



# IN TEXTILE LAYERS

Wrapped human remains, animals and artefacts  
in the Nile Valley  
from Prehistory to the Early Medieval period

## CALL FOR PAPERS

EAA 2020, Budapest, 26-30 August - Session 195

This session aims to design a methodological approach to the study of wrapped remains and artefacts from the Nile Valley. “Wrapping” here encompasses textile bandages, shrouds and clothing that wound, bound or enveloped humans and animals as part of funerary treatments and textiles used to ritually cover grave goods and dress divine figures. Throughout the long history of ancient Egypt, funerary wrapping was used to an industrial scale, which led to the development of dedicated embalming workshops, diverse material sourcing channels, specialised skill sets, and commercial markets. An unparalleled amount of wrapping materials have survived and is today kept in European museums, as well as in numerous cultural institutions in Egypt, Sudan, and worldwide.

Despite the ubiquity and historical potential of this practice, wrapping and wrapped remains have not been the focus of specific scholarly research until the publication of *Unwrapping Ancient Egypt* by Christina Riggs, in 2014. Inspired by the many questions raised by this landmark study, we wish to explore textile wrappings through an all-encompassing approach, and reveal the network of interconnected crafts and processes necessary to manufacture them and turn them into economically, ritually and epistemologically powerful artifacts.

We hope to bring together researchers from universities and museums, with varying and interdisciplinary approaches spanning from egyptology, philology, archaeology, history, and conservation, to physical anthropology, forensic and biomolecular sciences, and imaging technologies. We particularly welcome papers bringing new knowledge on the following themes:

- Textiles from museums, excavations, or in texts,
- Scientific analyses of wrappings and/or wrapped remains,
- Resources supply and recycling channels,
- Wrapping techniques and their development through time and place,
- Religious functions and ritual processes across contexts,
- Social and cultural environment of textiles and wrappings.



**EAA 2020**  
Budapest  
26-30 August

Registration and submission on the EAA web platform at  
<https://www.e-a-a.org/EAA2020>

**DEADLINE FOR PAPER SUBMISSION: 13 February 2020**

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