egyptian Collection. Courtesy of Chiddingstone Castle; Inner sarcophagus of Princess Sopdet-em-haawt. Courtesy of David Aaron davidaaaron.com