

MRS. LAURA W. BUSH MAKES HER FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE IN DALLAS SINCE LEAVING THE WHITE HOUSE AT THE DALLAS MUSEUM OF ART'S ARTS & LETTERS LIVE SERIES ON TUESDAY, MARCH 24

***-- Mrs. Bush Introduced Egypt's Dr. Zahi Hawass at a Lecture
On the Life and Death of King Tut --***

DALLAS, TX, March 25, 2009 -- On Tuesday, March 24, Mrs. Laura W. Bush made her first public appearance in Dallas since leaving the White House at the Dallas Museum of Art's Arts & Letters Live literary series. She introduced Dr. Zahi Hawass, the Secretary General of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities, at his lecture on the life and death of Tutankhamun, which coincides with the Dallas Museum of Art's presentation of *Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs*, the first time that treasures from King Tut's tomb have been seen in the Southwest. Dr. Hawass and Mrs. Bush first met in March 1997 and met again in May 2005 when they toured the Giza Pyramids during her visit to Cairo.

Tuesday's event, presented in partnership with the Boshell Family Lecture Series on Archaeology, an endowed lecture series at the DMA, was held at McFarlin Memorial Auditorium at Southern Methodist University.

Mrs. Bush is actively involved in issues of national and global concern, with a particular emphasis on education, health care and human rights. As First Lady, Mrs. Bush served as Honorary Chair of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, which identifies and develops initiatives that contribute to the vibrancy of the arts and the strength of democracy.

Dr. Zahi Hawass's career as an archaeologist has spanned three decades and yielded many spectacular discoveries, including the Valley of the Golden Mummies. On Tuesday he will discuss the importance of Tutankhamun's life, the theories about his death and the latest news on excavations in Egypt.

Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs, now in its final two months in Dallas, is a once-in-a-lifetime presentation of treasures from the tomb of Tutankhamun and other ancient Egyptian sites. It is the most-visited exhibition in the Museum's 100-year history, and will be on view for eight more weeks through May 17. The exhibition is organized by National Geographic, Arts and Exhibitions International and AEG Exhibitions, with cooperation from the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities. Northern Trust is the presenting sponsor of the encore tour, and American Airlines is the official airline of the exhibition. The Dallas engagement is presented in partnership with the Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau. For ticket information, call 1-877-TUT-TKTS or visit www.Ticketmaster.com or www.DallasMuseumofArt.org/TUT.

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