



**Donnerstag, den 15. Oktober 2026 um 18:15 Uhr
im Schnitz S 01**

Animal mummies: New insights from the British Museum

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British Museum



Cat mummy and radiograph, British Museum EA 6758
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Animals, as manifestations of gods on earth, were believed to act as intermediaries between humans and the divine, capable of interceding on people's behalf. The mummification of animals is currently being investigated at the British Museum through a multi-disciplinary research project which uses a diverse range of scientific techniques to build a comprehensive picture of the preparation, treatment and cultural significance of animal mummification in ancient Egypt.

Focusing on the approximately 500 mummies housed at the Museum, the project combines established and innovative methods, including imagery techniques, radiocarbon dating, stable isotope analysis and the study of embalming residues. Although the research is ongoing, this presentation will outline the various aspects of the project and highlight some of the results obtained so far. These findings will shed new light on religious practices and the embalming industry, from the breeding and procurement of animals to the acquisition of the raw materials required for mummification.