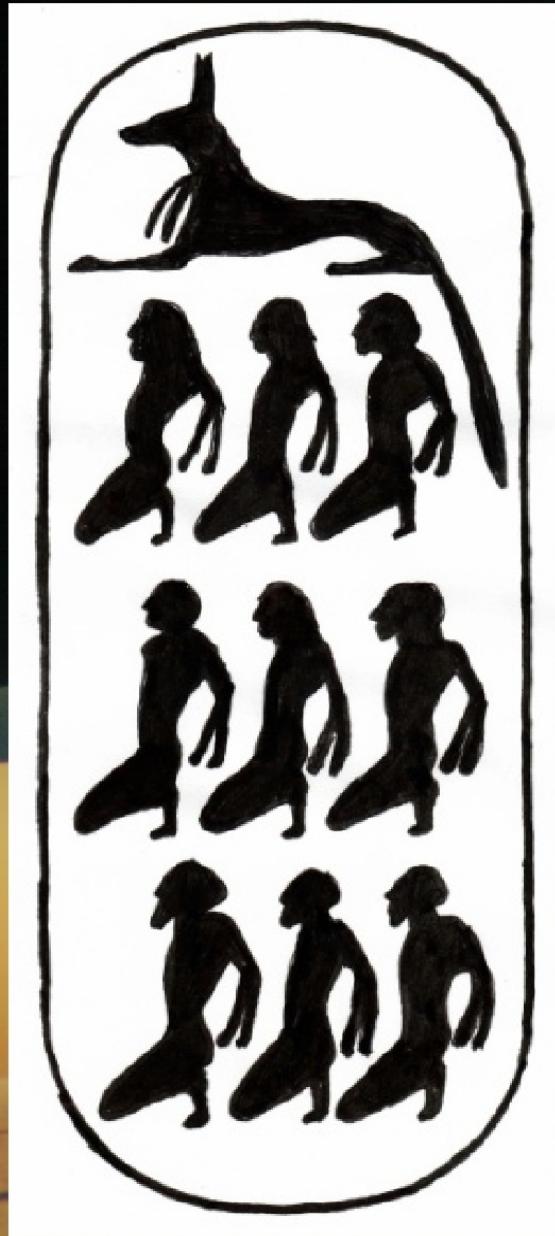


Unter dem Siegel der Nekropole



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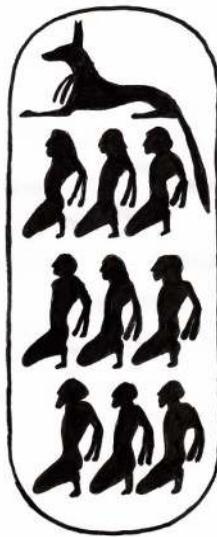
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USN 7 (1) Recent work of the FAPAB Research Centre

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Abstract

In 2021 the FAPAB research Center two more facial reconstructions of Egyptian mummies were made by Cicero Moraes. Already in 2020, the reconstruction of the mummy Cairo CG 61076 was a very successful work (Moraes et al. 2020). Various media have already reported on this (Felske 2020; Habicht 2020).

Ongoing research project, preliminary data publication

In the second reconstruction, the face of the skeletonised mummy from tomb KV 55 was reconstructed. The identity and age classification of the man is highly controversial in Egyptology. Therefore, the presentation of the reconstruction at a congress in Glasgow aroused great interest (Habicht et al. 2021). The media release went around the world (Galassi et al. 2021).

To make espionage more difficult, the identity of the mummy is only revealed in hieroglyphic writing:

With the permission of the Abbey Library of St. Gallen, a forensic facial reconstruction was created on existing radiological data. It was carried out using forensically recognised methods (Manchester Method), taking into account medical/anthropological information (sex, age at death), as well as Egyptological information (fashion of the era for hair and make-up). The first examination of the data showed: The data is suitable for facial reconstruction at a very high quality level.

Phase 1 and 2: Preparation of skeletal data and correct anatomical positioning

The CT data are processed to extract the pure skeleton:

Short description of the facial reconstruction

Reconstructing a face based on scaled photographs taken in the Frankfurt plane is possible using modern tools of 3D reconstruction. The forensic facial reconstruction process was performed in OrtogOnBlender (Moraes, da Rosa, and Dornelles 2020) using a specific module for this task, ForensicOnBlender.

With the skull digitised and aligned with the Frankfurt plane, the soft tissue thickness markers (De Greef et al. 2006) were distributed along the anatomical piece, in order to provide the skin thickness in a significant part of the face. The nose was reconstructed using two protocols, one based on the Manchester method (Prag and Neave 1997) and the other on the American method (Taylor 2000). The eyes were positioned following the average anatomy of the structure (Wilkinson 2004), the ears resulted from a projection of the eyebrow and the base of the nose, and the lips followed the median projection between the middle of the eyes and the canines and by the height of the teeth (Taylor 2000).