

名家经典珍藏版

希利尔讲艺术史

(英汉双语)

[美] 希利尔◎著 欧阳瑾◎译

❖❖❖ A CHILD'S HISTORY OF ART ❖❖❖



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FOREWORD

前言

The Child's History of Art books were developed by Virgil M. Hillyer and completed by Edward G. Huey. Baltimore's Calvert School and its students constituted Hillyer's life work. Hillyer grew up in Weymouth, Massachusetts. Two years after graduating from Harvard in 1897, he took on what would become the defining challenge of his professional life. As a young man of only twenty-four years, he became Head Master of seventy-one students at Calvert School and embarked on a career filled with innovation and forward thinking.

Within the first few years of Hillyer's leadership, the student body had grown so large that a new building was built. It was a model of educational planning designed to suit the needs of students, with an assembly room for plays and ceremonies, an art room, and a roof garden for fresh air and exercise. It was also during the early years of Calvert School's history, in 1906, that Hillyer envisioned and began the Home Instruction program, which is still educating thousands of children around the world.

Hillyer was a visionary in many ways. Always a teacher at heart, he was responsible for establishing the educational principles and practices still in place today at Calvert School. By the time classes began to be held in the third and present building in 1924, he was a respected author of educational philosophy and children's histories, including the Child's History of Art series. He was also a world traveler, a mentor for his teachers, and a

《少儿艺术史》系列图书，系维吉尔·希利尔开发出来，并由爱德华·休伊最终完成的。巴尔的摩的卡尔弗特学校，以及该校的学生，构成了希利尔毕生为之奋斗的事业。希利尔是在马萨诸塞州的韦茅斯长大的。1897年，他毕业于哈佛大学；两年后，他便开始从事这种后来成了他职业生涯中的一种决定性挑战的职业了。当时，虽说还是个年仅二十四岁的小伙子，他却成了卡尔弗特学校那七十一名学生的校长，开始了一种充满了创新性和前瞻性思维的职业。

在希利尔担任校长的最初几年里，由于学生人数规模激增，所以卡尔弗特学校还修建了一栋新的教学楼。这栋大楼是一种典范，体现了旨在满足学生需要的教学规划：里面有一座用于演出和庆典的礼堂，有一间美术教室，还有一个用于呼吸新鲜空气、进行体育锻炼的屋顶花园。也正是在卡尔弗特学校历史的初期，即1906年，希利尔构想出并开始实施其“家庭教育”大纲；而直到如今，世界各地仍有成千上万的孩子，在根据这一大纲接受教育呢。

从许多方面来看，希利尔都是一个非常有远见的人。虽说本质上始终都是一位教师，但他需要负责制定教学方针和课程；而这些方针和课程，如今在卡尔弗特学校里依然能够看到。到了1924年，学校开始在第三栋，也就是目前这栋教学楼内上课的时候，他已经是一位令人敬重的作者，写出了许多关于教育理念和少儿历史的书籍，其中就包括这套《少儿艺术史》系列。他还是一位环球旅行家，是手下教师们的良师益友，并且成了教育理论界的一位领军人物。在长达三十二年的校长生涯

leader in educational theory. During his thirty-two years as Head Master, Virgil Hillyer led Calvert School with enthusiasm and principles that continue to inspire students today.

Edward G. Huey held the positions of teacher and Assistant Head Master from 1924 until 1959. Considered to be one of Calvert School's most unforgettable teachers, Huey taught science and art and ran the assembly programs. He often drew pictures for students at lunch and recess. Huey, a teacher with much imagination and talent, had worked with Hillyer for seven years, and upon the death of Hillyer, he completed the Child's History of Art books in Hillyer's own style.

While carrying out the most recent revision of the Child's History of Art series, Calvert was fortunate to have the Walters Art Museum as a wonderful resource. William Thompson Walters amassed an extensive collection of French art of the nineteenth century and Asian decorative arts that became the foundation for the development of the Walters Art Museum.

Walters was born in a small town in Pennsylvania in 1819. With no formal education, he was trained as a metallurgist but moved to Baltimore as a young man in search of fortune. In the booming business world of mid-nineteenth century Baltimore, Walters prospered as a businessman through railroad investments. Walters opened his house several times a year to visitors for a fee, bringing his art to the public. The fees were donated to charity, and these annual openings became quite popular.

When William Walters died in 1894, his son, Henry, carried on his interest in art and expanded the scope of the collection. During the time Hillyer was bringing innovative

里，维吉尔·希利尔一直富有激情、满怀信念地领导着卡尔弗特学校；而这些激情和信念，如今仍然在继续激励着该校的学生们。

从1924年到1959年，爱德华·休伊先后担任过卡尔弗特学校的老师和校长助理等职务。他被人们认为是卡尔弗特学校最令人难忘的教师之一，既教授过科学和艺术课程，也负责学校的课程汇编工作。他经常在午餐时间和课后给学生们画画。休伊是个富有想象力和天才的人，他与希利尔共事了七年的时间；而希利尔去世之后，他又用希利尔本人的风格，完成了《少儿艺术史》系列教材的编纂。

在最近对《少儿艺术史》系列教材进行改版的过程中，卡尔弗特学校有幸得到了沃尔特斯艺术博物馆的鼎力支持；这座博物馆，是一种令人觉得不可思议的资源。威廉·汤普森·沃尔特斯收集了大量的十九世纪法国艺术品和亚洲的装饰艺术品；这些藏品，为他后来成立沃尔特斯艺术博物馆打下了基础。

1819年，沃尔特斯出生于宾夕法尼亚州的一个小镇上。他没有受过正规的教育，只是通过培训成了一名冶金学家；不过，他在年轻的时候便移居到了巴尔的摩，去寻找发迹的机会了。在十九世纪中叶百业正兴的巴尔的摩，他通过投资铁路而发迹，成了一名业务兴隆的生意人。沃尔特斯每年都会敞开家门几次，让人们前来付费参观，向公众介绍自己收藏的那些艺术品。由此获得的门票收入，他都捐赠给了慈善机构；而每年进行的这种开放，也受到了公众的热烈欢迎。

1894年威廉·沃尔特斯去世后，他的儿子继承了父亲在艺术方面的兴趣，并将藏品的范围扩大了。就在希利尔将那些新颖的教育理念引入卡尔弗特学校的同时，

ideas to education at Calvert School, Henry Walters was beginning a three-decade period of purchasing art representing Old Kingdom Egypt to Art Nouveau. In 1931, the Walters' home and contents were bequeathed to the city of Baltimore, and the Walters Art Gallery, now the Walters Art Museum, opened to the public in 1934.

For those of you who are planning to visit Calvert School — the school that developed through the vision of Virgil Hillyer — we recommend that you also visit the Walters Art Museum, whose founders believed that a museum was a place of learning for people of all ages and that a great community needed — along with great schools, libraries, symphonies, and theaters — great museums.

Calvert School was assisted in the revision of the Child's History of Art series by two experienced teachers. John Patterson first began his career as a teacher at Calvert School. He credits Calvert with providing the framework and foundation for his vocation as an educator. With a lifelong love of art, he has traveled extensively with his students to see works of art firsthand. Elana Vikan is a high school teacher of art history at a local private school. She has studied and traveled abroad on academic programs that helped expand her knowledge of art, languages, and culture.

Together John Patterson and Elana Vikan have drawn upon their experience as they edited and updated the text first written by Hillyer and Huey. We are grateful for their expertise and that of the Walters Art Museum and its staff, particularly of Gary Vikan, its director.

亨利·沃尔特斯则开始了一段长达三十年的收购活动，并且得到了许多代表着古埃及王国到新艺术派风格的艺术品。1931年，沃尔特斯家族的房子和藏品全都遗赠给了巴尔的摩市；到了1934年，原来的沃尔特斯美术馆，即如今的沃尔特斯艺术博物馆，便向公众开放了。

对于你们当中那些正准备前去参观卡尔弗特学校，准备前去参观这所通过维吉尔·希利尔的远见而创立起来的学校的人来说，我们的建议是，你们不妨也去参观参观沃尔特斯艺术博物馆。这座博物馆的创始人认为，博物馆是男女老少都可以学习的地方；而一个伟大的社会，除了需要了不起的学校、图书馆、交响乐和剧院，也需要了不起的博物馆。

有两位经验丰富的教师，协助了卡尔弗特学校对《少儿艺术史》系列所进行的修订工作。约翰·帕特森起初本是卡尔弗特学校的一名老师，并由此开始其职业生涯。他认为，卡尔弗特学校为他提供了从事教育工作的架构和基础。由于终生热爱艺术，所以他曾一次又一次地带着学生们到处旅行，实地去参观各种各样的艺术作品。伊兰娜·威肯是本地一所私立学校里的高中艺术史教师。她在国外留过学，并且曾为完成学术项目而到国外考察过；这些经历，帮助她开拓了在艺术、语言和文化领域里的知识面。

在编辑、更新希利尔和休伊两人最初所撰内容的过程中，约翰·帕特森和伊兰娜·威肯一起，都充分利用了各自的经历。我们感谢这两人的专业知识，感谢沃尔特斯艺术博物馆及其员工，尤其是要感谢博物馆馆长加里·威肯。

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SCULPTURE



雕塑篇

Chapter 1 The First Sculpture

When I was in kindergarten, I used to make a bird's nest with round eggs and a bird sitting on top out of clay. Perhaps you have made something similar. That was sculpture, but I didn't know it.

When I was older, in the winter I used to make a snowman with a scarf around his neck, two pieces of coal for eyes, and a carrot for a nose. That was sculpture too, although I didn't know it.

When I was still older, I used to take the soft part of a piece of doughy bread and shape it into a dog with a head, a tail, and feet. That was sculpture, although I didn't know it. My mother didn't know it either, so she sent me to my room for playing with my food.

So I was a sculptor until I was twelve years old — and I have never been a sculptor since.

But other boys and girls did not stop being sculptors when they became young men and women. Once upon a time a boy in a kitchen carved a lion out of a piece of butter and sent it to the table. He became a great sculptor when he grew up. His name was Canova¹. I'll tell you about him later.

People have made sculpture ever since the world was young. But at first the sculpture

第1章 第一尊雕像

上幼儿园的时候，我曾经用陶土做过一个鸟窝，其中摆着几枚圆乎乎的鸟蛋，还有一只小鸟趴在上面呢。没准，你们以前也做过类似的什么东西。其实，那就是雕塑；可在当时，我却不知道。

长大了一点儿之后，我在冬天经常会堆上一个雪人，给雪人的脖子挂上围巾，用两块煤炭做眼睛，再用一根胡萝卜做鼻子。其实，那也是一种雕塑；可在当时，我却不知道。

再大一点之后，我又经常用半熟的面包上那软软的一部分做成一只小狗；做出的小狗，既有脑袋、尾巴，也有脚。其实，那也是一种雕塑；可在当时，我并不知道这一点。我的母亲也不知道，所以她会因为我拿着吃的东西玩而罚我回自己的房间去。

因此，在十二岁之前，我都是一名雕塑家；可从那以后，我却再也没有当过雕塑家了。

不过，还有一些男孩子和女孩子，他们直到长大成小伙子、小姑娘之后，都没有停止过当雕塑家呢。曾经有一个男孩，他在厨房里用黄油雕出了一头狮子，然后将它送到了餐桌上。长大以后，他就变成了一名伟大的雕塑家。这个小男孩，名叫卡诺瓦^[1]。我在后面会再跟你们介绍他的情况的。

从地球还很年轻的时候起，人们就已经开始制作雕塑了。不过，人们起初制

[1] 卡诺瓦（Antonio Canova, 1757—1822），意大利古典主义雕塑家，他的作品标志着雕塑艺术从戏剧性的巴洛克时代进入了更加精细的古典主义时代。

that people made was not very different from drawing. The artist first drew his picture on something flat. Then he carved the lines deeper so that, if it were outside, the rain would not wash the drawing away and the weather would not wear it down. This kind of drawing or sculpture is called *sunken relief*.

These sunken-relief drawings have been found in different places around the world, like Peru where pilots flew over them and were quite surprised when they looked down at the ground and saw a whole collection.

Then after that, sculptors rounded the edges of the figures they had carved and cut away some of the background so that the figures stood out a little. This is called *low relief*, or *bas-relief*.

You may have a bas-relief in your pocket right now and not even know it. A penny, nickel, dime, or another coin, medal, or medallion that has figures on it is a bas-relief.

Then sculptors began to round the figure still more and cut away still more of the background so that the figure stood out more. This is called *high relief*, for the figures are halfway out of the background.

Later sculptors cut away the background entirely so that the figure stood out all by itself. This is called *in-the-round* because you can go around it. You will see such pieces of sculpture of men or animals in parks, public squares, and museums.

作的雕塑，与绘画并没有太大的不同。艺术家先是把画在某种非常平坦的东西上绘制下来。然后，他会再将画中的线条刻得深一点儿；这样，哪怕位于室外，雨水也不会把这幅画洗去，而日晒风吹也不会将其湮灭了。这种绘画或者雕塑，称为“凹浮雕”。

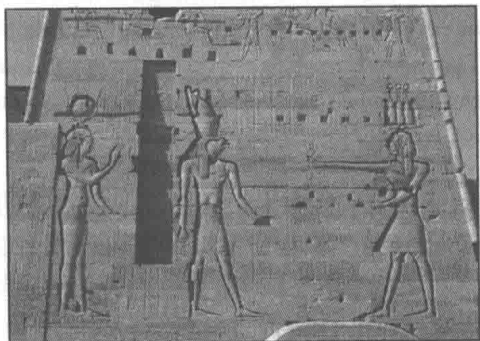
这种陷浮雕式的绘画，在世界各地都有发现，比如秘鲁；当飞行员们驾驶飞机飞过这些绘画的上空，往下俯瞰，看到地面上有很多的图画时，都曾惊讶不已呢。

接下来，雕塑家会将自己雕刻出来的图案的边缘打磨圆整，并且切掉一部分背景，从而使得图案稍稍向外凸出来。这种雕塑，就叫“浅浮雕”，或者叫“基线浮雕”。

注意，你们的口袋里可能就有一件基线浮雕，可你们却浑然不知呢。一分钱的、五分钱的、一角钱的硬币或者其他面值的硬币，以及上面刻有图案的纪念章或者大奖牌，都是一种基线浮雕。

接下来，雕塑家开始继续打磨图案，再把更多的背景部分切掉，从而使得图案更加向外凸出。这种雕塑，因为图案的一半都已经凸出于背景之外了，所以就叫“高浮雕”。

再后来，雕塑家们又将背景部分彻底切除，从而使得图案完全独立地凸出来了。这种雕塑，也叫“圆雕”，因为你们可以绕着雕塑的四周去欣赏。你们在公园里、广场上和博物馆里，都会看到这种人物或者动物的圆雕。



尼罗河谷地中菲莱神庙的神殿大门
(摄影：加里·威肯)

Long before the time of Christ, ancient Egyptian artists carved pictures in sunken relief on the walls of their great buildings, such as the Great Temple Gates of the Temple of Philae.

In these sunken reliefs, some figures are sitting and some are standing. All of them may look peculiar to you. Do you know why? They have two things quite unusual about them — two things quite impossible and several things very peculiar.

Here is the first thing: The feet are stepping directly sideways and the faces are all turned sideways too, but the shoulders appear as they are viewed from the front. Now of course, no one really walks that way, with head and feet sideways and shoulders in front view. So the first unusual thing is that the figure is twisted.

The second thing is the eye. What you see is the side of a face — not the front. Yet the eye appears as you would see it from the front, not from the side. All the Egyptian reliefs had the same peculiarly shaped eye and the same twisted bodies. Shoulders and eye are front view while everything else — hips, legs, and feet — are side view.

Can you guess why the Egyptians put the front and side view of a person together? Some say it was a way to show all the important parts of the body doing what they do best — legs walking, eyes looking, and shoulders and chest facing forward.

But there are other strange things to notice about these figures. The man and woman have very little clothing on and, although they are king and queen, they are barefooted. That's because Egypt is a very warm country. In some warm countries even today neither rich nor poor wear shoes and socks. I once went to a dinner party in one of these warm

早在基督降生很久以前，古埃及的艺术家们就在他们那些伟大建筑的墙壁上，用凹浮雕的方式雕刻出了许多图案；比如，菲莱神庙中的神殿大门就是如此。

在这些凹浮雕中，有些人物是坐着的，有些人物则是站立着的。看上去，你会觉得这些人物图案都古怪得很。知道这是为什么吗？因为在这些图案上，有两个方面都极其异常，也就是说，有两种极其不可能出现的情况；此外，还有几个地方也很古怪。

第一个方面就是，虽说图中人物的双脚都是径直朝着侧面，脸部也全都是朝向侧面，可人物的肩膀却似乎是我们从正面看去的样子。注意，如今是没有人会真的用那种方式走路的，不会是脑袋和双脚侧着，而肩膀却对着正前方地走路。因此，这些浮雕上第一个异常的方面，就是人物图案被扭曲了。

第二个方面就是眼睛。你们在图案上看到的，是一张侧脸，而不是正脸。可图案上的眼睛却让你们觉得，它们似乎是从正面而不是从侧面看上去的样子。所有的古埃及浮雕上，人物都有着这种形状古怪的眼睛和同样扭曲的身体呢。这些浮雕人物的肩膀和眼睛都是朝着前面，而其他的一切，包括臀部、双腿和双脚，却都是朝着侧面。

你们能够猜出，古埃及人为什么要把一个人物的正面像和侧面像糅合到一起吗？有些人认为，这是为了表现出身体各个最重要的部分最擅长的功能，即腿是用来走路的，眼睛是用来看的，而肩膀和胸膛则是朝着正前方的。

不过，这些人物图案上，还有其他一些古怪之处，值得我们去注意。浮雕中的人物不论男女，身上都不怎么穿衣服，并且尽管他们都是国王、王后，却都是光着脚的。那是因为，埃及是一个非常炎热的国家。在一些气候炎热的国家里，即便是

countries and all of the ladies and gentlemen were barefooted. It seemed very peculiar to see the ladies and gentlemen, all gorgeously dressed and wearing many rich jewels, go to the table barefooted!

But to make up for having little ornamentation on their bodies, these Egyptian figures have a lot on their heads — not hats but crowns. These crowns mean something. The woman's crown — she is a queen — looks like a bird cap. The bird is the vulture that feeds only on dead bodies. Above the vulture cap is a moon between two horns. The man's double crown — he is a king — is called a *pschent*. These figures are all sunken relief.

The next kind of relief is called low relief, or bas-relief. The sculpture on the following page of the goddess Isis — the famous goddess of ancient Egypt — is a good example of this type. It shows the goddess Isis sitting. She is wearing a headdress and you can see the shape of the eye and the details of the headdress very clearly. In her left hand she carries a rod, or scepter, to show she is a queen. In her right hand is a strange object called an ankh, an Egyptian symbol of enduring life. The peculiar designs at the top of this illustration are a type of picture writing called hieroglyphics.

The third type of relief is high relief, of which the Temple at Abu Simbel is a good example. It has four huge figures on the front. They are almost cut away from the background but not quite. These figures are colossal — that means gigantic, huge, or mammoth. A real person standing beside one wouldn't reach halfway to the knee.

The Egyptians liked to make giant figures. Notice also that these giant figures are seated in a very stiff position, sitting upright with both feet flat on the ground and both hands

到了今天，富人和穷人也都是不穿鞋子和袜子的呢。我曾经在一个炎热的国家里参加过一场晚宴，席上所有的贵妇、绅士，全都光着脚。看到这些贵妇绅士个个都穿着华丽、戴着许多贵重的珠宝首饰，却光着脚去参加宴会，感觉似乎古怪得很哩！

不过，为了弥补身上几乎没有什么装饰的缺陷，这些古埃及的人物图案里，人物头上却都装饰着很多东西：不是帽子，而是王冠。那些王冠，都具有某种含义。女性的王冠看上去像是一顶鸟形的帽子，表明她是王后。这种鸟，就是专吃腐尸的秃鹫。而这顶秃鹫帽子的上方，还有一轮处于两个兽角之间的月亮。男性的双层王冠，叫作双重王冠，表明他是一位国王。这些人物形象，全都属于凹浮雕。

第二种浮雕，叫作浅浮雕，或者叫基线浮雕。下面这尊伊西斯女神的雕像，就是这种浮雕的典型例子。伊西斯是古埃及的一位著名的女神。她戴着头巾，你们可以很清楚地看到她眼睛的样子和头巾的细部。她的左手持着一根权杖，或者说“节杖”，表明她是一位王后。她的右手握着一一种奇怪之物，被称为“十字生命章”，是古埃及象征着不朽生命的标记。而这幅图案上方那些古怪的图形，则是一种叫作“象形文字”的图画文字。

第三种浮雕便是高浮雕，而阿布辛贝神庙则是这种浮雕一个恰当的范例。神庙的前部有四尊巨型的人物雕像。它们差不多与背景完全分离开来了，当然并未彻底与背景分离。这几尊人物雕像都是庞然大物，即极其巨大、硕大、庞大。一个人站在这种雕像边上，连雕像小腿的一半都摸不到呢。

古埃及人很喜欢制作巨型雕像。注意，这些巨型人物雕像的姿态都非常呆板，

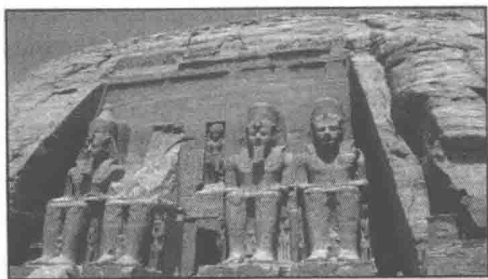


古埃及的伊西斯女神像

flat on the knees. They are all figures of the same king, Rameses II. He is also called Rameses the Great, for he was the greatest of all the Egyptian kings though one of the most cruel.

Rameses II was the pharaoh who lived at the time of Exodus, the book from the Bible that tells the story about Moses growing up in Egypt. Rameses honored himself by building temples and statues of himself. He had the Temple at Abu Simbel cut out of a rocky cliff and huge statues of himself made on the front. The statue to the left is the best preserved. That funny thing on his chin is a beard, which the pharaoh would attach to his face with strings for ceremonies.

Thousands of years later, the Temple at Abu Simbel was cut out of the cliffs and moved in order to make way for construction of the Aswan Dam on the Nile River. The skill of placing the temple just right to catch the Sun, which I'll talk about more in the next chapter, has been lost forever. But at least this great temple has been preserved so you can see it if you should ever travel to Egypt.



阿斯旺附近的阿布辛贝神庙
(摄影：加里·威肯)

都是双脚平平地踩在地上，双手平放于膝上，正襟危坐着。它们都是同一位国王，即拉美西斯二世的雕像。拉美西斯二世也被称为拉美西斯大帝，因为他是古埃及所有国王中最伟大的一位，但也是其中最残忍的一位呢。

拉美西斯二世是古埃及的法老^[1]，生活在《出埃及记》所描述的那个时代。

《出埃及记》是《圣经》的一部分，讲述了摩西^[2]在埃及长大成人的经历。拉美西斯给自己建造了许多的神庙和雕像，以此来纪念自己。他命人在悬崖上雕制出了阿布辛贝神庙，并在神庙前部为自己建造了那四尊巨型雕像。最左边的那一尊，如今保存得最为完整。雕像下巴上那种可笑的东西，其实是胡须；举行庆典的时候，法老就会用绳子将这种胡须挂到下巴上。

几千年后，人们将阿布辛贝神庙从悬崖上切割下来挪走了，目的是给尼罗河上修建的阿斯旺大坝让出位置。让整座神庙全都沐浴着阳光的那种技术，已经永远失传了；而在下一章里，我还会再来说一说这种技术的。不过，起码这座神庙被保存下来了；这样，假如你们有一天到埃及去旅游的话，就可以去看一看这座神庙了。

[1] 法老 (pharaoh)，古埃及君主的称号，在《圣经》中经常用作专有名称。

[2] 摩西 (Moses)，《圣经》故事中古犹太人的领袖。在《出埃及记》中，摩西曾带领犹太人逃出埃及，摆脱了埃及法老的奴役。

Chapter 2 Giants and Pygmies

Egyptian sculpture in-the-round was usually either gigantic — as tall as a house — or tiny — only an inch or so high. Statues of kings and important people were usually colossal. Egyptians thought a statue the size of an ordinary man or woman was not big enough for a king or a queen.

The biggest statue in the world is the Great Sphinx¹, which is near the three Great Pyramids. It is a huge lion with a king's head. The Egyptians liked to combine men and animals in this way, but more often they put an animal's head on a man's body.

A cat's head or a bird's head on a man's body seems most unusual, like a monster, and may even make us shudder. But a man's head on an animal's body seems only a myth and doesn't shock us as much.

The Great Sphinx was supposed to be the god of the morning and so he faces east toward the rising Sun and gazes at it unblinkingly, as he has done each morning for thousands of years. His nose is as tall as a person. The triangular pieces at the sides of his head are not hair; they form a fancy headpiece for ceremonies much like the beard on the pharaoh at the Temple at Abu Simbel. There are many more sphinxes in Egypt, all of which are much smaller than the Great Sphinx. The smaller sphinxes usually were arranged to form an avenue leading up to a temple, with many of them in a double row.

第2章 巨人和侏儒

古埃及的圆雕，往往要么是庞大无比，与房子一般高，要么便是小得很，只有一英寸^[1]左右高。历代国王和要人的雕像，通常都是庞然大物。古埃及人认为，一尊普通人大小的雕像，并不足以体现出国王和王后的重要性来。

世界上最大的雕像，就是位于三大金字塔附近的大斯芬克斯这座狮身人面像。那是一尊巨型狮子像，可狮子的脑袋，却是一位国王的模样。古埃及人很喜欢将人和动物用这种方式联结起来；而他们更常见的做法，还是将动物的脑袋安到人的身体之上。

人的身体上安着一只猫或一只鸟儿的脑袋，样子会非常奇特，就像怪物一样，甚至可能会让我们觉得毛骨悚然呢。可将动物的身体安上人的脑袋，看上去却只会具有神秘感，而不会让我们觉得那么震惊了。

大斯芬克斯被古埃及人认为是黎明之神，因此它朝着东方，并且数千年来，每天清晨都毫不眨眼地凝视着日出的方向。它的鼻子，就有一个人那么高哩。它的脑袋两侧那个三角形的东西，并不是头发；它们其实是一种在庆典时所戴的奇特头巾，就跟阿布辛贝神庙那位法老雕塑上的胡须一样。埃及境内还有许多其他的斯芬克斯雕像，但它们都要比大斯芬克斯小得多。这些较小的斯芬克斯雕像，通常都被安放在通往一座神庙的道路两旁，排成两行，并且其中有许多还是排成双行呢。

[1] 英寸 (inch)，英制长度单位。1 英寸约等于 2.54 厘米。