



From March 27 to April 25, 2010
to Centro Arti Plastiche from Carrara.

appointment with History



COME ARRIVARE

Uscita Autostrada A12|E80 casello Carrara a sinistra per viale Galileo Galilei, incrocio con via Aurelia (SS1) a destra proseguire dritto fino alla rotonda (scultura di Nardo Dunchi) voltare a sinistra proseguendo il viale XX Settembre, fino a Carrara centro; direzione Ospedale (via del Cavatore), a destra per via Cavour fino al parcheggio in piazza XXII Aprile.

HOW TO REACH US

Leave the A12|E80 motorway at the Carrara toll-gate. Turn left into Galileo Galilei Avenue, then turn right at the junction with Aurelia (SS1). Drive straight on to the roundabout (Nardo Dunchi sculpture), then turn left into XX Settembre Avenue, going straight on to Carrara. Follow the signs to the Hospital (via del Cavatore), turn right into via Cavour and continue until you reach the car-park in XXII Aprile square.



27 MARZO
25 APRILE
2010

CARRARA SALVA ABU SIMBEL
IL CORAGGIO E LA SFIDA DEI CAVATORI A 50 ANNI DALL'APPELLO UNESCO CON FOTO DI GEORG GERSTER

NARDO DUNCHI
ARMONIE DI LUCI ED OMBRE SCULTURE ED OPERE DAI RIFLESSI MEDITERRANEI

CARLO ANDREI
UN POLITICO PER L'ARTE PROTAGONISTA NEL PRIMO DOPOGUERRA A CARRARA





PROMOTORI
COMUNE DI CARRARA
IL SINDACO DEL COMUNE DI CARRARA
CARRARA NEL MONDO
FEDERAZIONE MAESTRI DEL LAVORO D'ITALIA
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NICOLI & LANSDAM SCULPTURES
CREATIVITY
CARRARINI NEL MONDO

ORARIO MOSTRA
10:00 | 12:30 — 15:30 | 19:30
Info | e per visite guidate contattare la segreteria al numero:
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Abu Simbel temples (أبوسمبل) are two massive rock [temples](#) in [Nubia](#), southern [Egypt](#) on the western bank of [Lake Nasser](#) about 290 km southwest of [Aswan](#). It is part of the [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#) known as the "Nubian Monuments",^[1] which run from Abu Simbel downriver to [Philae](#) (near Aswan).



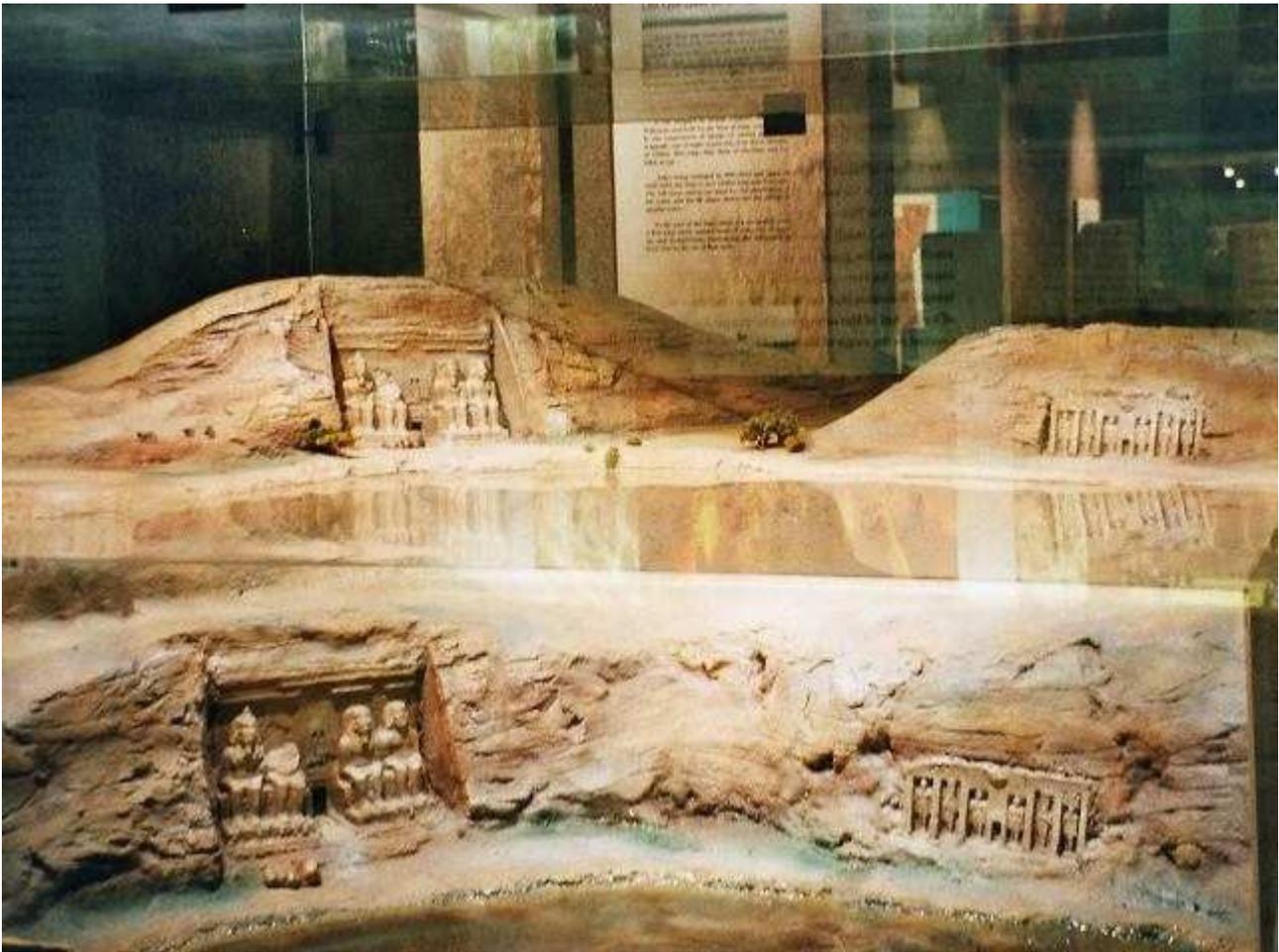
The twin temples were originally carved out of the mountainside during the reign of [Pharaoh Ramesses II](#) in the 13th century BC, as a lasting monument to himself and his queen [Nefertari](#), to commemorate his alleged victory at the [Battle of Kadesh](#), and to intimidate his [Nubian](#) neighbors.

However, the complex was [relocated](#) in its entirety in the 1960s, on an artificial hill made from a domed structure, high above the [Aswan High Dam](#) reservoir.



The relocation of the temples was necessary to avoid their being submerged during the creation of [Lake Nasser](#), the massive artificial water reservoir formed after the building of the [Aswan High Dam](#) on the [Nile](#) River. Abu Simbel remains one of Egypt's top [tourist attractions](#).

With the passage of time, the temples fell into disuse and eventually became covered by sand. Already in the 6th century BC, the sand covered the statues of the main temple up to their knees. The temple was forgotten until 1813, when [Swiss](#) orientalist [JL Burckhardt](#) found the top [frieze](#) of the main temple. Burckhardt talked about his discovery with [Italian](#) explorer [Giovanni Belzoni](#), who travelled to the site, but was unable to dig out an entry to the temple. Belzoni returned in 1817, this time succeeding in his attempt to enter the complex. He took everything valuable and portable with him. Tour guides at the site relate the legend that "Abu Simbel" was a young local boy who guided these early re-discoverers to the site of the buried temple which he had seen from time to time in the shifting sands. Eventually, they named the complex after him: Abu Simbel.



A scale model showing the original and current location of the temple (with respect to the water level) In [1960](#), Egyptian President [Nasser](#) decided to start work on the construction of the Aswan High Dam, which provided by the formation of a huge artificial lake.

In 1960 an international donations campaign to save the [monuments](#) of [Nubia](#) began: the southernmost relics of this ancient human civilization were under threat from the rising waters of the Nile that were about to result from the construction of the [Aswan High Dam](#).

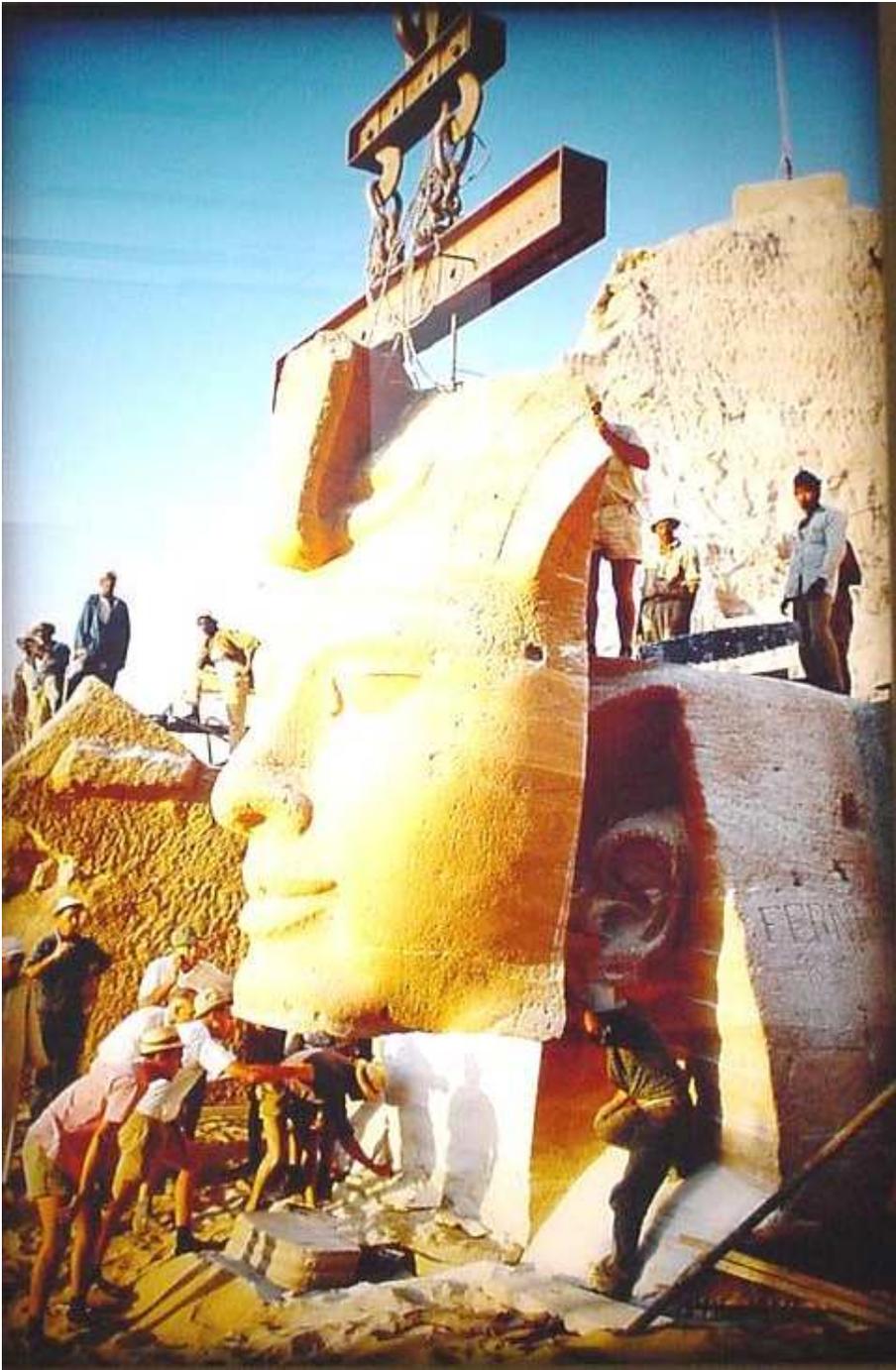
The salvage of the Abu Simbel temples began in 1964, and cost some [USD \\$40 million](#). Between 1964 and 1968, the entire site was cut into large blocks (up to 30 tons averaging 20 tons), dismantled and reassembled in a new location— 65 m higher and 200 m back from the river, this thank's to the capacity of quarries men from Carrara city with also the chain

saw **Körfmann**, this is absolutely the greatest feats of archaeological engineering. Some structures were even saved from under the waters of Lake Nasser. Today, thousands of tourists visit the temples daily. Guarded convoys of buses and cars depart twice a day from Aswan, the nearest city. Many visitors also arrive by plane, at an airfield that was specially constructed for the temple complex.

The reconstruction also included the erection of a concrete dome located just above the monument with the dual function of preserving the structure and shape the artificial hill where the temples were leaning. The action involves both the main temple dedicated to Ramses II and Queen Nefertari dedicated to the secondary. In reconstructing the temples was maintained the original orientation

with respect to the stars and sun, so as to maintain (though with the offset of one day) the entry of a ray of sunshine in the central chamber of the main temple.

To the right is visible in the photo used for cutting.



The complex consists of two temples. The larger one is dedicated to [Ra-Harakhty](#), [Ptah](#) and [Amun](#), Egypt's three state deities of the time, and features four large statues of Ramesses II in the facade. The smaller temple is dedicated to the goddess [Hathor](#), personified by [Nefertari](#), Ramesses's most beloved wife (in total, the pharaoh had some 200 wives and concubines).^{[[citation needed](#)]} The temple is now open to the public.