Nevine El-Aref, Monday 23 Oct 2023

The "Ramses and the Gold of the Pharaohs" exhibition is to open its doors in Sydney, Australia, on 18 November in its fourth stop, as announced in a press conference held at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC).





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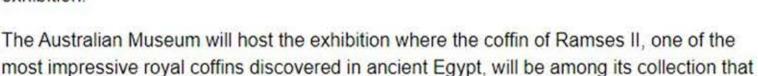
in the Valley of the Kings," Hawass asserted.

afterlife books," Hawass noted.



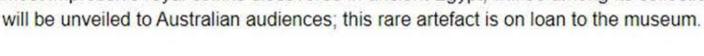






Ahmed Ghoneim, CEO of the NMEC.

temple, and Abu Simbel temples, he added.



world, after Paris, to display it. Before the discovery of the Deir El-Bahari royal mummies cache in 1881, ancient Egyptian

kings were nothing but stories transmitted by travellers and historians, or scenes recorded

on the walls of temples and tombs and the paintings of painters and epigraphers, said

Ramses' coffin is rarely permitted to leave Egypt and Sydney will be the second city in the

Ramses II is one of those royalties, whose fame spread all over the world, even before discovering his mummy, due to the architectural monuments he built like the monumental structures and colossi in Luxor and Karnak temples, the great funerary Ramesseum

"Egyptian treasures have always mesmerized the world for centuries," said Mostafa Waziry, secretary-general of the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA), highlighting the enigmatic nature of Egypt's origins, religions, and monumental architecture, many of which were constructed during Ramses II's rule.

"I expect the exhibition in its fourth stop in Sydney to be another success, as it received

"Egyptians have secured an eternal place in history due to their ability to transcend age

and time. I invite visitors to discover why Ramses II is often regarded as the greatest, most

817,000 visitors during the five-month stay in Paris," Waziry asserted.

"Ramses II's coffin, which was exhibited in the NMEC and will be displayed in Sydney,

would be the ambassador of ancient Egypt and its great civilization," Ghoneim pointed out.

celebrated, and most powerful pharaoh of all time," he added. While Zahi Hawass, the renowned Egyptologist and former Minister of Antiquities, was

reviewing his recent excavations in Ramses II's tomb in the Valley of the Kings in Luxor

during a press conference, he told reporters that Ramses, as one of the longest-lived

pharaohs, identified himself as "King of all the Kings" and that his 66-year reign is

if compared with the tomb of a minor king like Tutankhamun, Hawass added.

considered Egypt's most glorious time. He was also known as the "Master of Builders" as he erected more monuments than any other ancient Egyptian pharaoh. So, he was regarded by the Egyptians as "Ramses the

Great." Thus, Egyptologists expected his tomb to be full of wonderful treasures, especially

He explained that currently the tomb's state is not as expected as it underwent many difficult conditions like successive thefts, random digging in search of hidden treasures, and severe rain floods that destroyed its beautiful reliefs and inscriptions. The tomb's passages and internal rooms were completely blocked, so many archaeological missions failed to clean it from the debris and reveal its secrets.

However, the Egyptian excavation mission, which was in January 2021, could remove all

the debris and thus revealed secrets about the construction and pictorial program of the

"It is in fact the only royal tomb full of inscriptions, decorations, and of course architecture

Gates" and the "Book of Imy-Duat," or "What is in the Afterlife." The tomb's shaft, the deepest among the shafts of the Valley of the Kings's royal tombs,

was also uncovered completely for the first time. "Surprisingly, it is decorated like the walls,

carrying three marvellous scenes and inscriptions that represent other chapters from the

The mission also could measure the size of Ramses's funerary treasure using a

The excavations revealed many new scenes depicted on the tomb walls, representing important chapters from the ancient Egyptian funerary afterlife books like the "Book of

outside the tomb not by robbers but by the priests of the Egyptian god Amun in the Late Period, Hawass pointed out. The excavation showed that the priests and their architects could not take the large-size

objects outside the tomb in the same way the king's men brought them inside. So, they had to dig the floors and ceilings to expand them and thus remove the treasures. Given the fact

measurement system, showing evidence that the king's huge funerary furniture was moved

discovering them, he added. Hawass described the exhibition as an unprecedented event which aimed not only to spread the magic of the pharaohs in the West but also for all the nations to see the greatness of that civilization which "combined perfection in workmanship and absolute

"We are excited to bring these treasures to the land down under! I'm sure it will be a big

success," said John Norman, president of Neon Creative, celebrating the opening of the

The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities has played an instrumental role in fostering this

exhibition in Los Angeles, Norman explained, praising its efforts in promoting Egypt as a

spirit of friendship and cooperation that started in 2005 with the launch of the Tutankhamun

tourist destination, which opened the door for countless travellers to explore its beauty and

that these treasures were not destroyed or taken by robbers, there is still a possibility of

"As we celebrate this milestone of two decades of friendship and support, let us not forget the importance of preserving and cherishing this heritage for future generations. May we continue to work hand in hand, nurturing the bond between our nations and sharing the wonders of Egypt with the world," Norman added.

The carved, wooden coffin will be the star attraction in the exhibition, which includes over

181 rare objects, like glittering golden masks, exquisite jewellery, amulets, and animal

sarcophagi, said Kim McKay AO, the Australian Museum's director and CEO.

explained. "This international collaboration between the two countries, as well as our exhibition partners, Neon Global and World Heritage Exhibitions, marks a new chapter in the way we

share culture with our visitors and is an opportunity for the Australian Museum to enhance

Through the priceless artefacts of the exhibition, the whole world will see how the pharaohs

HE COFFIN OF RAMSES II

its global reputation and consolidate these valuable partnerships," he added.

made their glory through work and creativity.

"This beautiful sarcophagus is a work of inestimable value and a powerful symbol of one of

the greatest leaders of the ancient world. Egyptians worshipped their Pharaohs, and their

devotion to Ramses II can be seen through the craftsmanship of the coffin," McKay

stop in San Francisco in August 2022, and third stop in Paris in April 2023. Search Keywords:

The exhibition's journey abroad had its first stop in Houston in November 2021, second

Short link:

Australia

Ramses

https://english.ahram.org.eg/News/510795.aspx