

## EARLY HELLENISTIC PORTRAITURE

This book examines the styles and contexts of portrait statues produced during one of the most dynamic eras of Western art, the early Hellenistic age. Often seen as the beginning of the Western tradition in portraiture, this historical period is here subjected to a rigorous interdisciplinary analysis. Using a variety of methodologies from a wide range of fields – archaeology, epigraphy, history, and numismatics – an international team of experts investigates the problems of origins, patronage, setting, and meanings that have consistently marked this fascinating body of ancient material culture.

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# EARLY HELLENISTIC PORTRAITURE

## IMAGE, STYLE, CONTEXT

EDITED BY

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### ADDITIONAL CREDITS

Fig. 60: Draped woman. Greek, East Greek, Hellenistic period, mid first century B.C.E. *Place of manufacture:* Asia Minor, Aeolia, Myrina. Terracotta. 36.8 cm (14 ½ in.). Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Francis Bartlett Donation of 1900, 03.905.

Fig. 61: Woman standing. Greek, East Greek, Hellenistic period, about first century B.C.E. *Place of manufacture:* Asia Minor, Aeolia, Myrina. Terracotta. 26.5 cm (10 ⅞ in.). Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Contribution, 01.7731.

Fig. 75: *Stele*: ephebe, servant, and dog. Greek, Attic, end of fourth century B.C.E. Marble. H, 1.85 m; L, 1 m; W, 0.37 m. Paris, Musée Rodin inv. Co 1407. Photo: Luc and Lala Joubert.

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## PREFACE

The making of this book has a short prehistory and a long history. The short prehistory takes a little time to tell. The idea for this volume sprang from a number of conversations that took place during “The Macedonians in Athens” conference, a colloquium in Athens that was held in May 2001 and that was organized by Olga Palagia and Stephen Tracy. At that time, our idea was to organize a group of American and European scholars who might initiate a professional discussion based on different approaches to a specific body of ancient material evidence.

Since both of us were deeply interested in the field of ancient Greek sculpture, a conversation about a particular facet of this huge field seemed natural. Likewise, Athens seemed like the best venue for us to put this idea into action. The resulting conference, “Early Hellenistic Portraiture: Image, Style, Context,” was held at the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut on 9–10 November 2002 and treated problems specific to this subfield. The conference was a success – not on account of our efforts, but rather because of our expert panel of speakers and a *very* animated audience.

One of the greatest challenges in colloquia like this is always the question of language. Here, German, Greek, and Italian contributors generously volunteered to speak in English. Although this was a challenge for many of us, it was a concession that yielded much fruitful (and provocative!) discussion. We believe that this policy helped to open doors of mutual understanding.

The publication of the papers that came out of this discussion seemed natural. We are happy with the volume, but we do owe an apology for its tardiness. The book’s long production history can quickly be explained: In addition to the usual responsibilities for teaching, research, and administration, both of us undertook major family relocations during

the past three years, and these moves slowed us down. We can only hope that the quality of this volume’s production and the care with which we have edited it might serve to offset our delay.

The present volume realizes the basic goal of our conference: Like the colloquium, it brings together scholars from many different specializations, traditions, and nations for the purposes of exploring portraits produced in the Greek world between ca. 350 and 250 B.C.E. We think that this transdisciplinary approach has provoked an interesting set of papers and ideas, and hope the book will both stimulate new interest in this key art-historical moment and prompt further discussion. We also hope to have illuminated the rich interpretive possibilities that remain unexplored in this fascinating body of ancient evidence.

This book was made possible by the kind and generous support of numerous friends, colleagues, and institutions. We are thankful to the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut and the American School of Classical Studies, Athens, for hosting and sponsoring the November 2002 conference. We owe a special debt to the directors of these institutions – Wolf-Dietrich Niemeier and Stephen Tracy – for their encouragement and unwavering dedication to Germano-American collaboration in Athens. The former director of the American School, James Muhly, was also instrumental in the organization of our colloquium; without his initial encouragement, we could not have moved forward. We are grateful to the Fritz-Thyssen Stiftung, Cologne, for liberally supporting both the conference and this publication: Its generous grant allowed us to illustrate these chapters in a way that would have otherwise been impossible.

## PREFACE

We also owe personal debts of gratitude to Darcie DeBoer, Jarrett Hardester, and Kris Seaman for helping us with the bibliographical references, and to Deb Hersrud for patiently organizing, photocopying, and preparing the final text for submission; we could not have completed this work without their kind help. We are deeply grateful to Beatrice Rehl and James Dunn at Cambridge University Press for their support and commitment to quality in both scholarship and production. To Michael Gnat – *editor optimus* – we owe a special debt. Confronted with a massive manuscript and reference list, Michael ensured precision, consistency, and clarity throughout. This book is as much a product of his expertise as ours; maybe even more so.

We would additionally like to extend our deepest thanks to all our contributors and to all the conference participants

who joined in discussing problems of early Hellenistic portraiture at the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut in November 2002. Although their papers are not included here, Neil Adams and Antonio Corso added much to the discussion in Athens. We are also grateful to Johannes Bergmann, Sheila Dillon, and Ralf Krumeich, who did not participate in the Athens colloquium but were willing to contribute articles all the same. Our German contributors deserve a special thanks for patiently working with us to produce clear English versions of their important chapters. To all our dear friends and colleagues, we offer our sincere thanks for their patience, good humor, and superb contributions. Finally, we are deeply indebted to Olga Palagia for introducing us, for facilitating our collaboration, and for providing much encouragement along the way.

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