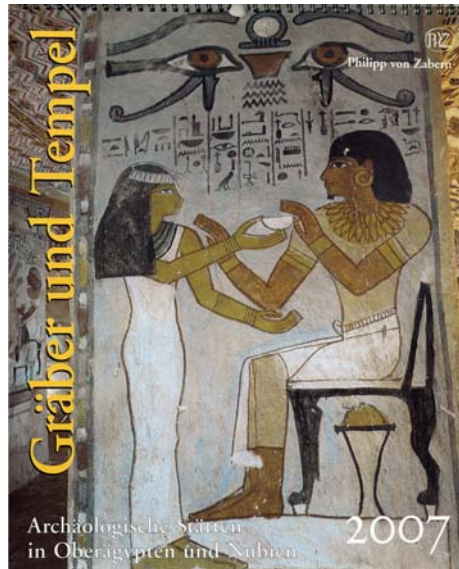


Hellenbarth, J. 2006. Gräber und Tempel. Archäologische Stätten in Oberägypten und Nubien. 2007. – Mainz am Rhein, Philipp von Zabern (calender)

Review by A.J. Veldmeijer



Reviewing a calendar is not often done. However, there is much reason to present the beautiful calendar ‘Gräber und Tempel. Archäologische Stätten in Oberägypten und Nubien. 2007’, by Philipp von Zabern. The calendar is simple in layout: a strong cardboard back with 13 pages of glossy, high quality paper. On these pages the dates are given in a column at the right side with the month as heading in German and English. Because no days are given, the calendar can be used for multiple years, rather than only for the year 2007, but in 2008 a new calendar will appear. The major part of the large pages (slightly larger than A3) however, is used for the beautiful, high quality colour photographs of temples (for instance January), details of painting (for example December) and details of reliefs (for example October). The back of the pages are used to describe what you see. The description is detailed and is not limited to the picture itself; it rather puts the object in a wider perspective. Sometimes even maps are included as to locate the object on the picture (the ‘Wappenpfeiler’ of September is such an example).

Not handy however, is the fact that the information is printed on the back side of the pages. You have to take the calendar from its nail to flip the page over and read about the topic of the picture. Perhaps it would have been an idea to print the text of a figure on the back of the previous photograph and hang the calendar opened in its entire length as to allow reading and looking at the picture at the same time. On the other hand, this would result in a very long calendar (twice the length it is now) and therefore difficult to give it an appropriate place in the house (in The Netherlands, it is a ‘tradition’ to have calendars at the toilet).

In conclusion: a beautiful present for everyone interested in ancient Egypt, art or who just like a nice calendar with beautiful photographs!

Hellenbarth, J. 2006. Gräber und Tempel. Archäologische Stätten in Oberägypten und Nubien. 2007. – Mainz am Rhein, Philipp von Zabern (calender). 13 pp. ISBN-10: 3-8053-3628-4; ISBN-13: 978-3-8053-3628-4. Price € 20.50.