

The Opening of the Mouth

Cast: The Lector Priest, the Sem Priest, the Smer Priest, the Priest of the Tomb (imy-is), the Heir (Erpa), the Beloved Son (Sa-mer-f), the Follower of Horus, Anubis(Imy-khenty Priest), Isis and Nephthys, two groups of Mesentiu, one male and one female, and from these a group of nine Companions.

Note: for N insert the name of the deceased (mummy).



Procession

The participants arrive in procession with the Mesentiu wailing, ululating, tearing hair, etc., the mummy being borne by the nine Companions. The priest impersonating Anubis places the mummy before the tomb upon a mound of sand facing south.

Purifications

The mourners are greeted by Muu Dancers, who personify the Ba's of Pe (Buto). To the accompaniment of drums and other instruments (a tambourine would be good), the Muu begins with both arms stretched out and low with open hands and palms down. One arm

is brought up at a right angle behind the head while clenching the fist, while the other remains outstretched. The dancer then goes down to his or her knees, clenching the other hand and beating it against the chest, then alternately flinging one arm up and beating your chest with the other. This continues throughout the purification.

Under direction of the Lector, the Sem puts on the qeniw garment (a white cloak), and walks around the mummy four times waving a censor with burning incense, saying:

Sem: You are pure, you are pure, O Osiris N. (repeated 4 times)

Meséntiu (chanting): You are pure, you are pure.

The Smér takes up the four Nemeset and Teshet vessels filled with water, and walks around the mummy four times sprinkling water over it.

Smér: 1. You are pure, you are pure. Your purifications are the purifications of Horus, and the purifications of Horus are your purifications.

2. You are pure, you are pure. Your purifications are the purifications of Seth, and the purifications of Seth are your purifications.

3. You are pure, you are pure. Your purifications are the purifications of Thoth, and the purifications of Thoth are your purifications.

4. You are pure, you are pure. Your purifications are the purifications of Geb, and the purifications of Geb are your purifications.

Standing before the mummy: You have received your head, and your bones have been brought unto thee before Geb.

That which is in the two Eyes of Horus has been presented unto you, and the two teshet vases of Thoth, and they purify you so that there may not exist in you that destruction which acts upon you.

Meséntiu (chanting throughout): You are pure, you are pure.

The Smér takes up a vase of water scented with seman incense and walks around the mummy four times:

Smér: You are pure, you are pure, O Osiris. (repeated 4 times)

Standing before the mummy:

Smér: Pure is the seman incense, pure is the seman incense which opens your mouth.

Hail Osiris N, taste you this taste in the divine dwelling.

An outflow of Hours, the Lord, is the seman incense.

An outflow of Seth is the seman incense; it established the heart of Horus-Seth.

The seman incense of your mouth, hour incense, makes pure the gods who are in the following of Horus.

Meséntiu (chanting throughout): You are pure, you are pure.

Now the Sem presents Natron, walking around the mummy four times:

- Sem:** 1. Your censings with Natron are the censings of Horus.
2. Your censings with Natron are the censings of Seth.
3. Your censings with Natron are the censings of Thoth.
4. Your censings with Natron are the censings of Geb.

Standing before the mummy, and Touching the mummy's mouth, eyes and hands twice:

Your Ka is purified; you are censed, you are censed, you are censed.

You are established among your brethren, among the gods.

Your head is censed for you, and your mouth is censed for you.

Your mouth is the mouth of a sucking calf on the day whereon he is born.

O Osiris N, I have given you the Eye of Horus, and your face is filled therewith. You are shrouded in incense, you are shrouded in incense.

Meséntiu (chanting throughout): You are censed, you are censed.

Seeing the August One (deceased) in the House of Gold (tomb)

The Sem wraps his cloak around him and kneels before the mummy as if asleep. Led by the Lector, he Imy-is and Imy-khenty (Anubis) priests approach the Sem:

Tomb Priest: O my father, O my father! (repeated four times)

Sem: I was lying down and one roused me; I was asleep and one touched me.

I have seen my father in his every form.

Lector, Tomb Priest and Anubis: Is not your father with you?

Horus is a Sah; is not your father a Sah?

Sem: Horus laid a net, and he whose face was covered with a net has covered him with a net.

Lector: I have seen the father in his every form, they protect him, he exists, he shall not be carried away. Going round about as a bee, you see all the goings around your father.

Sem: The bees giving protection, they make him exist.

Lector: There is his shadow, but there is no impurity therein.

Meséntiu (chanting throughout): My father, my father.

Smiting the Mummy

The Sem takes off his cloak and grabs a staff or scepter. Accompanied by three Meséntiu, he approaches the mummy.

Sem: I love my father, and the divine transformations which he has made.

Horus loves those who love him.

O Meséntiu, Meséntiu, I pray you smite him.

Meséntiu: He shall smite the Osiris N

Sem: O Meséntiu, behold, smite my father, and strike his head.

Lector: Press the mouth of the Osiris N with your fingers.

Sem: O Osiris, I have come to embrace you.

I am your son, I am Horus, I have pressed your mouth for you. (smiting the mummy with his staff and pressing little finger to the mouth of the mummy)

I am your beloved son.

(to the Meséntiu) Smite you my father. It is praiseworthy to smite my father the Osiris N.
(the Meséntiu smite the mummy's head)

Follower of Horus: O Isis, Horus has passed on, and he has embraced his father.

Sem: I am Seth. I will not permit you to make divine the head of my father.

Lector: Pass on, and look upon your father. (the Sem puts down his staff and puts on the panther skin, standing by the side of the statue)

Lector: I have delivered my Eye from his mouth, and I have cut off his leg.

Sem: You have cut off your Eye, and your soul is in it.

Offerings

A bull is slaughtered and portions offered to the mummy.

Isis: Your lips are made for you, your lips are cut open. (as the Sem offers a bull's heart)

Nepthys: Your lips are made for you, your mouth is put in good condition.

Anubis: I have seized your enemies for you, and I have brought them unto you, O Atum, and no further attack shall be made upon this god
(gestures to the mummy – as the Sem offers two slaughtered gazelle and a goose)

Sem: I have slain these for you, O Atum, and no further attack shall be made upon this god (gestures to the mummy)

Anubis: I have presented to you the Leg as the Eye of Horus.

Sem: I have brought to you his heart which was in him.

Nevermore shall an attack be made upon this god.

I have brought to you the two gazelle, and their heads have been cut off.

I have brought to you a goose, and its head has be cut off.

Opening the Mouth and Eyes

The Heir presents the leg of the bull to the mummy.

Heir: Hail Osiris N! I have come to embrace you.

I am Horus.

I have pressed your mouth for you. (presses the leg to the mouth of the mummy)

I am your beloved son.

Your mother smites and weeps for you.

Those who were bound with you also smite you and weep for you. (Isis and Nephthys hit the mummy)

The Sem leads the Beloved Son to the mummy, who takes the adze given to him by Anubis, cutting open the eyes and mouth of the mummy with it.

Sem: Hail Osiris N! I have brought my beloved son Horus to you. He will open your mouth for you.

Priest of the Tomb: Behold the loving son!

Beloved Son: Your mouth has been made firm.

I have made your mouth to match comfortably to your teeth.

I have opened your mouth for you.

I have opened your two eyes for you.

I have opened your mouth for you with the instrument of Anubis.

I have opened your mouth for you with the divine instrument, with the Leg of Iron wherewith the mouth of the gods was opened.

I have opened your mouth for you with the Leg, the Eye of Horus!

Horus shall open the mouth of the Osiris N, even as he opened the mouth of his father.

Meséntiu led by the Imy-is (chanting from this point on): My father, my father.

Sem: O Osiris N, Horus has pressed your mouth for you, and your eyelids, and they are established.

As he opened the mouth of Osiris, so shall he open the mouth of my father with the iron which comes forth from Seth, with the Leg of Iron, with which he opened the mouth of the gods.

And the Osiris N shall walk and talk, and his body shall be with the Great Company of the Gods, who dwell in the House of the Great Aged Prince, who dwells in Annu (Heliopolis).

And he shall take possession of the Wererit Crown therein before Horus, the Lord of Mankind.

The Sem puts down the adze and takes up a Snake Staff, touching the staff to the mouth and eyelids of the mummy in order to heal the cuts made by the adze.

Sem: Your mouth has been made firm for you. I have made your mouth to match comfortably to your teeth, O Osiris N.

Nut has lifted up your head for you.

Horus has taken possession of the Wererit Crown and his words of power.

Seth has taken possession of the Wererit Crown and his words of power.

Behold, Nut has appeared with your head.

All the gods bring words of power, they recite them for you, they make you to life by them, you become a lord of two-fold might, you make the passes which give you the fluid of life, and their fluid of life is about the Osiris N.

You are protected and you shall not die.

You shall make your transformations among the Ka's of all the gods.

You shall rise up as king of the South.

You shall rise up as king of the North.

You are endowed with strength like all the gods and their Ka's.

Behold, this statue of the Osiris is Shu, the son of Atum, and as he lives even so shall you live.

Shu has provided you with all things.

Shu has exalted you with all things

Shu has exalted you to the height of heaven.

Shu has made you to be a wonder.

Shu has endowed you with strength.

You have made the passes which place life around the Osiris N. Your fluid of life surrounds you, and the Osiris N shall never die.

Horus has opened your mouth for you, and he has opened your two eyes for you with the divine instruments, and with the Snake Staff with which he opened the mouth of every god of the South.

Restoring the Mouth and Eyes

The Sem takes a bag containing red pigment and advances to the statue, rubbing its lips.

Sem: His mouth has been rubbed. (to the Lector)

His mouth is warmed and constituted.

Behold, your mouth and your two eyes have been constituted. (to the mummy)

Your offerings have come unto you, O my father. (presenting a nemes bandage and covering the eyes and mouth of the mummy)

The Eye of Horus has been presented to you, and it is the water which has been offered to you. (offering a bowl of water)

Your two jaws, which were separated, have been established for you. (The Sem takes up a Pesheskef instrument, laying it on the mouth of the mummy.)

The milk shall not pass over his mouth, nor be snatched away from it. (rubbing milk on the lips of the mummy)

The Eye of Horus has been presented unto you, and through it your mouth shall lack nothing. (passing a feather four times over the mouth of the mummy)

Lector: You have come, you have purified your father. (to the Smér)

You have pressed the mouth of the Osiris N. (to the Beloved Son)

Purifications

The Sem takes a burning censor and advances to the mummy.

Sem: Pure, pure is his Ka.

Pure is the Ka of the Osiris N.

Your head is shrouded in the sweet smelling incense.

The dew of the god is upon your limbs.

The two Great Gods, Horus and Seth, who preside over the Land of the South, purify you.

The ??? comes to the backbone of the Osiris N.

The Men-wer incense comes, the Men-wer incense comes.

The member which proceeds from Osiris comes.

Horus has shrouded him with his Eye.

Hail Osiris N!

You are shrouded with the Eye of Horus.

You are censured with the Eye of Horus.

You are filled with the Eye of Horus.
You are filled with the Eye of Horus as is the god.
The fragrance thereof belongs to you.
Behold, the fragrance of the Eye of Horus belongs to you.

Offerings

Everyone: Homage to you, O you Osiris N, in heaven and on the earth,
In your seat in the Land of the South,
In your seat in the Land of the North,
In your seat in the Land of the West,
In your seat in the Land of the East,
And in every place wherein your Ka dwells.
You live for ever!

Sem: He who was in a state of weakness comes! He who was in a state of weakness comes!

The Light comes! The Light comes!

The Osiris N ahs appeared on the thighs of Isis;
And he sits on the thighs of Nepthys.

Atum, the father, grasps the hand of the Osiris N, and he leads the Osiris N along, and the Star-Gods with swift legs guide him on his way.

O Isis, Mother of the Osiris N, give your breast to the Osiris N, and let the Osiris N put forth his mouth and suck milk therefrom.

The White Goose shines with light making the earth pleasant.

He shall make the Osiris N to walk therein, and there shall be no sickness of any kind whatsoever to him therein, and he shall never feel hunger therein.

The Lector lifts the food offerings four times, each time repeating:

Lector: An offering made to you with your two eyes.

Sem: Hail Osiris N!

I have given unto you one thousand bread loaves, one thousand vessels of beer, one thousand oxen, one thousand geese, one thousand changes of clothes, one thousand antelope, one thousand gazelle, one thousand geese, one thousand ducks, one thousand pigeons, and one thousand pieces of meat for broiling, which is your portion from the divine block, and one thousand bread cakes in the Hall, and one thousand balls of incense, one thousand vessels of oil, one thousand of the best of the tables, and one

thousand of the best joints of meat, one thousand flowers and one thousand cakes, and one thousand things of all kinds, beautiful and sweet to your Ka, O Osiris N.

Everybody: Hail Osiris N!

Come, I beseech you, to this your bread.

Sem: Arranged for you on the divine table of offerings are things of all kinds good, pure and sweet, and your Ka has received them.

Your Ka has been purified, and into your hands has been given abundance.

Everybody: Pure, pure is the Osiris N.

Placing the August One (deceased) in the House of Gold (tomb)

Led by Anubis, the Companions take the mummy into the tomb.

Everyone led by the Sem: O Companions, the god comes to his place of protection.

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O Companions, the god comes to his place of protection.

Lector: O ye Nine Companions, bring along the Osiris N, carry him safely, and do not let him fall down among you.

Hail ye Sons of Horus, Om-seti, Hapi, Duamutef, and Qebhesenutef, advance and come with your father, and carry him by means of the sledge and bear him along.

Hail Osiris! I have placed the sons of Horus with you, and they bear you along, and you are strong because of them.

Hail, ye sons of Horus, advance with your father, and bear him up, and let him not slip through your hands.

Hail Osiris! They bear you up, like Horus on the Henu sledge.

You are raised up by it, like the gods, in its name of Seker.

You are united with it, and made strong in the South and in the North, even as Horus on his sledge.

The doors of Heaven are open,

And the House is opened for its Lord.

Let me come forth as he shall come forth.

Let me enter in as he shall enter in.

The God is in his house, and he rests in the arms of his father Osiris.

Your happiness belongs you, O Osiris N, and you have magical powers.

Your father Osiris places you in his arms in his name of Horizon, wherein Re revolves.

Life is given to you before your father Osiris.

Thoth comes to you, and he brings to you the Eye of Horus, and you become strong through it, and you rest in it.

You have life, like a god, at the head of the gods forever.

The mummy is placed in its coffin.

Lector: The sweetness of the South, Thoth has delivered the Eye of Horus from its enemies in its name Eye of the South.

Thoth has carried it to Horus in his name of Deliverer.

Thoth has made it to be at peace with Horus in his name of Pacifier.

Thoth has made it triumphant for Horus in his name of Maat.

Thoth has reckoned it up for Horus in his name of Reckoner.

All leave and the Lector sweeps the footsteps from the tomb.

Everyone: The beauties of this god are exalted.

Splendor is with you, and majesty is with you.

The sledge shall never perish with you in it, and the sledge shall be with you.

There is an offering to you, and there is a happy face to the Osiris N, who is happy on this day.

The procession leaves with music, more ululating, and jubilation.