



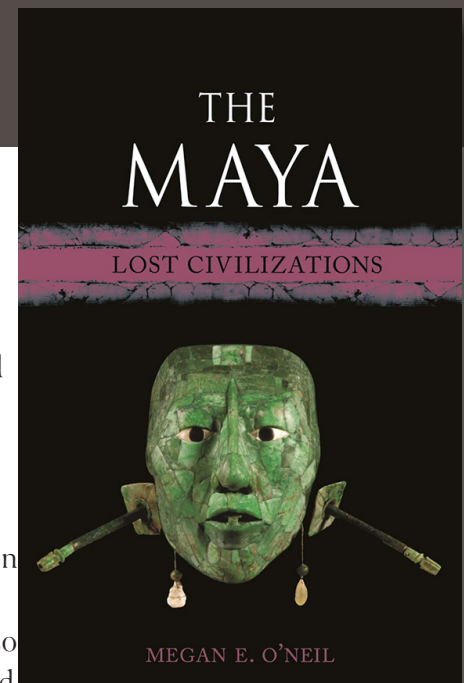
AIA BOOK CLUB SELECTION

The Maya:

by Megan E. O'Neil

This book reveals how the ancient Maya—and their buildings, ideas, objects, and identities—have been perceived, portrayed, and exploited over five hundred years in the Americas, Europe, and beyond.

Engaging in interdisciplinary analysis, the book summarizes ancient Maya art and history from the preclassical period to the Spanish invasion, as well as the history of outside engagement with the ancient Maya, from Spanish invaders in the sixteenth century to later explorers and archaeologists, taking in scientific literature, visual arts, architecture, world's fairs, and Indigenous activism. It also looks at the decipherment of Maya inscriptions, Maya museum exhibitions and artists' responses, and contemporary Maya people's engagements with their ancestral past. Featuring the latest research, this book will interest scholars as well as general readers who wish to know more about this ancient, fascinating culture.



Publisher's Description

Author Biography

Megan E. O'Neil, Assistant Professor of Art History at Emory University and Faculty Curator of the Art of the Americas, is a specialist in the ancient Maya and other cultures of the ancient Americas. Prior to joining the Emory faculty, she taught at several universities and was Associate Curator at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). One aspect of her research focuses on ancient Maya creation of and engagement with stone sculptures, explored in her first book, *Engaging Ancient Maya Sculpture at Piedras Negras, Guatemala* (Oklahoma, 2012). She also has published multiple articles in journals and edited volumes about Maya sculpture, painting, and ceramics that address topics such as iconoclasm, touch and tactility, and materiality, as well as histories of collecting, exhibition, and the reception of Mesoamerican art and culture into the modern day, and in 2014 she published a revised edition of *Maya Art and Architecture* (Thames and Hudson), co-authored with Mary Miller.

University link (with publication list):

<https://arthistory.emory.edu/people/bios/oneil-megan-e.html>



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Product details

ISBN-10 : 1789145503

ISBN-13 : 978-1789145502

Hardback : 296 pages

Publisher: Reaktion Books