



# The AUC Press eNewsletter

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## Current Events

This year, the AUC Press celebrates its 50 years of publishing excellence. Events

March 2010

Dear Reader,

Our 50th Anniversary is now in full swing, as we celebrate five decades of publishing excellence. Much has happened since the AUC Press published its first book back in 1961—K.A.C. Creswell's *A Bibliography of the Architecture, Arts and Crafts of Islam*.

In those early years, the AUC Press focused on the more traditional role of a university press, publishing a limited number of scholarly works. But by the late 1970s, the AUC Press innovated and extended its publishing program to include English translations of the great Egyptian novelist [Naguib Mahfouz](#), becoming less than a decade later the Nobel laureate's primary English-language publisher. Since then, the AUC Press has translated and published [37 Mahfouz titles](#) and licensed more than 500 foreign-language editions in 40 languages.

In fact, through its [Arabic Literature in Translation](#) program, the AUC Press has introduced over 150 literary works by Arab writers, from other great veteran names like Yusuf Idris and Taha Hussein, to bestsellers and nascent talents such as Alaa Al Aswany, who is working on a new book, Hamdi Abu Golayyel, Khalil Sweileh, and Yousef Al-Mohaimeed, interviewed for this issue about his latest novel, [Munira's Bottle](#).

Today the AUC Press offers a backlist of more than 1,000 publications, and now features up to 100 new publications annually, all available online and at its five bookstores located throughout Cairo. Through its international distributors and agents, the AUC Press also distributes more than 500,000 books annually.

In this milestone year during this month alone, we have celebrated various exciting events: the [launch of \*A Secret Voyage\*](#), a monumental, limited signed edition, by Zahi Hawass and photographer Sandro Vannini; AUC Press Coptic publications, with a special presentation by Carolyn Ludwig, editor of [The Churches of Egypt](#), at the Hanging Church in Old Cairo; and a 50th Anniversary Gala dinner, attended by the AUC Board of Trustees, in the company of Egyptian Minister of Culture Farouk Hosni, Cairo Governor Abdel Azim Wazir, and US ambassador to Egypt Margaret Scobey, as well as Omar Sharif, Zahi Hawass, Alaa Al Aswany, and celebrated pianist Ramzi Yassa.

More recently, the high-profile opening of Jehan Sadat's first art exhibition, [Landscapes of the Heart 1986-2009](#), a collection of fifty



marking this important milestone will be posted on the [AUC Press Website](#) and announced in the AUC Press e-newsletters.

### **Jehan Sadat's First Art Exhibition**

*Landscapes of the Heart:*  
1986-2009

Margo Veillon Gallery of Modern Egyptian Art  
AUC Downtown Cultural Center  
Until March 31, 2010  
Open daily from 4:00 to 8:00 pm

### **The AUC Press Spring Book Fair**

AUC Press Downtown, Zamalek, and New Cairo Bookstores  
April 10-15, 2010  
9:00 am - 6:00 pm

### **Book & Author Lecture and Reception**

AUC Downtown Cultural Center  
April 26, 2010

### **"First Friday"**

Open House  
AUC Downtown Cultural Center  
May 7, 2010  
5:00 pm

### **The AUC Press Book, Art, & Music Festival**

AUC Downtown Cultural Center  
May 30, 2010  
7:00 pm



#### **Quick Links**

- » [AUC Press Catalog](#)
- » [Calendar of Events](#)
- » [AUC Press Home](#)
- » [AUC Press Bookstores](#)
- » [AUC Press E-Cards](#)
  - » [Read & Laugh](#)
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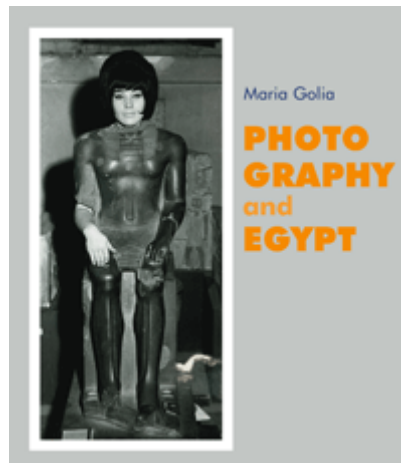
acrylic paintings by Egypt's former First Lady on display in the Margo Veillon Gallery of Modern Egyptian Art, drew prominent dignitaries, personalities of Cairo's cultural community, and friends of the AUC Press.

As every year, the AUC Press will hold its annual Spring Book Fair (April 10-12), but we will also continue to mark this anniversary year with other special events over the coming months, such as the AUC Press Book, Art, & Music Festival, at the AUC Downtown Cultural Center.

We hope to hear from you and see you at some of our forthcoming events.

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

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

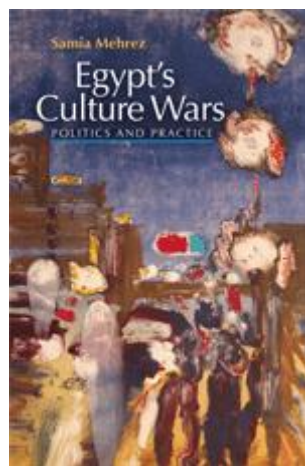


### **Photography and Egypt**

By Maria Golia

Egypt has been photographed literally inside out but this is the first book to relate the story of Egypt's rapport with photography into one concise and highly readable account. Illustrated with a rich, surprising variety of images, *Photography and Egypt* takes a close look at the work of Egyptian and foreign photographers over 150 years. Maria Golia discusses court photography, photography for propaganda purposes, and studio-based photography, used to depict the growing Egyptian middle class. She looks closely at the work of early photographers such as Colonel Mohammad Sadiq, Mohammad Badr, and Atiyya Gaddis, many previously unknown to a western audience. [Click here](#) to order.

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



### **Egypt's Culture Wars**

By Samia Mehrez

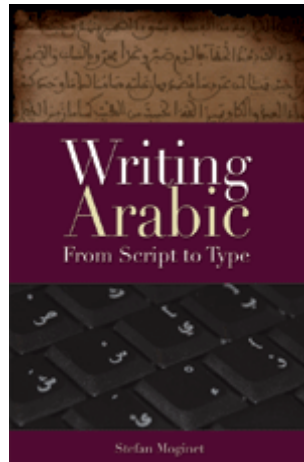
In this book, Samia Mehrez, professor of Arabic literature in the Department of Arab and Islamic Civilization, takes a look at some of the raging debates in the arts in Egypt. Her groundbreaking work presents original research on cultural politics and battles in Egypt at the turn of the twenty-first century. It deconstructs the boundaries between 'high' and 'low' culture, drawing on conceptual tools in cultural studies, translation studies, and gender studies to analyze debates in the fields of literature, cinema, mass media, and the plastic arts. "This volume provides a spectrum of the constraints and problems but also the risks and opportunities that cultural actors encounter and



To view photographs of the book launch for Zahi Hawass's *A Secret Voyage*, [click here](#).



confront in Egypt today,” writes the author, who is also the director of the Center for Translation Studies at AUC. [Click here](#) to order.



### [Writing Arabic: From Script to Type](#)

By Stefan F. Moginet

This unique book, abundantly illustrated with examples of Arabic handwriting, calligraphy, and typography, clearly presents the development of Arabic writing styles, from the beginning with reed pens to twenty-first century computerized typesetting. Stefan F. Moginet is a graphic and type designer who has worked for over fifteen years in Morocco and Tunisia in the printing, publishing, and advertising industries.

Click here to buy the book online. “I discovered, to my surprise, that there were many books on calligraphy, but none of them clearly detailed the evolution of the various types of Arabic script,” writes the author in the preface. “That is why I decided to present the various styles of Arabic writing in historical order of appearance, taking into account the materials and writing instruments that were used, as well as the complex encounter between the written script and printing—and latter with computing,” he adds. [Click here](#) to order.

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



### **Authors at AUC Press Events**

[Carolyn Ludwig Speaks about \*The Churches of Egypt\* during Special Coptic Publications Event at Hanging Church](#)

[Malek Khouri at Launching of His Book \*The Arab National Project in Youssef Chahine's Cinema\*](#)

[Dr. Galal Amin, AUC Press Author, “Reflecting on the Idea of Progress” as Part of the Provost’s Lecture Series](#)

[Award-Winning Arabic-English AUC Press Translator Humphrey Davies Talks about The Challenges of Translating](#)

### **Recent Reviews of AUC Press Publications & Events**

[Why Doesn't Humphrey Davies Translate More Arab Women?](#)

[www.arablit.wordpress.com](http://www.arablit.wordpress.com), February 9

AUC Press translator Humphrey Davies spoke about the role of a translator during an “In Translation” lecture series at the AUC Downtown Cultural Center.

**[Drumbeat: Tales from the Gulf's back end](#)**

*Al Masry Al Youm*, March 25, 2010

Ursula Lindsey reviews *Drumbeat*, a modern Arabic novel by Mohamed El-Bisatie (AUC Press, 2010).

**[Up there with the bestsellers](#)**

*The National*, March 5, 2010

Anna Seaman writes about the recent Abu Dhabi International Book Fair and the AUC Press Publications.

**[A Portrait of Jehan Sadat as an Artist](#)**

*Daily News*, March 5, 2010

Mariam Hamdy writes about Jehan Sadat's first painting exhibition, held in the AUC Press Margo Veillon Gallery of Modern Egyptian Art.

**[Jehan Sadat - Landscapes of the Heart: 1986-2009](#)**

*Al Masry Al Youm*

Video of the opening night of Egypt's former First Lady art exhibition.

**[Glamour of Egypt's Churches](#)**

*Egyptian Mail*, March 2, 2010

Article about Carolyn Ludwig's recent presentation on *The Churches of Egypt* (AUC Press, 2007) at the Hanging Church.

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