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Introduction

Arnold Lehman: Welcome. I'm Arnold Lehman, director of the Brooklyn Museum of Art. You've just entered *Egypt Reborn: Art for Eternity*, our installation of over 1,000 important and beautiful works of Egyptian art from our permanent collection.

Look up. The colorful mural you see is an artist's interpretation of the zodiac ceiling from the Temple of Dendera in Egypt. Along with the columns and statues in this temple-like space, it sets the scene for your journey today.

This large gallery is organized around several themes, showing the development of Egyptian art. To the sides are galleries of "Early Egypt" and "Later Egypt," arranged chronologically. You'll learn about this extraordinary culture through objects ranging from monumental statues of kings to a pair of ancient tweezers.

Our curators will talk to you about highlights of the collection, and you'll also hear comments by other Museum staff and visitors with unique perspectives on Egyptian art.

This long-awaited project is made possible by the National Endowment for the Humanities, with additional major support from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Marilyn M. Simpson Charitable Trusts, and the Brooklyn Museum's Charles Edwin Wilbour Fund.

The music for this tour has been composed by Doug Irvine.

We invite you to join us, to witness what the ancient Greek historian Herodotus meant 2,500 years ago when he wrote: "Egypt has more wonders in it than any other country in the world and provides more works that defy description than any other place." We hope that our installation brings ancient Egypt to life for you.

For more information about these objects, be sure to visit www.brooklynmuseum.org