

News Release
Public Information
Department

**Annual Brooklyn Museum of Art Gala to Feature a Special Preview of
the Expanded Galleries of Ancient Egyptian Art**

Thursday Evening, April 10, 2003

February 2003

The Brooklyn Museum of Art will honor eminent Egyptologist William Kelly Simpson at its annual gala, the Brooklyn Ball, to take place on Thursday evening, April 10, 2003. Co-Chaired by BMA Trustees Barbara Manfrey Vogelstein and Susan Weber Soros, the gala will feature an opportunity for guests to preview the Museum's expanded galleries of ancient Egyptian art, slated to open to the public later that week.

Individual tickets to this major fundraising event are \$350, patron tickets range from \$500 to \$1,500, and patron tables are available for \$5,000 to \$25,000. Sponsorship opportunities are available in the Souvenir Program. Proceeds will help provide support for the Museum's public and education programs, which serve thousands of area schoolchildren, families, teachers, and other BMA visitors each year. For further information call (718) 501-6327.

This year's festive-attire event will begin at 6:30 p.m. with cocktails in the Hagop Kevorkian Gallery of Ancient Middle Eastern Art, where twelve monumental Assyrian alabaster reliefs from a palace at Nimrud are on view. A highlight of this portion of the evening will include the opportunity to view *Egypt Reborn: Art for Eternity*. This major presentation of more than six hundred objects from the Museum's world-renowned ancient Egyptian holdings will be installed in newly refurbished galleries, complementing the more than 500 Egyptian masterpieces already on view. Three quarters of the new presentation, which is scheduled to open on April 12, 2003, includes objects that have not been on public view for more than a decade.

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This portion of the gala will be followed at 8 p.m. by dinner and dancing to the music of The Hank Lane Orchestra. During the evening William Kelly Simpson, a noted scholar and author who teaches Egyptology at Yale University, will be presented with the Augustus Graham Medal, named after a founder of the Museum. The medal is awarded each year in recognition of a strong commitment to the arts and continued support of the Brooklyn Museum of Art.

End.

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Note: Press wishing to cover the event must make advance arrangements through the Brooklyn Museum of Art press office. Contact information is above.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Admission:

Contribution \$6; students with valid I.D. and older adults \$3. Free to Members and children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Group tours or visits must be arranged in advance by calling extension 234.

Directions:

Subway: Seventh Avenue express (2 or 3) to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum stop; Lexington Avenue express (4 or 5) to Nevins Street, cross platform and transfer to the 2 or 3. **Bus:** B71, B41, B69, B48. On-site parking available.

Museum Hours:

Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; First Saturday of each month, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; all other Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.