

Greek Sculpture II: 500-300 BCE

Greek Sculpture II lectures examine Greek statues and relief in marble and bronze produced in the period between 500-300 BCE. Our knowledge of the subject is being constantly improved and revised by dramatic new discoveries, from excavation and shipwrecks.

The series starts with the revolution in seeing and representing that brought in the new visual system that we know as 'classical', in the fifth and fourth centuries and examines key trends of the period: the use of bronze; major state dedications; chryselephantine statuary; the massive sculptural projects at Olympia and the Athenian Acropolis; votive and grave stelai; portraiture; developments in the depiction of gods; Greek sculpture commissioned by non-Greek buyers.

Week 1: Introduction to Ancient Statue Culture

Week 2: Emergence of the Classical Style – use of bronze

Week 3: Athletes and Heroes

Week 4: The Temple of Zeus at Olympia

Week 5: The Athenian Acropolis in the fifth century BC

Week 6: Eastern Dynasts in Caria and Lycia

Week 7: Athletes and Gods in the fourth century BCE

Week 8: Portraits and Grave stelai

- Emergence of Classical style
- Major state dedications, use of bronze
- New colossi: Persian War dedications, chryselephantine cult statues
- Massive architectural-sculptural projects: Olympia and Parthenon
- Expansion of visual modes: e.g. definition of divine 'portraits'
- Representation of civic and domestic realm: grave stelai and honorific statues
- New buyers in the east and north: Lycians, Carians, Sidonians, Thracians, Macedonians