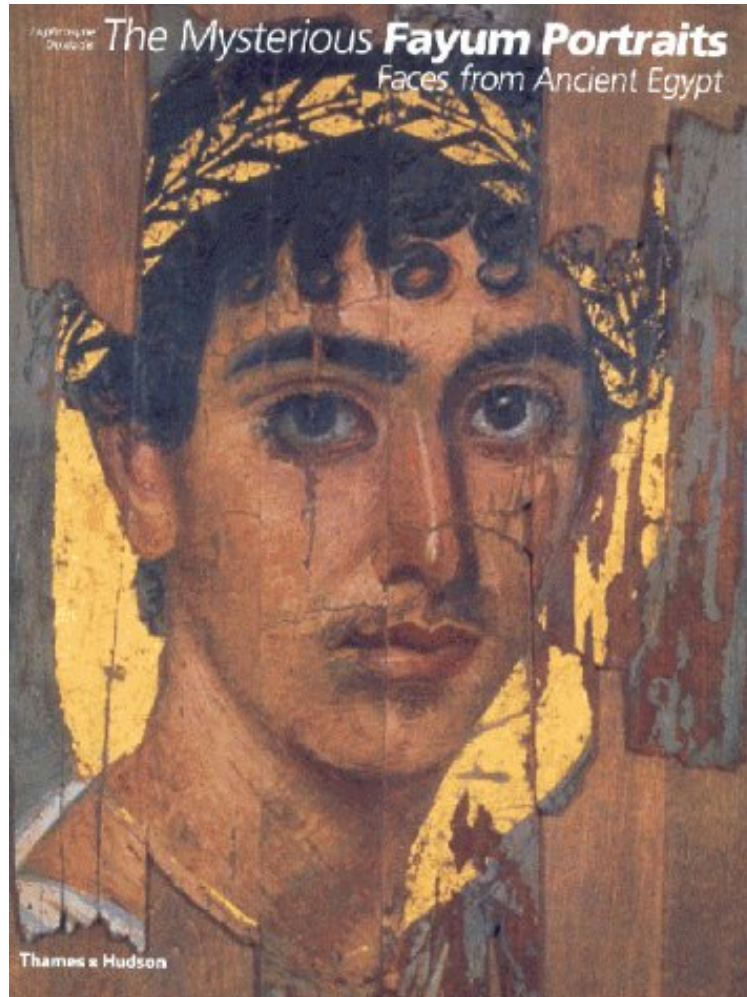


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Euphrosyne Doxiadis

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Pricey but worth itBy M A SchultzThe color portraits that bring to life people who walked the earth a couple of thousand years ago are what this book is all about. They are amazing. I was surprised at how modern in technique some of the portraits appeared. The ones with notes written to or about the deceased person made it that much easier to believe that these images were once living, breathing people. I found the information about the portraits and the times in which they were made to be very interesting also. Probably not for recreational reading, but if you like ancient history, a very worthwhile read.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Ancient faces come alive!By Derek R BellomoWow! The pictures in this book are absolutely stunning! It brings history alive.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Beautiful BookBy CustomerThis book was in

VG condition. The portraits shoot you right back in time as you gaze into their eyes, so realistic--unlike other ancient stylized portraiture. I have seen a few of them in other books in my classical history collection, wonderful to see so many together in one tome.

The Fayum portraits were created by the people of a flourishing district of Roman Egypt during the first three centuries AD. In the old Egyptian tradition, these people embalmed the bodies of their dead, but then they placed over the mummy, a painted portrait to preserve the memory of each individual. Over 1000 portraits have so far been discovered of men, women and children. This book features over 100 of these ancient paintings. The explanatory text sets the people and the paintings in their social, artistic and geographical context, and describes the artistic techniques used in their creation.

.com The Fayum, a flourishing metropolitan community in ancient Egypt, consisted of Greeks, Egyptians, Syrians, Libyans, and others. Like many of their contemporaries throughout the Nile Valley, these people embalmed their dead and then painted commemorative portraits of them, usually on wood or linen, to be placed over the mummies. Looking into the well-preserved, startlingly lifelike faces collected in this beautiful volume, one can trace the earliest roots of portraiture as it began in these Greco-Roman Fayum, or mummy, portraits, and continued through the Renaissance to the present. Despite their ancient history, the stylized portraits appear strikingly modern and painterly, with echoes of Modigliani and Matisse. Having experimented with them herself, Euphrosyne Doxiadis describes in detail the painting techniques and materials. Also included are fascinating notes on the clothing, jewelry, and hairstyles of the period. From Publishers Weekly Made in the lush Fayum region of Greco-Roman Egypt during the first three centuries A.D., portraits of the embalmed, mummified dead--each painted on a thin wooden panel or linen shroud and placed over the face to preserve the memory of the individual--are among the glories of world art. Staring at us with intense, disturbing gazes, these men and women speak to us as if from the otherworld, transcending mortality and death. Greek artist Doxiadis, who traveled to museums and collections around the world to study the Fayum portraits, has produced an important and beautiful volume that fills a major gap in the documentation of the art of antiquity. She reconstructs the Fayum painters' techniques and places the portraits in a pictorial tradition extending from fourth-century B.C. Greek naturalism to Byzantine icons. We see the Fayum portraits as the product of a cosmopolitan, multiracial society of Hellenized Greeks, Romans, Syrians, Jews, Libyans and Nubians who had largely adopted the Egyptian cult of the dead. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.