

**Roman and Egyptian pieces  
influenced by Grecian  
Craftsmanship**

**Putnam Museum and Science Center**

# Apulian Greek Pottery



## Apulian Pottery

Apulian pottery comes from the Apulia region of Italy, an area settled by the Ancient Greeks in the 8th century (Before Common Era) B.C. E. The Apulian artisans are famous for expanding red figure attic pottery (an older type of Greek pottery style) and transforming it into a more ornate and complex art form. There are two styles of paintings on Apulian pottery- plain and ornate. The plain painting style features three figures or fewer figures on the pottery, while the ornate painting style features an elaborate scene with many figures. Depictions on Apulian pottery are often religious and ceremonial.





### **Ancient Greek Ceramic Askos**

An Askos is a pottery vessel that was used to store and pour oil

Origin: Apulia Region of Italy

Date: 300 B.C.E.

This pottery piece depicts a head of a woman and a mythical panther like creature.



**Ancient Greek Terracotta Oinochoe**

An oinochoe is a wine jug.

Origin: Apulia Region of Italy

Date: 420 B.C.E. - 300 B.C.E.

This pottery piece depicts Nike, the Greek goddess of victory, gathering material to make an incense burner for a celebration.

# Egyptian Animal Figure Art



## Terracotta Figures

Terracotta figures from Egypt were made throughout all the Egyptian periods. Many of the terracotta artifacts that have been excavated come from Naukratis, a Greek settlement. Egyptian terracotta figures often are of sacred animals and deities. They were used as talismans and were popular among almost all ancient Egyptians.

## Granite in Egypt

There were only a couple places in Egypt where granite was found, so the material was not used as much as limestone and sandstone. Most of Egypt's granite was found in the quarries of Aswan. Aswan was a town on the Nile in Southern Egypt. The quarries of Aswan produced pink, black, and gray granite.





**Ancient Egyptian Terracotta Cat Figure**

Origin: Naukratis, Egypt?

Date: Ptolemaic Period? (305 B.C.E. - 30 B.C.E.)

Figure depicts the sacred cat, which is associated with the Egyptian goddess Bastet.



**Ancient Egyptian Granite Lion Head**

Origin: Egypt?

Date: Unknown

Figure depicts the sacred lion, which is associated with the Egyptian kings and deities such as Sekhmet.

# Greco-Roman Human Sculptures



## Reproductions

There are many replicas or reproductions of classical Greek and Roman sculptures. Many of these reproductions have been made for financial gain or for historical purposes. Unfortunately, some of these reproductions are sold under the guise of authentic artifacts.

## Greek vs. Roman

The main difference between Greek and Roman marble statues is that the Greek statues were more idealistic, while the Roman statues were more realistic. When the Greeks sculpted, they often left out the imperfections of the face and body of a person. And when the Romans sculpted, they accurately depicted all the features of a person.







**Ancient Roman Bust**

Origin: Italy?

Date: Unknown

Piece suspected to be an imitation.



**Ancient Greek or Roman Head of Marble statue**

Origin: Greece or Italy?

Date: Unknown

Broken male head of a marble statue.

# Roman Stone Art



## Roman Mosaics

During the Hellenistic period, Greek craftsmen brought the art of mosaics to Italy. Roman mosaics were made of tesserae, (small pieces of different colored stone) that were chipped into little cubes. The stone cubes were then pasted onto a platform in a design with a grout like material. Glass and terracotta tesserae were also used for mosaics, but not until the later Roman Empire.

## Unicorns

The mythical unicorn originates from ancient Greece as the Hippi Monokerata. Ancient Greek historians say that this creature was donkey or ox-like and that it came from the East. The unicorn's body was said to be stark white with a brightly colored horn. Unfortunately, the ancient Greeks probably confused the rhinoceroses from India as the mythical creature.





**Ancient Roman Mosaic**

Origin: Campania, Italy

Date: Unknown

Piece suspected to be an imitation. Portraits were unusual for Roman mosaics.



**Ancient Roman Architectural Fragment**

Origin: Rome, Italy

Date: 200 B.C.E.-300 B.C.E.

Architectural fragment that depicts a woman watering a unicorn that cupid is sitting on.

# Greco-Roman Glass and Bronze Jewelry



## Roman Glass

During the Hellenistic period, the Greeks began to experiment with glass in jewelry and decorative pieces. Once Greece was fully conquered by the Romans, the glass industry of the Roman Empire became widespread and abundant. New techniques were used to create art pieces, thus making it easier to produce quantity. Glass became one of the most popular materials to use to make containers, decorative pieces, and jewelry.

## Bronze Jewelry

Both Greek and Roman women wore jewelry. It was a fashion staple that signified wealth. Greco-roman jewelry was usually created from precious metals, but bronze was sometimes used as a more affordable option. Bronze jewelry was very popular among women because it was cheaper and more durable than gold or silver.





**Ancient Roman Glass Bracelet**

Origin:Rome, Italy

Date: 1-300 C.E.

Black glass bangle.



**Ancient Roman Bronze Pendant**

Origin: Italy?

Date: Unknown

Arrow like pendant.



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