ONLINE LECTURE SERIES—13.01.26 17:30 CET

CZECH INSTITUTE
OF EGYPTOLOGY
Faculty of Arts
Charles University

The Impact of Political and Climate Change on Women's Agency: A Social Power Analysis
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Solange Ashby:

Sacred Dancers of the Goddess Hathor

In the cult of the ancient goddess Hathor, many important rites were based in the performance of dance and music. These dances were performed by (primarily) women in professional dance troupes called *Khener.* In such rituals the power of music and movement were harnessed to transport the worshipper into an ecstatic encounter with the Divine. Worshippers engaged in nocturnal rituals for the goddess Hathor sought this type of ecstatic encounter.

Ancient Egyptian texts preserve the name of this sacred dance (*ksks*) and document the ritual processions of Nubians into Egypt as they accompanied the return of the goddess Hathor who was believed to reside in Nubia and return annually to Egypt. This lecture will give special attention to the adornment of C-Group women and the striking similarities it shared with the attire of Egyptian Hathoric dancers.

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