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ART HISTORY PAGE. THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS MYTHICAL MASK CAME FROM THIS ARTEFACT IN THE ASHMOLEAN MUSUEM.

## **ASSIRIAN RELIEF OF WINGED GENIUS**

THIS MAGNIFICANT CARVED SLAB (RELIEF). DEPICTS A BIRD HEADED SPIRIT WEARING ROBES AND HOLDS A CONE AND A BUCKET. THE CONE WAS USED TO SPRINKLE LIQUID FROM THE BUCKET TO CREATE A MAGICAL BARRIER THAT WOULD KEEP OUT CHAOS.

IT WAS COMMISSIONED BY THE 'GLORIOUS' KING ASHURNASIRPAL II (883-859BC). IT WAS PUT UP IN THE NORTHWEST PALACE AT NIMRUD, WHICH THE KING MADE THE NEW CAPITAL OF ASSYRIA. WHICH IS NOW IN NORTHERN IRAQ NEAR BY MOSUL.



THE ASSIYRIAN KINGDOM THAT ASHURNASIRPAL II RULED, DEVELOPED IN THE NORTH OF MESAPOTAMIA AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 2ND MILLENIUM BC. THE ASSYRIA'S HAD SUPERIOR METHODS OF WARFARE, AND WERE FEARED BY THEIR NEIGHBOURING CIVILATIONS. THIS KINGDOM ALSO PROMOTED A GREAT DEAL

OF CULTURE, FROM CREATING LIBRARIES, LANGUAGES,

Persian Gulf

TO RESEARCH IN ZOOLOGY & MEDICINE.

MESOPOTAMIA MEANS THE "LAND BETWEEN THE RIVERS" IT WAS SITUATED BETWEEN THE TIGRESS AND EUPHRATES. AND PROVIDED FERTILE LAND FOR CULTIVATION.

> A RELIEF OF THE 'GLORIOUS' KING ASHURNASIRPAL II

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THE FERTILE CRESCENT







