# CONTENTS

**ABOUT THE BOOK** ......................... ix

**CONTRIBUTORS** ......................... xi

**ERA OVERVIEW** ........................... xiii

**CHRONOLOGY OF WORLD EVENTS** ...... xvii

**CHAPTER 1: ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN**

**IMPORTANT EVENTS** .................... 2

**OVERVIEW** .............................. 4

**TOPICS IN ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Earliest Temples and Tombs</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyramid Complexes</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The North-South Pyramid Complex:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King Djoser’s Complex at Saqqara</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The First True Pyramids</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth-Dynasty Architecture and History</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture of the Fifth and Sixth Dynasties</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mastaba Tombs of the Old Kingdom</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Architecture in the Old Kingdom</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transition to the Middle Kingdom</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pyramids of the Middle Kingdom</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock-Cut Tombs of the Middle Kingdom</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Planned Town of the Middle Kingdom:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kahun</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Kingdom Temples</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thebes and the Estate of Amun</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egyptian Construction Technology</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amenhotep, Son of Hapu</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemiuunu, Son of Nefermaat</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imhotep</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ineni</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senenmut, Son of Ramose</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sety I</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DOCUMENTARY SOURCES** ................ 61

**CHAPTER 2: DANCE**

**IMPORTANT EVENTS** .................... 64

**OVERVIEW** .............................. 65

**TOPICS IN DANCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preconceptions about Dance</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance in Visual Art</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costumes and Fashion in Dance</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Dancers</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funeral Dances</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muu-Dancers</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Iba-Dance and Heby-Dance</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cult Dances</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Horihotep</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khnumhotep</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watetkhethor</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DOCUMENTARY SOURCES** ................ 82

**CHAPTER 3: FASHION**

**IMPORTANT EVENTS** .................... 86

**OVERVIEW** .............................. 88
Contents

TOPICS IN FASHION
Cloth Production .................. 88
Clothing .......................... 91
Hairstyles ......................... 97
Crowns ......................... 100
Jewelry and Amulets .......... 105

SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE
Irer .......................... 109

DOCUMENTARY SOURCES .......... 110

CHAPTER 4: LITERATURE
IMPORTANT EVENTS ............... 112
OVERVIEW .................... 114

TOPICS IN LITERATURE
Egyptian Writing and Language.... 115
Egyptian Writing Materials and
Publishing ........................ 118
The Author .................... 121
The Idea of Genre in Middle Egyptian
Literature .................... 123
The Literature of Moral Values .... 126
Pessimistic Literature ........ 128
Story of Sinuhe ............... 130
Emergence of New Kingdom Literature .... 131
Demotic Literature ........ 138
The Egyptian Literary Canon ... 141

SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE
Khaemwase .................... 148
Ptahhotep ..................... 148
Wenamun .................... 149

DOCUMENTARY SOURCES .......... 149

CHAPTER 5: MUSIC
IMPORTANT EVENTS ............. 152
OVERVIEW .................... 154

TOPICS IN MUSIC
Musical Instruments .......... 155
Musical Notation ............ 159
Work Songs .................. 160
Male and Female Musicians in the Old
Kingdom .................. 164
A Musical Bureau in the Old Kingdom .... 165
Banquet Music during the New Kingdom .... 166
The Office of Chantress ... 168
The Social Status of Musicians .... 168
Musical Deities ............ 170
Music During the Reigns of Akhenaten
and Nefertiti ............ 172
The Blind Solo Harpist and His Song .... 174

Erotic Music .................. 178

SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE
Amenemhab ................ 179
Iri .................... 179
Neferhotep, Son of Henu .... 179

DOCUMENTARY SOURCES .......... 180

CHAPTER 6: PHILOSOPHY
IMPORTANT EVENTS ............. 182
OVERVIEW .................... 184

TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY
Maat .................... 185
Cosmogony: The Origin of the World .. 187
Teaching Philosophy .......... 190
Secret Knowledge ............ 193
Astrology .................. 198
Alchemy ................... 199

SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE
Ankhsheshonqi ............ 201
Any .......................... 201
Hordjedef ................... 201
Merykare .................. 202

DOCUMENTARY SOURCES .......... 202

CHAPTER 7: RELIGION
IMPORTANT EVENTS ............. 206
OVERVIEW .................... 208

TOPICS IN RELIGION
The Gods .................... 210
Egyptian Myths ............ 214
Myth of Osiris ............ 217
Myths of Horus, Seth, and Amun .... 218
Theology .................. 220
Animals in Egyptian Religion .... 221
The King .................. 224
Kingship Rituals ........ 225
Temple Architecture and Symbolism .... 227
Temple Ritual ............ 230
Temple Personnel .......... 232
Personal Religion .......... 233
Ethics .................... 235
Magic in Egyptian Religion ..... 237
Funerary Beliefs and Practices .. 239
The Egyptian Afterlife .... 244

SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE
Akhenaten ................ 247
Amenhotep, Son of Hapu .... 248
Imhotep .................. 248

DOCUMENTARY SOURCES .......... 249
CHAPTER 8: THEATER

IMPORTANT EVENTS 252
OVERVIEW 253

TOPICS IN THEATER
Defining Theater 253
Spoken Drama 254
The Osirian Khoiak Festival Drama 260

SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE
Emhab 261

DOCUMENTARY SOURCES 262

CHAPTER 9: VISUAL ARTS

IMPORTANT EVENTS 264
OVERVIEW 266

TOPICS IN VISUAL ARTS
Interpreting Egyptian Art 269
Grid Systems in Visual Art 271
Earliest Egyptian Art 272

significant people
Nefertiti 309
Senenmut 309

documentary sources 310

Glossary 311

FURTHER REFERENCES 315

MEDIA AND ONLINE SOURCES 321

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS 323

INDEX 325