

Dina Rezk on Colonial Legacies
Egypt in Reading: Stories from the Liverpool Collections exhibition

Dr Dina Rezk on colonial archaeological legacies in Egypt

Ultimately I don't think it's possible to separate Egypt's historic and contemporary relationship to antiquities from its colonial legacy. Archaeology has always been to some extent, in Egypt, the remit of foreign powers and interests and audiences, and to some extent, this remains the case. Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities, which co-ordinates the conservation and excavation activities, was, you know, a very politicised institution. It had a charismatic and controversial leader Zahi Hawass who regulated, censored, what was being said and done around Egyptological research. So this I think is unlikely to change in the near future.