FIGURINES IN HELLENISTIC BABYLONIA

In this volume, Stephanie Langin-Hooper investigates the impact of Greek art on the miniature figure sculpture produced in Babylonia after the conquests of Alexander the Great. Figurines in Hellenistic Babylonia were used as agents of social change, by visually expressing and negotiating cultural differences. The scaled-down quality of figurines encouraged both visual and tactile engagement, enabling them to effectively work as non-threatening instruments of cultural blending. Reconstructing the embodied experience of miniaturization in detailed case studies, Langin-Hooper illuminates the dynamic process of combining Greek and Babylonian sculpture forms, social customs, and viewing habits into new, hybrid works of art. Her innovative focus on figurines as instruments of both personal encounter and global cultural shifts has important implications for the study of tiny objects in art history, anthropology, classics, and other disciplines.

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FIGURINES IN
HELLENISTIC BABYLONIA

MINIATURIZATION AND
CULTURAL HYBRIDITY

STEPHANIE M. LANGIN-HOOPER
Southern Methodist University
For my children, Myer Edward Stanton and Jeremiah Charles Stanton.
I love you forever.
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AUTHOR’S NOTE

Note that the figurines pictured in this book are not reproduced to life-size scale, nor are they shown at a consistent scale relative to one another. Rather, the figurines that are more extensively discussed in the text are usually shown larger so that small details can be more easily observed. For information on the size of each figurine, please see the measurements provided in each figure caption.