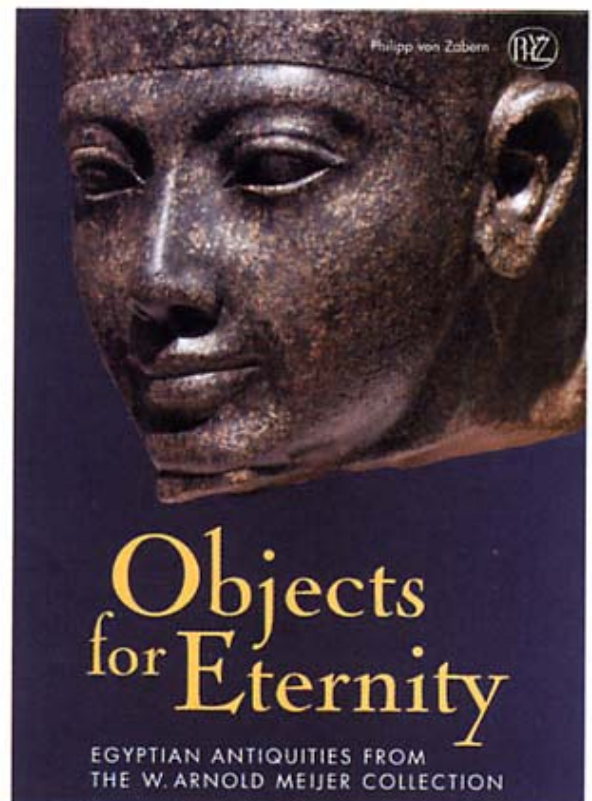


Many private collections have been made with great discernment, many of them ending up in museums, or being the focal point of loan exhibitions to museums. It is the latter that so often helps fuel the world of scholarship, and *Objects for Eternity: Egyptian Antiquities from the W. Arnold Meijer Collection* (Philipp von Zabern) shown at the Allard Pierson Museum in Amsterdam is a case in point. Comprising over 200 objects, the catalogue is exemplary of what the combination of a dedicated collector and the scholarship of dedicated Egyptologists can produce. It is edited by Carol Andrews (formerly of the British Museum) and Jacobus van Dijk, who have brought together a team of ten leading Egyptologists to produce a detailed and imaginative text on the objects, which are splendidly illustrated. Individual short essays precede a number of the thematically grouped objects, which are clear and explicit. There are some remarkable pieces included in this incomparable collection, such as the limestone head of the Princess Nebetah, daughter of Amenophis III and Queen Tiye, and a unique survival inscribed with her name (cat. 2.38); the granodiorite head of Amun, probably an early representation of Seti I but in late 18th Dynasty style (cat. 2.39, and the cover illustration); a miniature copper alloy sarcophagus with a seated lioness-headed goddess Sekhmet, unique in the genre



(cat. 3.21); as well as a remarkable series of finest quality bronze statuettes of deities. The texts are fully supported by references and are followed by five detailed Appendices which give the recent collection history; C-14 readings; authenticity and material composition; drawings of stone vessels, and hieroglyphic inscriptions. In all, this represents an invaluable presentation of material and objects that will be a useful source of reference to a remarkable collection of objects that span the whole of Egyptian history from the Pre-dynastic to Roman Periods.