

Shadows and Droplets: Timekeeping Instruments from Ancient Egypt



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7-8pm

Sidney Smith Hall
Room 1084
100 St. George Street

SSEA Toronto Public Lecture

How were the ancient Egyptian day and night divided? What do we know about keeping time during the span of pharaonic history? Have many objects used for timekeeping have survived? Do we know who made and used them and why?

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This talk discusses 'formal' methods for measurement of hours in ancient Egypt, giving an overview of the surviving evidence including sundials and water clocks. We will compare different instruments and trace the extent to which we understand the time-keeping function of each.