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The Standard of Ur (Paperback)

By Sarah Collins

BRITISH MUSEUM PRESS, United Kingdom, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand new Book. Ur, one of the world's first cities, was highly important politically and economically around 2600 - 2500 BC when the Sumerian rulers of the city were buried in tombs filled with ornate, valuable objects and with evidence of elaborate rituals and human sacrifice. Without the artefacts from the tombs of Ur it would be very difficult for us today to visualise Sumerian history and know anything about Sumerian art. Of all the objects found in the royal tombs of Ur, the Standard is the most informative yet also the most enigmatic. The Standard was given its name because it lay in a tomb near the shoulder of a man as if it had been carried like a battle standard. However, its real function and purpose within the tomb is still unknown. It was originally hollow, like a box, and is decorated on four sides with mosaic images created with inlays of shell, lapis lazuli and red limestone that were set into bitumen on a wooden frame. The two main, rectangular sides sometimes referred to as 'war' and 'peace', show scenes of a battle and...



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