

# KARA COONEY

Dr. Kathlyn (Kara) Cooney is a professor of Egyptian Art and Architecture at UCLA. Specializing in craft production, coffin studies, and economies in the ancient world, Cooney received her PhD in Egyptology from Johns Hopkins University. In 2005, she was co-curator of *Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs* at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Cooney produced a comparative archaeology television series, entitled *Out of Egypt*, which aired in 2009 on the Discovery Channel and is available online via Netflix and Amazon.

*The Woman Who Would Be King: Hatshepsut's Rise to Power in Ancient Egypt*, Cooney's first trade book, was released in 2014 and benefits from her expert perspective on Egypt's ancient history to craft an illuminating biography of its least well-known female king. As an archaeologist who spent years at various excavations in Egypt, Cooney draws from the latest field research to fill in the gaps in the historical record of Hatshepsut. Her forthcoming book, *When Women Ruled the World*, will be published in 2018 by National Geographic Press and explores the reigns of six powerful ancient Egyptian queens and how they changed our perceptions of power.

Cooney's current research in coffin reuse, primarily focusing on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 21st Dynasties, is ongoing. Her research investigates the socioeconomic and political turmoil that have plagued the period, ultimately affecting funerary and burial practices in ancient Egypt. This project has taken her around the world over the span of five to six years to study and document nearly 300 coffins in collections, including those in Cairo, London, Paris, Berlin, and Vatican City.