

FERTILE CRESCENT COACHES CONFERENCE

A. Introduction

Distribution and sources

These slides may be in the competition – or not.

However they will be similar, to give you the idea

Proportions

B, Bibliography

Metropolitan Museum of Art Website

Wikipedia

Silverman, David P. ed. *Ancient Egypt*
Oxford University Press 1997

Wilkinson, Toby *The Rise and Fall of Ancient Egypt*
Random House 2013

Wilkinson, Toby *The Thames and Hudson Dictionary of Ancient Egypt*
Thames and Hudson 2005

C. I. Mesopotamia

Did not find any text but lots on the internet, even some videos. Chose Ur – Gilgamesh. Several other civilizations – vast field Akkad, Babylon, etc. Ur itself spans around 2500 years from 4500 BC to 1740 BC, although wanes after 3000 BC Egypt from 3000 BC into the Roman period. So long time spans

1. Votive Statues from the Temple of Abu , Tell Asmar Crystalinks

These are typical of Ur style note large eyes, clasped hands.

Many like these have been found

Ur was the first city, first stone architecture – ziggurat – writing – cylinder seals

2. Proto-cuneiform tablet Timelines of Art History internet
Cylinder seals started as records of transactions, or Inventories then became writing for tales such as *Gilgamesh* – there are others. None of this known until mid 19th century - deciphered later
3. Ram in a thicket Wikipedia This is metal – figurines were of stone (Binding of Isaac?)
Metallurgy, tools, molds. All this requires complex civilization. Cf descriptions of the city in Gilgamesh There was lots of jewelry also – in both cultures – but I did not include this
4. Ziggurat at Ur (Tell Muqayyar) Internet And here is a ziggurat A little difficult to decipher. Different functions of Ziggurats in Ur than Egypt
5. Inlaid box - war scene Internet Other side has peace. Tells a story – narrative. Will also have narratives in Egypt – usually in paintings. Note wheeled cart – also Sumerian invention late brought to Egypt
Fully rounded figures , relatively realistic
6. Cylinder Seal British Museum An early example of cuneiform Also seems to tell a story
- D. 7. The Narmer Palette Rise and Fall p 122 Now to Egypt. Not quite as old as Ur but lasted to Roman times. Also dominant longer.
Very little or no style changes throughout the period until Ptolemaic period. This sets the style for portrait of King Narmer c. 295- BC Lots of material available on Egypt. However, until the Rosetta Stone was deciphered all seemed mysterious. Now can read all inscriptions
The three texts I chose should give you all necessary information. The Rise and Fall of Ancient Egypt is primarily a history, not really much on art. But remember, the style hardly changes.
8. Funerary Mask of King Tutankhamun Dictionary p. 253 I think we all know this one. Various periods had Egypt mania, but this dates from Carter's finding of the Tomb of Tutankhamun in the 1920's This is of course a funerary mask. They are all individualized but often hard to tell

9. The Great Pyramid of Khufu at Giza Dictionary P. 196 Read all about pyramids in the books. This is one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World; need to know how they were built

10. Temple at Philae Dictionary p. 187 (Pylons) You need to know something of the structures of Egyptian temples. Pylons, columns. You don't need to know the god associated with which temple

11. The Great Sphinx Dictionary p. 234 Need to know what is a sphinx. There are many sphinxes – they were usually temple guardians

12. Obelisk of King Thutmose I Rise and Fall p. 314 ff another iconic Egyptian structure

13. Inner chamber of pyramid of King Unas with Pyramid texts Rise and Fall p 122 ff Just to show you the interior of a pyramid – note writing on the wall - one of many pyramid texts

14. Wooden statue of Senusret I Dictionary p. 219 Note sculpture is more realistic than painting. Note stance This is of wood Note crown, staff.

15. Shabti figures Internet What were Shabti?

16. Wooden model of an army platoon Dictionary p 32 Possibly for a stone sculpture? Note detail, costumes

17. Quartzite statue of chief lector-priest Padiamenope Rise and fall p 474 ff statues not only of Kings and family. Important persons had statues – possibly for the Ka, as well as tombs. Scribes of high status in Egypt as well as Ur. Lots of texts in Egypt - wider literacy??

18. Nefertiti As well-known as her husband Tutankhamun. One of them most beautiful portrait.

20. King Akhenaten Only major style change before Graco-Roman period. Did not last long. Need to know about it.

21. Detail of a wall painting with Queen Nefertari and Isis Note hold of their hands. This is how figures are done in Egyptian painting. Very stylized. Remains same throughout. Note attributes – tell us who they are.

22. Geese of Meidum Animals often more realistic and less stylized than human figures; Very accurate details closely observed almost like an Audubon illustration

23. Painting with a cartouche; What is a cartouche?

**24. A king in a chariot Internet Again note stylization – how the figure is done. Royal attributes Chariots may have been introduced by the Hyksos during 18th Dynasty (New Kingdom c 1500 BC)
I do not require knowledge of dates**

25. The tomb owner hunting Dictionary p. 110 Note liveliness of scenes. Hierarchical perspective Common in Egyptian art usually it is the King, but here it is the owner. Note wife and child