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Tattoo in Egypt between history and future

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Tattooing was practiced by many ancient societies, including the ancient Egyptians and Nubians. Egypt, for example, boasts iconographic and physical evidence for tattooing for a period spanning at least 4000 years - the longest known history of tattooing in the world. Unlike many past societies, tattooing in Egypt appears to have been a custom practiced almost exclusively on women. From ancient Egyptian culture, whence comes early evidence of tattooing, to contemporary art, the body has been employed as a living canvas for inscriptions and designs such as those of tattoos embodying symbols, icons, archetypes and mythological or folkloric themes. Tattoos, especially those consisting of lines and dots, have been found on preserved mummies, including that of Amunet, a priestess of the goddess Hathor at Thebes, dating back to the XI Dynasty, 2000 BCE.

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