



The publication of Ehud Netzer's discoveries and research at Herodium

The late Prof. Ehud Netzer devoted his archaeological career to the study of King Herod, the great builder; some of his most impressive excavated finds are those from the Herodium hill and its adjacent palace-complex south-east of Jerusalem. During decades of research under the auspices of the Hebrew University Institute of Archaeology, Jerusalem, he exposed the impressive royal architectural complex of Lower Herodium at the hill's foot. The dramatic unearthing of Herod's tomb and the adjoining royal theater on the hill-side above in 2007 marked the climax of Ehud's career. Sadly, he suffered a fatal fall at Herodium in 2010, while directing the removal of artifacts for the Herod exhibition, which attracted some half a million visitors to the Israel Museum in 2013. That remarkable exhibition became a tribute to his work; Herodium was its focus.

Excavating, however, is only part of the archaeologist's task; the bulk of the work is in the publication of the finds, without which all the knowledge gained would be lost. We, the members of Ehud Netzer's expedition team, have undertaken the task of publishing the finds from Herodium in a series entitled: The Final Reports of Ehud Netzer's Excavations at Herodium 1972-2010. The first five volumes of this scientific publication will present the finds according to their architectural contexts: Herod's Tomb Complex; Lower Herodium; the Royal Theater; the Royal Reception Room with its wall decorations, and the hill-top Palace-Fortress.

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The Herodium Expedition Team