

COPTIC
MUSEUM
OF CANADA



MUSÉE
COPTE
DU CANADA

KEYS TO THE PAST. GATEWAY TO THE FUTURE

The Museum's Cecile Barsoum Reference Library

Objects in the Coptic Museum of Canada, as with any museum are tangible evidence of the spirit & soul of a society and civilization. Objects connect us with the human beings who created them and the "ideas" they seek to communicate. The Cecile Barsoum Reference Library provides access to reliable information (particularly in an age of mis-information!) and is a hub of knowledge on Coptic civilization & history, cultural heritage and art history. The Library also connects us to people, places and is a gateway to learning for the general public, students in both elementary and high schools, university professors and students, curators, art historians and artists amongst others.

For example:

- The current Museum exhibition "Neo-Coptic Iconography: Expressions of Spirituality 1965-2022" displays the works of seven artists, starting from Isaac Fanous, known as the "father" of Neo-Coptic iconography. Among the resources in the Reference Library is a publication on Fanous's life, vision, works and his influence on a generation of artists: REF: N7382 [click here](#)
- Resources on the six other artists are also available including the Museum's publication *Coptic Icons in a New Light. Narrative Series 2011-2018* by Victor A. Fakhoury. *Icônes Copte Sous Un Nouveau Éclairage, Série Narrative 2011-2017* de Victor Fakhoury. REF: FA [click here](#)
- The Reference Library has numerous resources on Coptic monastic-ism & art such as a series of publications on Christianity and Monasticism in Middle, Upper and Northern Egypt. [click here](#)

Or more specifically:

- *The Red Monastery Church. Beauty and Asceticism in Upper Egypt.* REF: 704.94682 BOL [click here](#)
- *The Cave Church of St Paul the Hermit & The Monastery of St. Paul, Egypt.* REFF: 281IYS [click here](#)

These publications will also be of interest to art conservers.

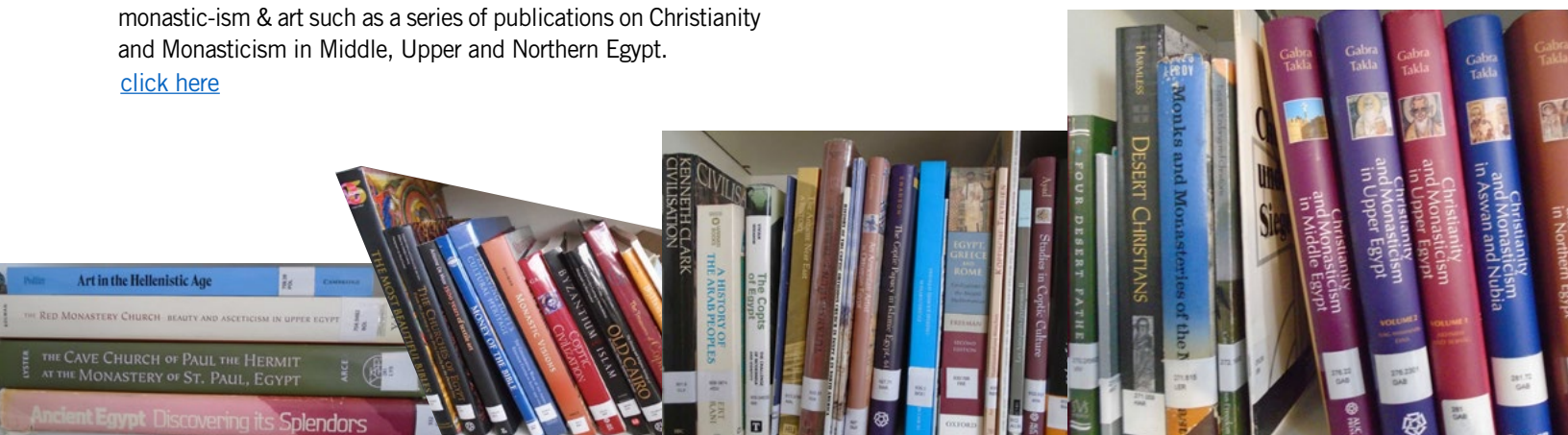
Egyptian culinary art has been another interest of our reference library users. Two examples

- *Pratique Rituelles et Alimentaires des Coptes* by Céres. Wassef offers archeological culinary evidence and practices. REF: BR1380 [click here](#)
- The *RAWI Magazine* food issue (2019) covers Egypt's culinary history from 3000BC to present days - including recipes! REF: DT43.R39 [click here](#)

Browse the Museum's online catalogue and join us to discover more knowledge in various fields of Coptic heritage and art! ... Learn ... Library ... Cecile Barsoum Reference Library [click here](#)

Marina Hanna

Volunteer Librarian



ACTIVITIES - HIGHLIGHTS

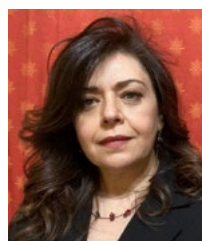
FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Navigating the Post Pandemic Future

On November 25, 2022 the Annual General Meeting of members was held on ZOOM.

Labib Mousa (President) and **Marina Fathalla** (Director, Education) reviewed the challenges and accomplishments of the past year and initial plans for 2023, stressing the need to understand the post-closure priorities of past and new museum visitors and finding a balance between virtual and in-person programmes.

Two new members were elected to the Board of Directors:



Iman Nashed
Board Secretary



Maged Estafanos
Director Community Engagement
(new position)

UoT “FR. MARCOS MEMORIAL FUND IN COPTIC STUDIES.”

November 11, 2022. Fr. Pishoy Atalla presented the St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox Church (Toronto) annual donation towards the University of Toronto “Fr. Marcos Memorial Fund in Coptic Studies.”



Left to right: Professor Mary-Anne Pouls Wegner, Chair, Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations; Dr. Ramez Boutros, UofT Coptic Studies Lecturer; Father Pishoi Atalla, St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox Church; Courtney Boost, Development Officer Donations Management, UofT; Dr. Helene Moussa, Volunteer Curator, Coptic Museum of Canada.

COPTIC STUDIES AT THE UoT

December 8, 2022 Meeting at University of Toronto Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations (NMC).



Left to right: Father Pishoy Atalla, St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox Church, Toronto; Professor Abdel-Khalig Ali, Associate Chair, Undergraduate Studies, NMC; Professor Mary-Ann Pouls Wegner, Chair, NMC; H.G. Bishop Yostos, Abbot of St. Anthony Monastery, Egypt; H.G. Bishop Archilides, Archdiocese of Toronto; Dr. Helene Moussa, Volunteer Curator, Coptic Museum of Canada.

HISTORY. SPIRITUALITY. ART.

On December 9, 2022, H.G. Bishop Yostos, Abbot of St. Anthony Monastery, Egypt and H.G. Bishop Archilides, Archdiocese of Toronto visited St. Mark's Coptic Church, the Coptic Museum of Canada, and the Father Marcos Memorial Display.



Left to right: Labib Mousa, President, Board of Directors, Coptic Museum of Canada; Fr. Pishoy Atalla; H.G. Bishop Yostos, Abbot of St. Anthony Monastery, Egypt; H.G. Bishop Archilides, Archdiocese of Toronto; Fr. Misael Atalla, Fr. Kyrillos Fakhouri, Helene Moussa, Volunteer Curator, Coptic Museum of Canada; Hany Ishaak, Board of Deacons, St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox Cathedral & Church. [Click here](#) to see highlights of the visit

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