
The AUC Press News | June 2022



REACHING THE AFTERLIFE

Dr. Salima Ikram, acclaimed Egyptologist, distinguished university professor, and AUC Press author, gave a virtual talk on June 8 about 'Death, Mummification, and Burials in Ancient Egypt.' She talked about how the ancient Egyptians enjoyed life and believed that death was but a gateway to an eternal existence – "much like this one, except better" – which is why "they lavished care, time, and expense on the preparation and preservation of their bodies and tombs. **More**



DISCOVERY AT ROSETTA

REVEALING ANCIENT EGYPT

JONATHAN DOWNS

AUC
PRESS



WHERE LIES THE TRUTH ABOUT THE ROSETTA STONE

The 1799 discovery of the Rosetta Stone, the large, flat, dark stele found by a French officer in the small port of Rosetta during Napoleon Bonaparte's military expedition to Egypt, would hold the key to deciphering ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics.

This year marks the two hundredth anniversary of the deciphering of the Rosetta Stone. To mark this important milestone, we interviewed British historian, journalist, and editor, Jonathan Downs, author of *Discovery at Rosetta: Revealing Ancient Egypt* (AUC Press, paperback, 2020) – the first full account of the British acquisition of the Rosetta Stone in 1801, from discovery to decipherment. [More](#)

BEING FRIENDS WITH EDWARD WILLIAM LANE

In April, historian Jason Thompson gave a keynote lecture about Robert Hay's friendship with Edward William Lane, during ASTENE's three-day seminar on 'Egyptologist Robert Hay (1799–1863) and Friends in Egypt,' at Duns Castle, located in the Scottish Borders.

Thompson is the author of *Edward William Lane, 1801–1876: The Life of the Pioneering Egyptologist and Orientalist* (AUC Press, 2010), *A History of Egypt: From Earliest Times to the Present* (AUC Press, 2019), and AUC Press's three-volume *Wonderful Things: A History of Egyptology*. He is also the editor of *Edward William Lane's Description of Egypt* (AUC Press, 2000) and *An Account of the Manners and Customs of the Modern Egyptians* (AUC Press, 2003).

[Listen to the lecture.](#)



HEADING TO THE WORLD URBAN FORUM 11

Yahia Shawkat, author of *Egypt's*

**WORLD
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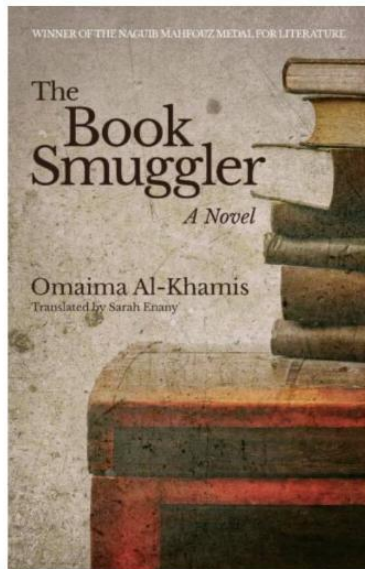


KATOWICE, POLAND | 26-30 JUNE 2022

Housing Crisis: The Shaping of Urban Space (AUC Press, 2020), has been invited to speak at the World Urban Forum 11, UN-Habitat, which will be held in Katowice, Poland, during June 26-30. [More](#)



Banipal Book Club



The Book Smuggler

by Omaima Al-Khamis

translated by Sarah Enany



The Arabic original of *The Book Smuggler*, *Masra al-gharaniq fi mudun al-aqiq* (*Voyage of the Cranes over the Agate Cities*) won the 2018 Naguib Mahfouz Medal for Literature and was longlisted for the 2019 International Prize for Arabic Fiction.

BANIPAL BOOK CLUB READING HOOPOE

JUNE 29 | 6:30pm–8:00pm BST LONDON TIME | ZOOM

The Banipal Book Club will hold a virtual talk to discuss Omaima Al-Khamis's *The Book Smuggler*, translated by Sarah Enany (Hoopoe, 2021). The novel won the 2021 Saif Ghobash Banipal Translation Prize.

To register and join the Zoom meeting, email bookclub@banipal.co.uk. [More](#)



TALKING GRAPHIC DESIGN IN THE ARAB WORLD

Haytham Nawar, co-author of *A History of Arab Graphic Design*, with Bahya Shehab (AUC Press, 2020), was invited to give a talk late last month about the book at [Sheikh Zayed's Bibliothek Egypt](#).

Nawar is chair of the department of the arts at the American University in Cairo and the founder and artistic director of Cairotronica, a festival of electronic and new media arts in Cairo. An artist, designer, and Fulbright scholar, his work has been shown at many local and international exhibitions. His research interests include design history and practices, with a focus on the Arab world and Africa.

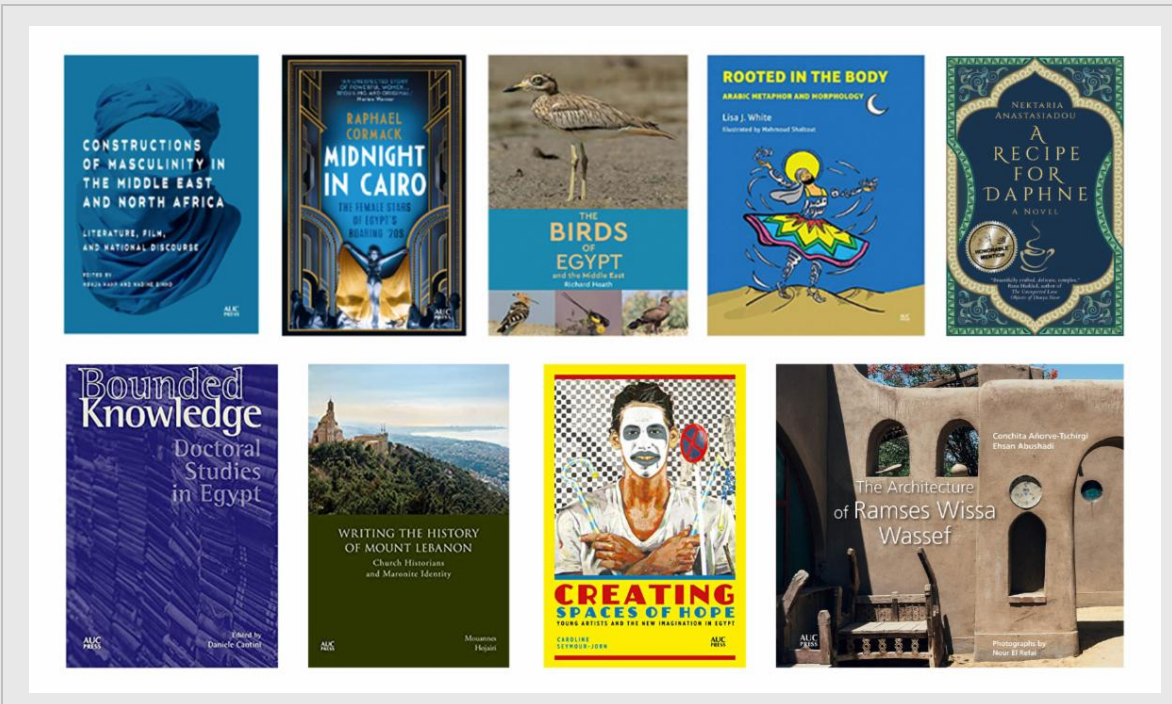


RESIDENT AT IOWA'S INTERNATIONAL WRITING PROGRAM

This year, Egyptian novelist, literary editor, and [Hoopoe author Yasser Abdel Hafez](#) participated in the Spring Residency of University of Iowa's International Writing Program, the oldest and largest multinational writing residency in the world. [More](#)

REVIEWS, INTERVIEWS & PODCASTS

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