

April 2010

### In This Issue

- » [Veteran Egyptian Photographer Sherif Sonbol Speaks About his Craft and his Forthcoming Book \*The Nile Cruise\*](#)
- » [Interview with Bahaa Abdelmegid About his Two Novellas \*Saint Theresa\* and \*Sleeping with Strangers\*](#)
- » [AUC Press Launches Spectacular Egyptian Arabian Horse Book](#)
- » [Comprehensive New Biography of Edward William Lane Just Published](#)
- » [Book Launch in Gouna for Unique Zahi Hawass Secret Voyage Edition](#)

Dear Reader,

Spring is a busy and exciting publishing season for the American University in Cairo Press, bringing with it even the occasional unexpected volcanic moment, which this year cancelled all international publishing participation at the London Book Fair.



April is the month when the AUC Press celebrates its annual Spring Book Fair. During this year's weeklong event, held in the New Cairo, Zamalek, and Downtown bookstores, we launched some great new AUC Press titles including [Inside the Egyptian Museum with Zahi Hawass](#), [Saint Theresa](#) and [Sleeping with Strangers](#), two novellas by Bahaa Abdelmegid, translated for the first time into English, [Egypt's Culture Wars](#) by Samia Mehrez, and For Better, For Worse by Hanan Kholoussy, in the presence of the authors.

On April 23, the birthday of William Shakespeare and other prominent writers, the AUC Press as every year marked World Book Day, giving away a free book with any purchase in the Downtown Bookstore.

One of the highlights of our publishing program this month is the spectacular new book [The Arabian Horse of Egypt](#), with a hundred striking photographs by Nasr Marei, with a foreword by HRH Princess Alia Bint Al Hussein, and an introduction by Cynthia Culbertson. This is the first publication to address with such authority and expertise the history and lineage of this special breed, considered a treasure of Egyptian heritage. The AUC Press will officially launch the book in early May at the Marei Albadeia Stud Farm in Mansouriya.

As we continue the numerous celebrations of our 50th Anniversary, the AUC Press will hold next month its Annual Book, Art, & Music Festival in Islamic Cairo, and later in June a special celebration for AUC Press authors and Friends of the AUC Press Bookstores. We look forward to seeing you at the events listed in the calendar of our monthly e-newsletter.

**Mark Linz, Director  
The AUC Press  
Cairo – New York**



## Current Events

This year, the AUC Press celebrates its 50 years of publishing excellence. Events marking this important milestone will be posted on the [AUC Press Website](#) and announced in the AUC Press e-newsletters.

**Saturday, May 8, 2010**

[The Arabian Horse of Egypt](#)  
Book Launch  
Albadeia Stud Farm,  
Mansouriya, Haram

**Sunday, May 30, 2010**

50th Anniversary Annual Book,  
Art, & Music Festival  
Moez Street, Fatimid Cairo  
7:00 pm

**Sunday, June 20, 2010**

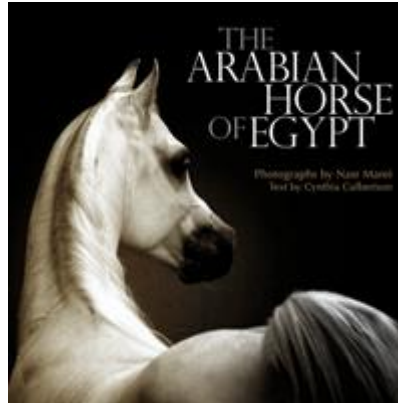
50th Anniversary Celebration  
Oriental Hall / AUC Press  
Downtown Bookstore and  
Gardens  
7:00 pm



## Quick Links

- » [AUC Press Catalog](#)
- » [Calendar of Events](#)
- » [AUC Press Home](#)
- » [AUC Press Bookstores](#)
- » [AUC Press E-Cards](#)
- » [Read & Laugh](#)
- » [Mailing List](#)
- » [Contact Us](#)

**Book of the Month** – Available at the [AUC Press Bookstores](#)



### [The Arabian Horse of Egypt](#)

Photographs by Nasr Marei  
Text by Cynthia Culbertson  
Foreword by HRH Princess  
Alia Bint Al Hussein

Prized for their stamina and their acclimation to the harsh conditions of the Arabian deserts, the ancestors of the horses that are now recognized as the Egyptian

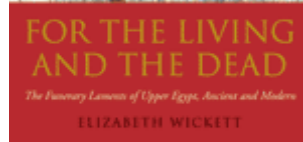
Arabian purebred horse entered Egypt centuries ago, establishing the valuable bloodlines of the breed there. The 100 color photographs by Nasr Marei, himself a third-generation owner of a stud farm in Egypt, illustrate beautifully the elegance, agility, grace, pride, and power of these horses. [Click here](#) to read more and order.

**New AUC Press Books** – Available at the [AUC Press Bookstores](#)



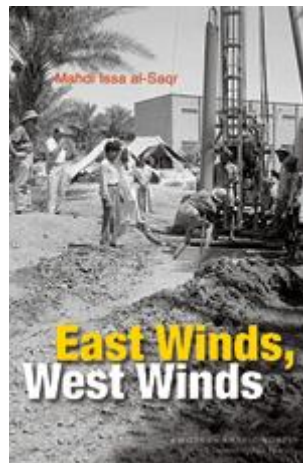
### [For the Living and the Dead](#)

By Elizabeth Wickett



The funeral laments of Upper Egypt have an elaborate and ancient history stretching back more than 5,000 years. Even the chants of modern-day lamenters, echo the words of their ancestors. Yet this ancient tradition is now under threat from social and political change. Elizabeth Wickett explores the performance, motifs and meanings of the laments and reveals their relation to myth, religion, cosmology and the

ancient Egyptian funerary texts. [Click here](#) to order.



### [East Winds, West Winds](#)

By Mahdi Isaa al-Saqr  
Translated by Paul Starkey

Originally published in Cairo in 1998, this carefully crafted novel represents a welcome addition to a body of literature that has so far received less than the attention it merits by comparison with that of Egypt and the Levant. Set among the oil wells of the Basra region of southern Iraq, where the writer spent much of his working life, the novel draws on the author's own experiences to paint a

picture at once subtle and vivid of relations between the British and their local employees in the 1950s. [Click here](#) to order.



[Click here](#) to view photographs of the new book [The Arabian Horse of Egypt](#).



### [More new AUC Press books](#)



### Authors at AUC Press Events

[Zahi Hawass, Hanan Kholoussy, Samia Mehrez, Bahaa Abdelmegid and Hamdi Abu Golayyel at AUC Press Spring Book Fair](#)

### Recent Reviews of AUC Press Publications & Events

David Ricks reviews *The Forster-Cavafy Letters: Friends at a Slight Angle*, edited by Peter Jeffreys (AUC Press, 2009) [The Anglo-Hellenic Review](#) No 41 Spring 2010 Twentieth Anniversary Issue

[Business Today Egypt](#) takes a look at What Drives Prices in Egypt? (AUC Press, 2009)

**Taking Aim at Inflation: A New Book Looks at What Propels Prices and how The Country Should Tackle a Long-standing Nemesis**, by Jessica Gray, April 2010

Book reviews of Yousef Al-Mohaimeed's modern Arabic novel *Munira's Bottle*

**Munira's Bottle... Insight into the Heart of Saudi**, by Amany Aly Shawky, [Al Masry Al Youm](#), April 12, 2010

**The Message in The Bottle**, by Lisa Kaaki, [Arab News](#), March 17, 2010

#### Cairo's Facelift Leaves Some Yearning for the Past

[The National](#) looks at how downtown Cairo is linked to the development of Egyptian literature, by Ursula Lindsay, April 11, 2010

**Naguib Mahfouz: An Author Who Values Humanity**, by David Shasha

[The Huffington Post](#), April 7, 2010

#### What did Muhammad Abduh do?

Book review of *Muhammad Abduh: A Biography*, by Mark Sedgwick (AUC Press 2009)

[Arab News](#), by Lisa Kaaki, March 31, 2010