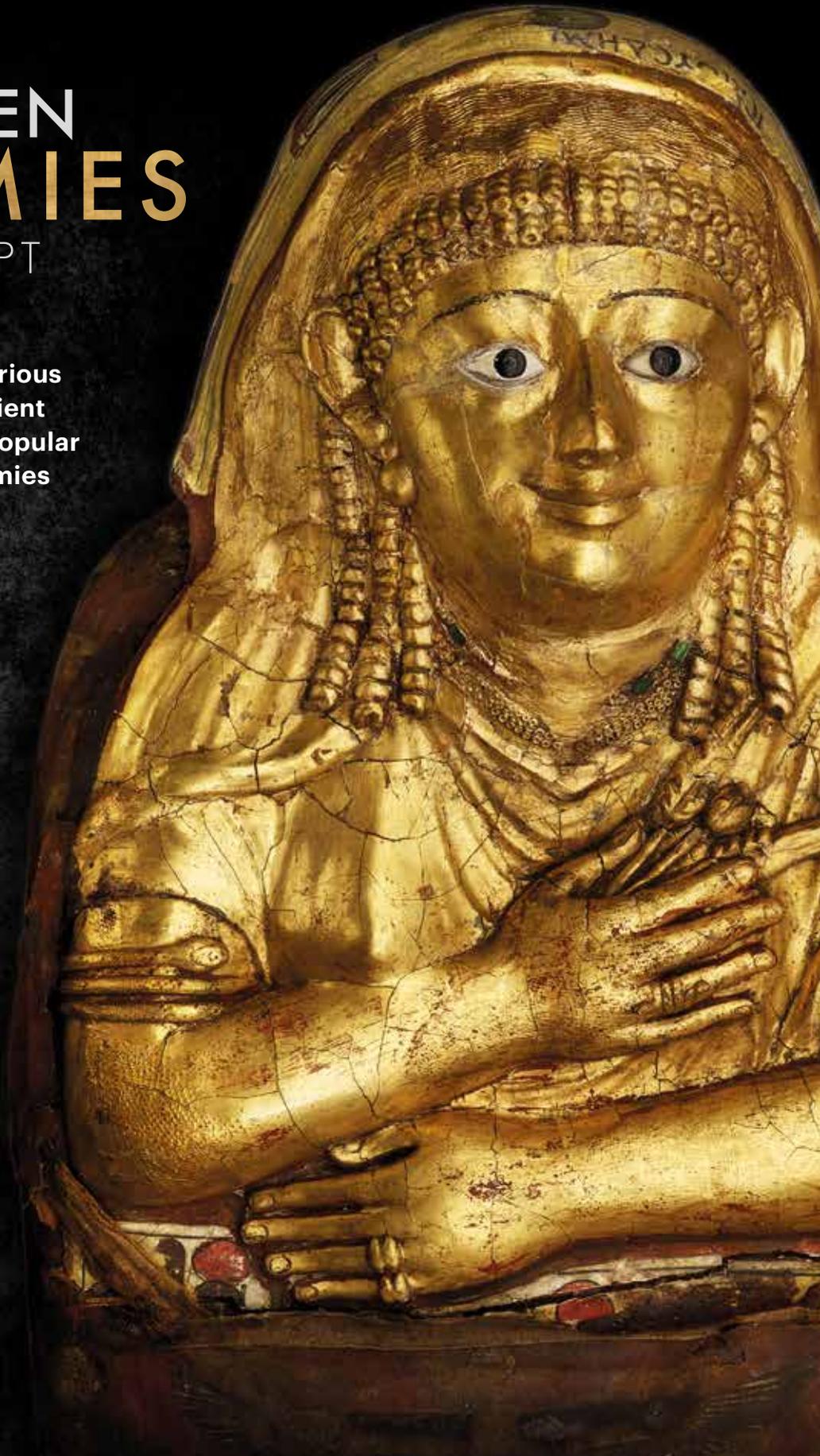


GOLDEN MUMMIES

OF EGYPT

Glittering gold and mysterious mummies are among Ancient Egypt's most iconic and popular attractions. Golden Mummies of Egypt presents eight extraordinary mummies and also explores beliefs about the afterlife when Egypt was part of the Greek and Roman worlds.



Venue gallery size:
600-1000 sqm

Venue ceiling height:
4 metres recommended

Conservation & security:
High

Standard rental length:
16 weeks



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Gilded mummy of a woman. From Hawara, Egypt. c. 50-100 AD

Centred on eight mummies from the Manchester Museum's world-class collection, this exhibition offers an insight into the hopes and fears of the wealthy in society. Those who could afford the expensive process of mummification hoped to cheat death. This ancient ritual harnessed the protective power of a range of Egypt's many gods to immortalise the deceased. By being covered in gold, the Egyptians hoped to imitate the eternal radiance of the gods themselves.

The University of Manchester has led research on Egyptian mummies for over a century, having acquired many of its objects from archaeological excavations. Innovative visualisation technology is used to bring cutting-edge CT-scans to life. Importantly, the exhibition also asks why we are fascinated by mummies and what they might tell us about ourselves.

The exhibition includes 360 degree interactive CT-scans of each mummy on display, allowing the visitor to see beneath the wrappings; audio-visual translations of texts bring the words of ancient people to life; iconographic visualisations animate the gods the Egyptians hoped to meet.



Portrait of a woman, probably from Hawara, Egypt, c. 138-169AD



Terracotta figure of the god Harpocrates, from Egypt, c. 30BC-200AD



Portrait mummy of a man, from Hawara, Egypt, c. 117-138AD

Exhibition specifications

Curatorial partners

Manchester Museum, part of the University of Manchester.



Collection

This spectacular exhibition consists of over 100 key objects from the Manchester Museum collection, including mummies, masks, coffins, jewellery and sculpture.

Exhibition themes

In a series of lavishly illustrated thematic sections the exhibition uses the outstanding collections of Manchester Museum to allow visitors to examine life for the wealthy in multicultural Roman Egypt, where diverse Egyptian, Roman and Greek communities and cultural influences were blended.

The exhibition journey traces expectations for the afterlife and introduces cultural constructions of identity, strikingly demonstrated by the haunting painted panel portraits, the Manchester collection of portraits is among the finest in the world, placed over the face of some Roman Period mummies. As spectacularly shown by the mummies on display, the practises of preservation and decoration of the body, and the transformation of the deceased into a god are also explored.