

## GALLERY ACTIVITIES

### *Napoleon on the Nile: Soldiers, Artists, and the Rediscovery of Egypt*



**Michel-Ange Lancret**

***Karnak: Elevation of the South Gate***

From the *Description de l'Égypte, Antiquités, Vol. III, Pl. 51*

ca. 1809–30

Engraving, 47 ¼" x 38 ¼"

Dahesh Museum of Art, 2006.1.45

- Why might this print have been made? Think about artistic, scientific, geographic, and political purposes.
- In some of the engravings in the *Description de l'Égypte*, the savants chose to depict contemporary Egyptians alongside temples and monuments. In other images, they imagined ancient Egyptians interacting with the architecture. In this engraving, the depicted people are adapted from painted wall reliefs and sculptures at Karnak, an ancient temple complex.
  - How does this image portray ancient Egyptians?
- Look closely at the lines that depict the sky. This engraving is an example of how Nicolas Conté's engraving machine allowed images such as this one to be accomplished quickly and consistently.
  - Find another print in the exhibition that uses this printing process.



**Rudolf Ernst**

***The Metal Workers***

ca. 1888

Oil on panel, 33" x 28 5/16"

Dahesh Museum of Art, 1996.16

- What is going on in this painting?
- What do you see that makes you say that?
- Images such as this one led to stereotypes of a romanticized Orient, but they also enticed more Westerners to travel to the East.
  - Can you think of examples that you see today of people stereotyping and romanticizing other cultures?



**Lawrence Alma-Tadema**  
***Joseph, Overseer of Pharaoh's Granaries***  
1874  
Oil on panel, 23 7/8" x 28 1/4"  
Dahesh Museum of Art, 2002.38

- Orientalist painters such as Alma-Tadema often used the engravings from the *Description de l'Égypte* to add "scientific" details to their artistic images.
  - Compare this painting with the engraving next to it. What details can you find that both works share? What are the differences?
  - What are the similarities and differences in your reactions to these two artworks?
  - What do you think are some similarities and differences in the artists' intentions when they created these works?
- Alma-Tadema took artifacts and images from various sources and incorporated them into a new, singular work of art.
  - Can you think of contemporary examples in music, video, and visual art where artists employ this same technique?

## **Empire**



**Dias & Riedweg**

***Funk Staden***

2007

3-channel video installation

Courtesy of the artists

- What is your personal response to this work?
- What questions does this artwork raise for you?
- Think about the reasons that the youth in this video chose to re-enact Hans Staden's story.
  - Is there a book, movie, television show, album, or other piece of popular culture that you relate to in a similar way?
  - If you were to reenact it, how might you choose to do so?



**Norbert Szirmai and János Révész**

***Fradi [FTC, Hungary] is better***

2002

DVD, 15 min., 37 sec.

Courtesy of the artists and Black Box Foundation, Budapest

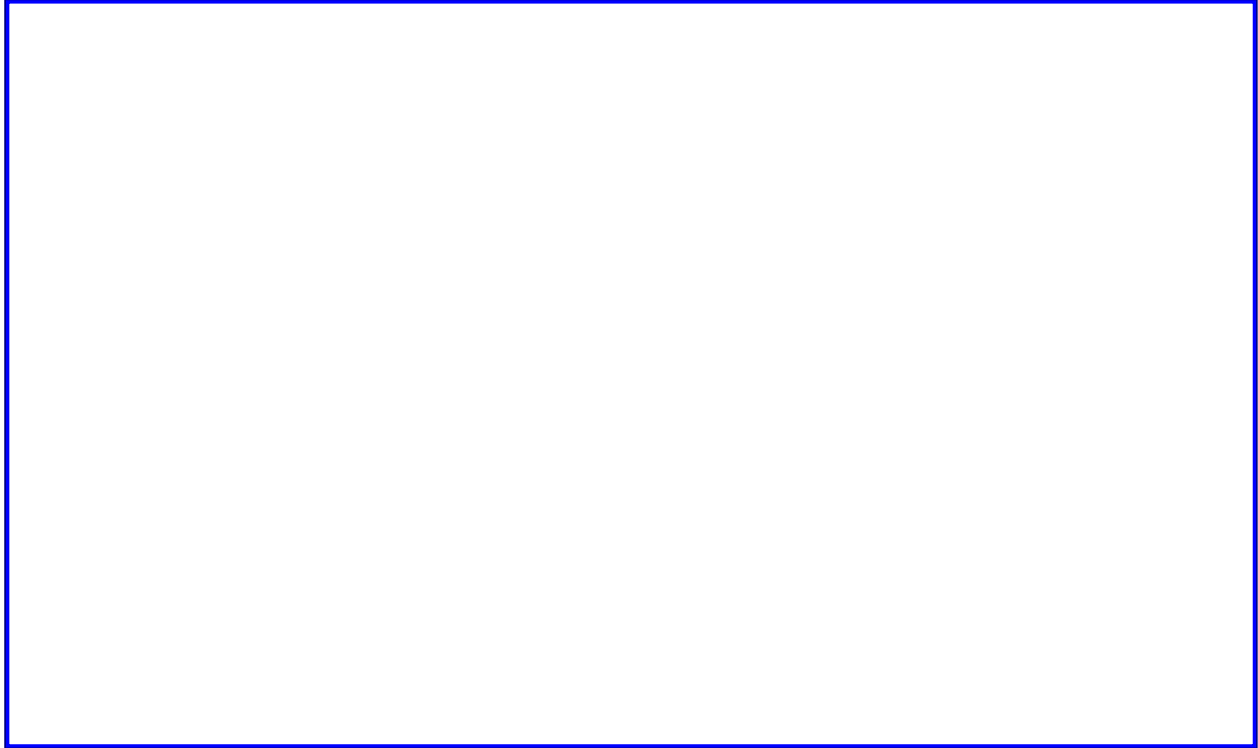
- What is your personal response to this work?
- What questions does this artwork raise for you?
- Why would the Roma people attend these soccer games with people who say racist things about them?
- Does this remind you of any experiences that you have had?

**Continue towards the café to view the teen SHFT exhibition on geocaching and art in the public realm.**

- How does this exhibition relate to the other exhibitions in the Museum?
- Find an artwork in this exhibition and describe how it connects to the idea of globalization.

## BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE MUSEUM

Choose an artwork in the galleries that you would like to explore further and make a sketch or write a poem about it below.



Write down any questions you have about what you have seen today that you would like to explore further.

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