



Pollitt Chapter 5
Alexander the Great
And the Hellenistic Age

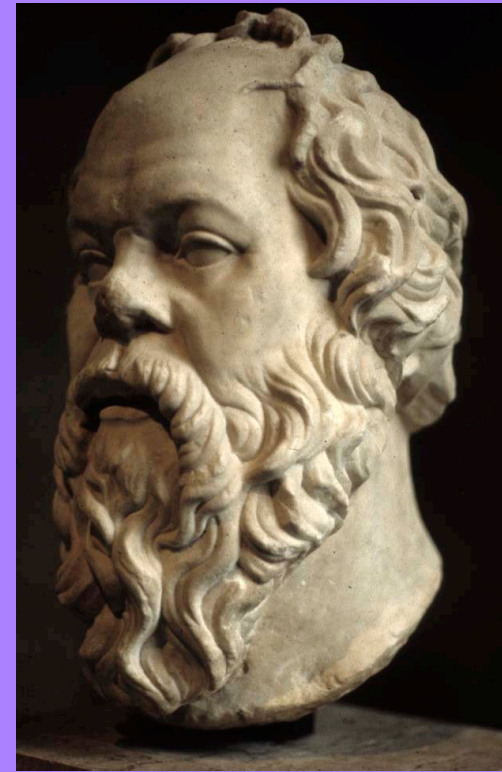


The Hellenistic Period 404-323 BCE

The Peloponnesan War ended in 404 BCE, and the military power of Athens came to an end. Initially the victorious Spartans ruled Athens with a heavy hand as the cities of Mainland Greece engaged in changing alliances and continued strife.

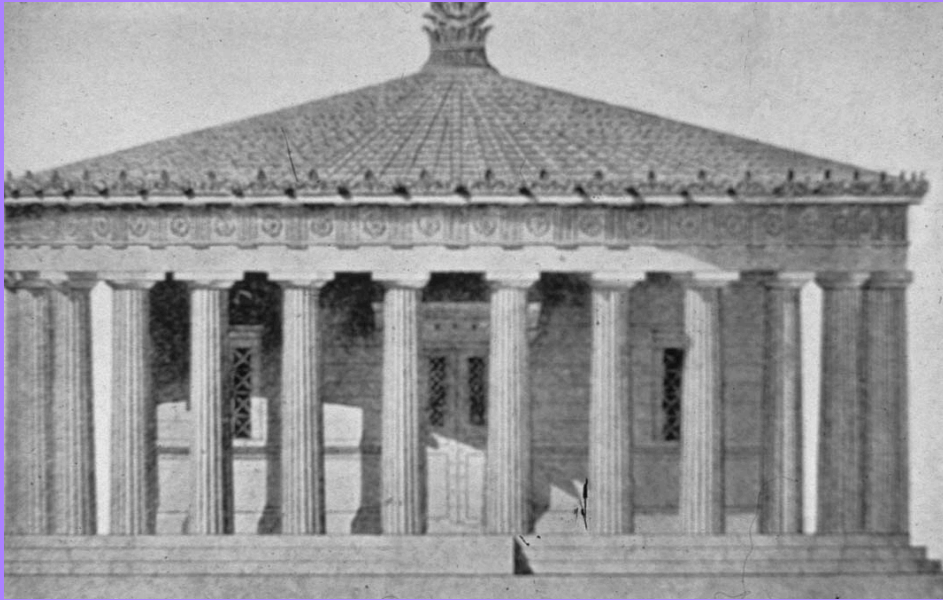
In the meantime, Macedon, a kingdom in the north of Greece, was building its military power under king Philip (359-339), and in 338 BCE Philip defeated the united Greeks at the Battle of Chaeonea to establish Macedonian power over mainland Greece. A monumental lion (left) marks the site of the battle.

Alexander the Great succeeded his father, Philip, in 336, and in the few short years before his death in 323 BCE extended Macedonian dominion over most of the Mediterranean and as far east as India. After Alexander's death, after decades of bitter struggle, by the end of the 3rd century, Alexander's empire was divided into three: Ptolemy ruled in Egypt, Seleucus ruled Mesopotamia, and Cassander was declared king of Macedon. Athens was ruled first by Demetrios of Phalleron (appointed by Cassander) and then by a string of successors until the city became a Roman province in 147 BCE.



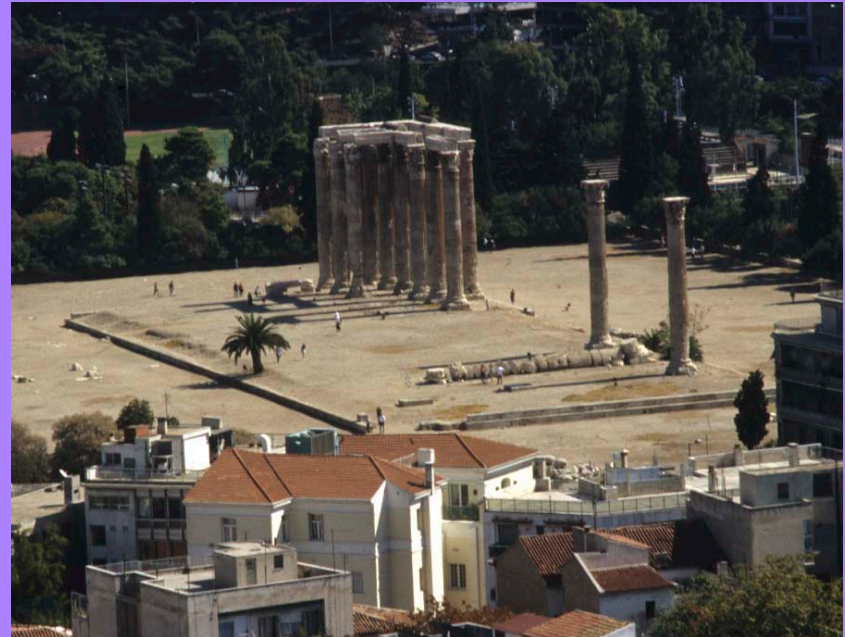
Hellenistic Bust of Socrates

During the 5th century, Socrates (above) had been a familiar presence in the Athenian Agora. His "dialogues" sought the improvement of his fellow citizens. After Socrates' death in 399 BCE, Aristotle, a student of Socrates' and tutor to the young Alexander of Macedon, turned his attention to scientific description of nature.



Circular Shrine (“tholos”) of Asklepios at Epidauros
ca 350 BCE. Above (right) a ceiling coffer



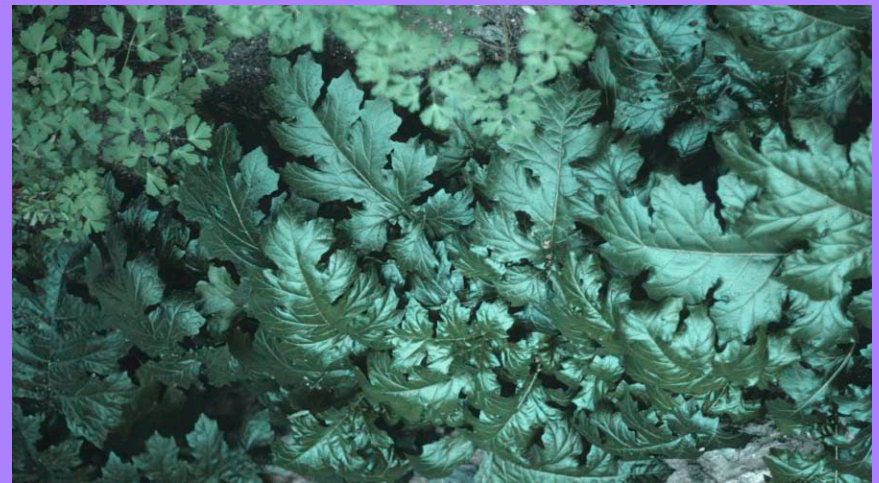


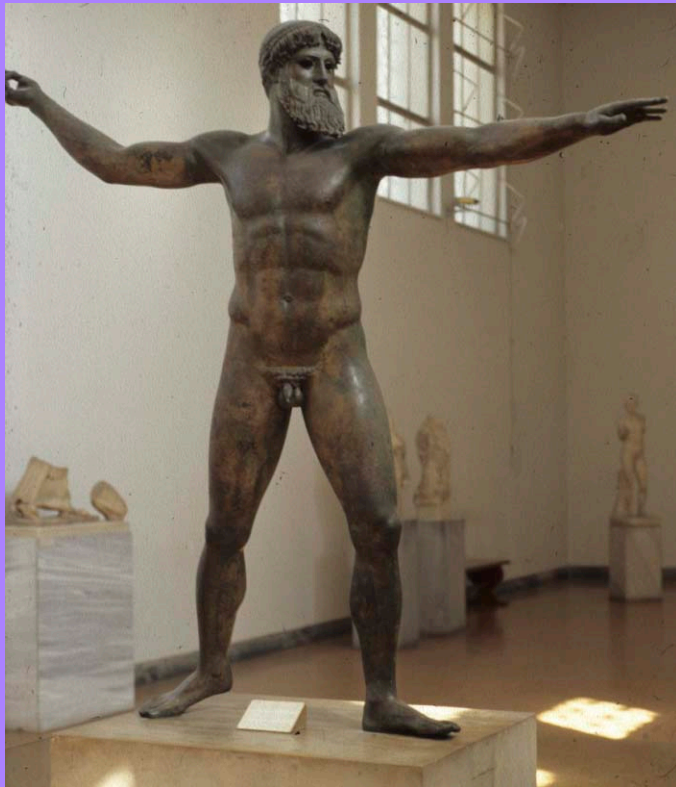
Tall, slender columns of the Temple of Zeus at Athens, the “Olympeion” were erected in 174 BCE.





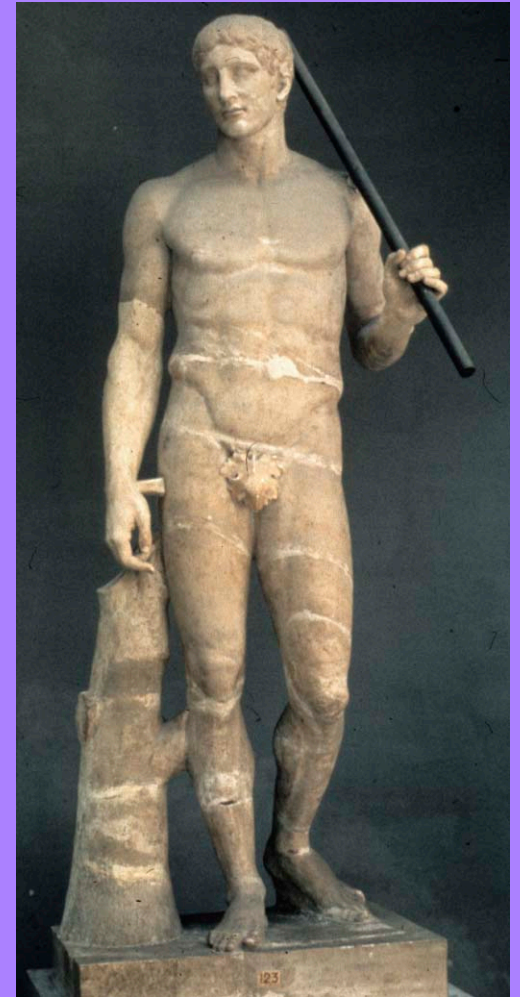
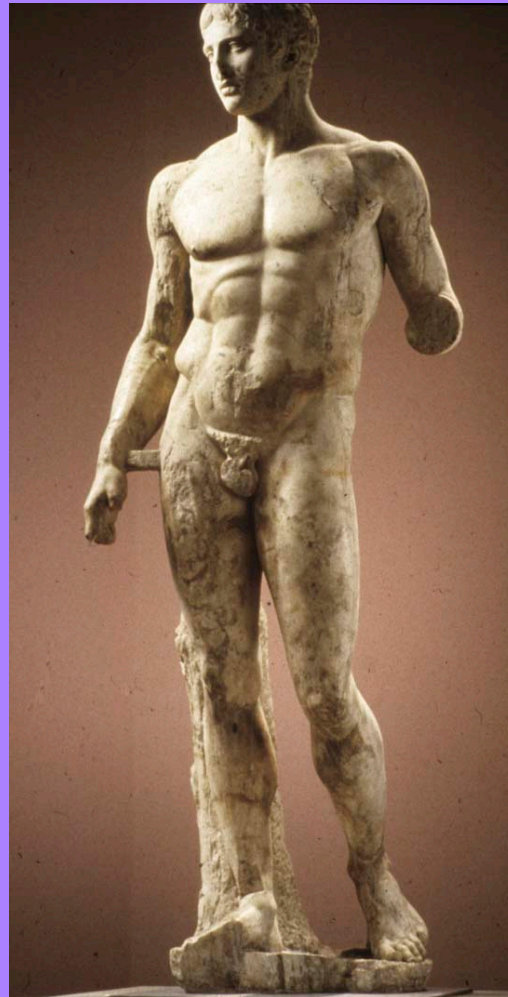
Acanthus leaves decorate define the column capitals of the Olympeion (above). Acanthus is a common sight in the modern city (right).

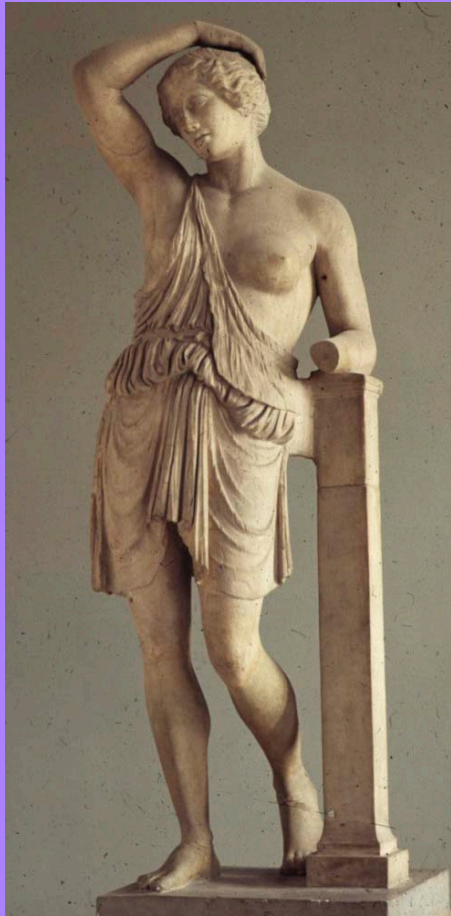




God from Artemiseion
ca. 470 BCE (above)

Roman copies of two works by Polykleitos
450-440 BCE (below).

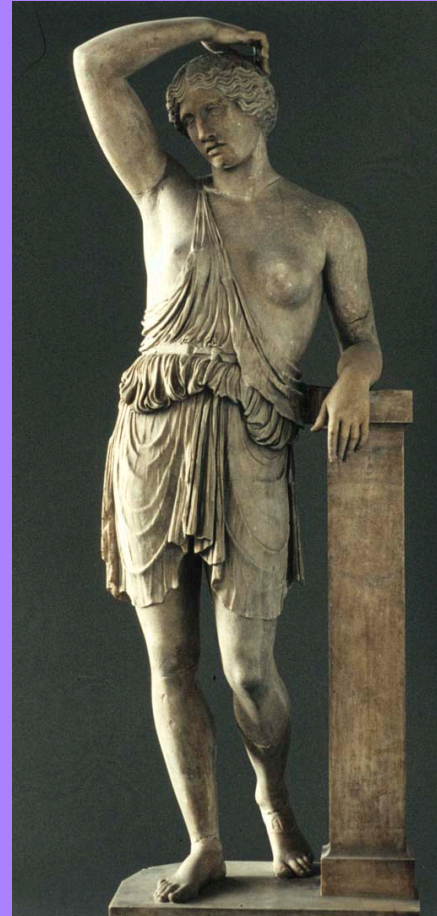




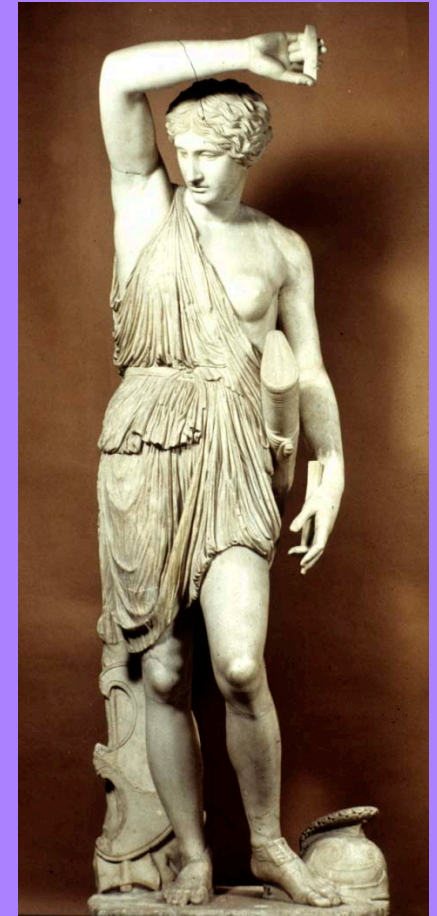
New York (Met. Mus.)



Vatican (Rome)

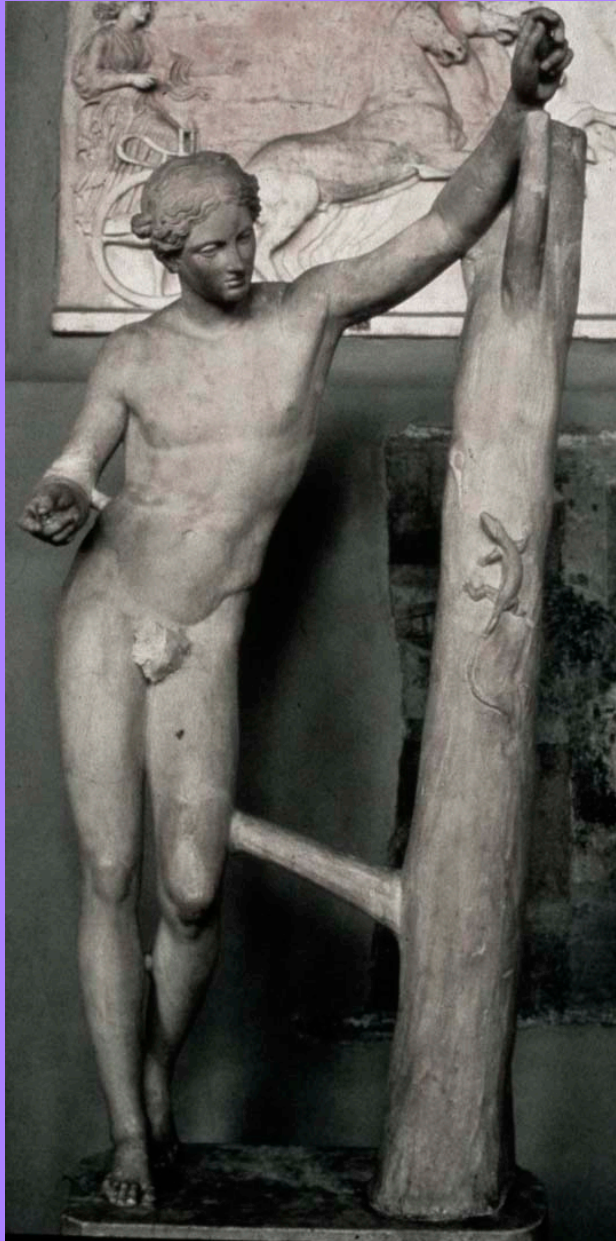


Berlin



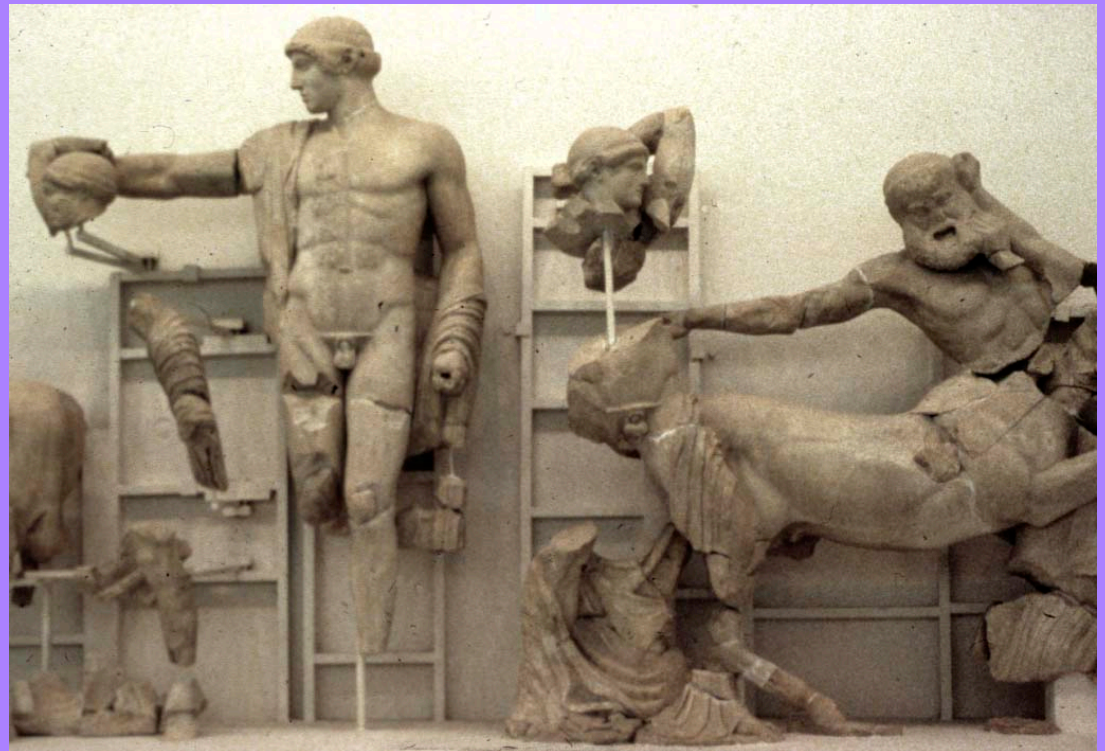
Vatican (Rome)

Four Roman copies perhaps from the same Greek original bronze statue of an Amazon that dated to ca. 440-430



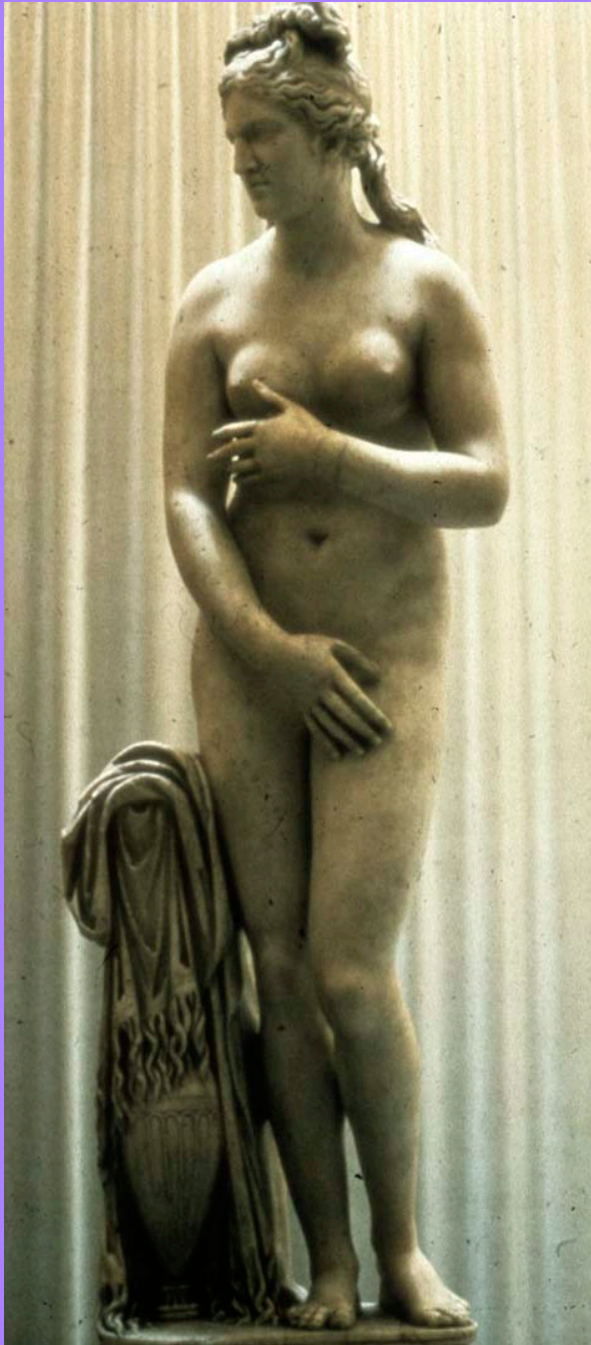
“Sauroktonos” (“Lizzard Slayer”) identified by Pliny (Roman) as an Apollo – Praxiteles ca 350-330 BCE (Roman copy)

Compare the figure of Apollo whose power helped the Lapiths defeat the centaurs on the Olympia Pediment (460 BCE)

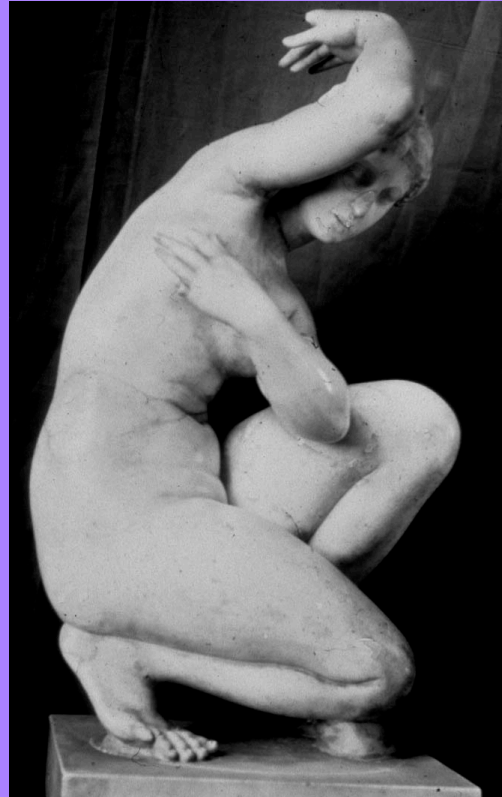




Attic Grave Stone
Ca 340-320 BCE
(from Athens) (Athens
National Museum)



Aphrodite 320-280
BCE (Rome) (left)
(Roman copy)



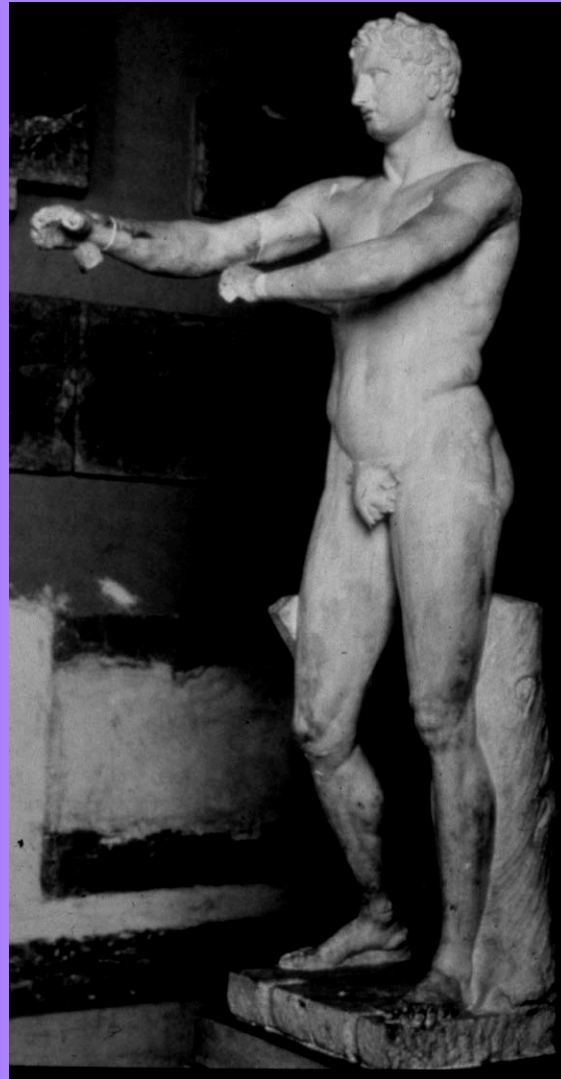
Aphrodite 3rd cent.
BCE (Louvre) (center)
(Roman copy)



Aphrodite Praxiteles
c.330 BCE (Vatican)
(Roman copy)



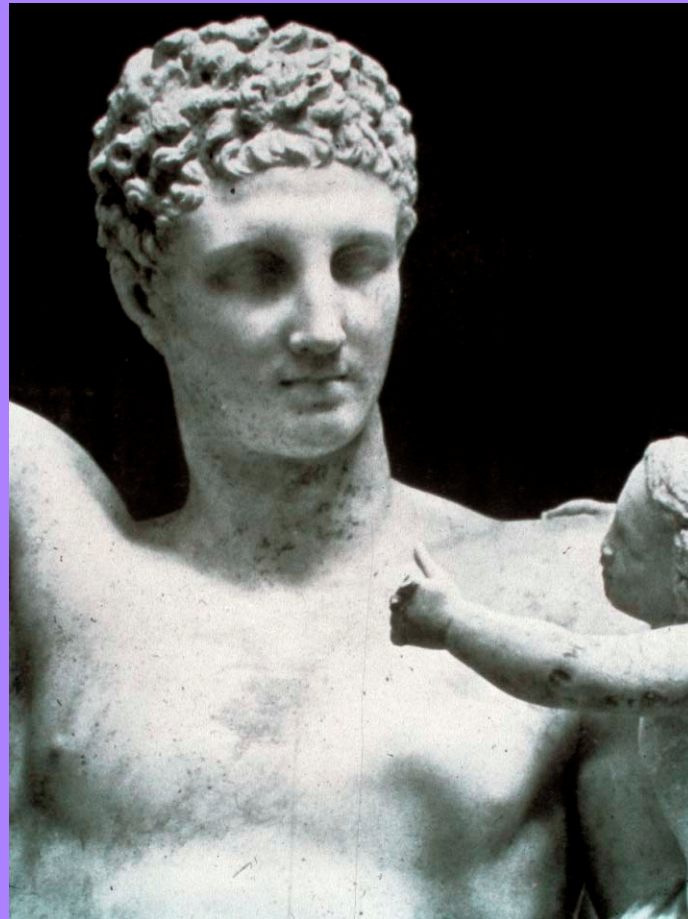
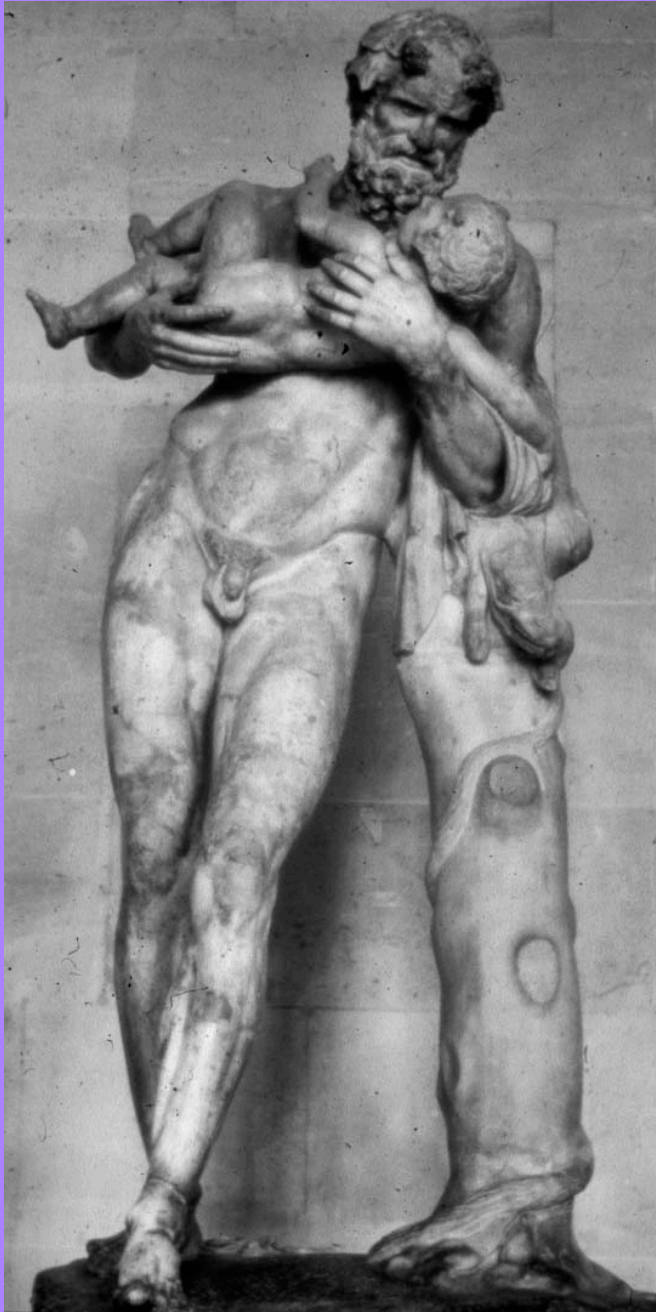
Lysippos Hermes
(Roman copy)



Lysippos "Apoxyomenos"
325-300 (Roman copy)



Lysippos Herakles c.330
"Farnese Herakles"
(Roman copy)



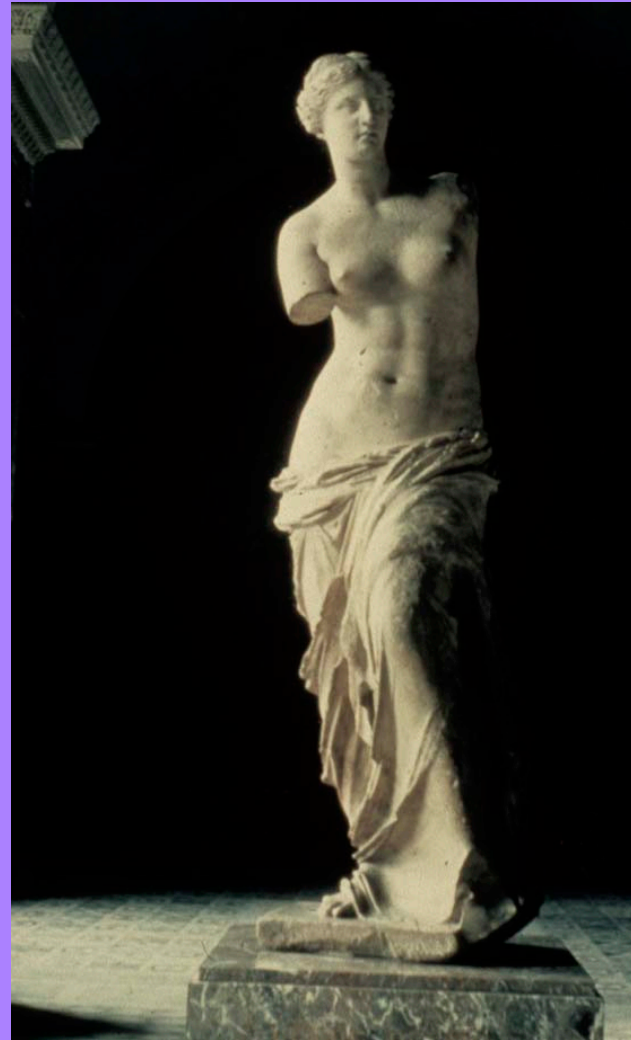
Satyr holds the infant Dionysos
Lysippos ca 300 BCE (Roman
copy) (Louvre) (left)

Hermes holds the infant Dionysos (above)
Praxiteles ca 330-320 BCE (Olympia)



Nike of Samothrace c. 190 BCE
(Louvre) (above)

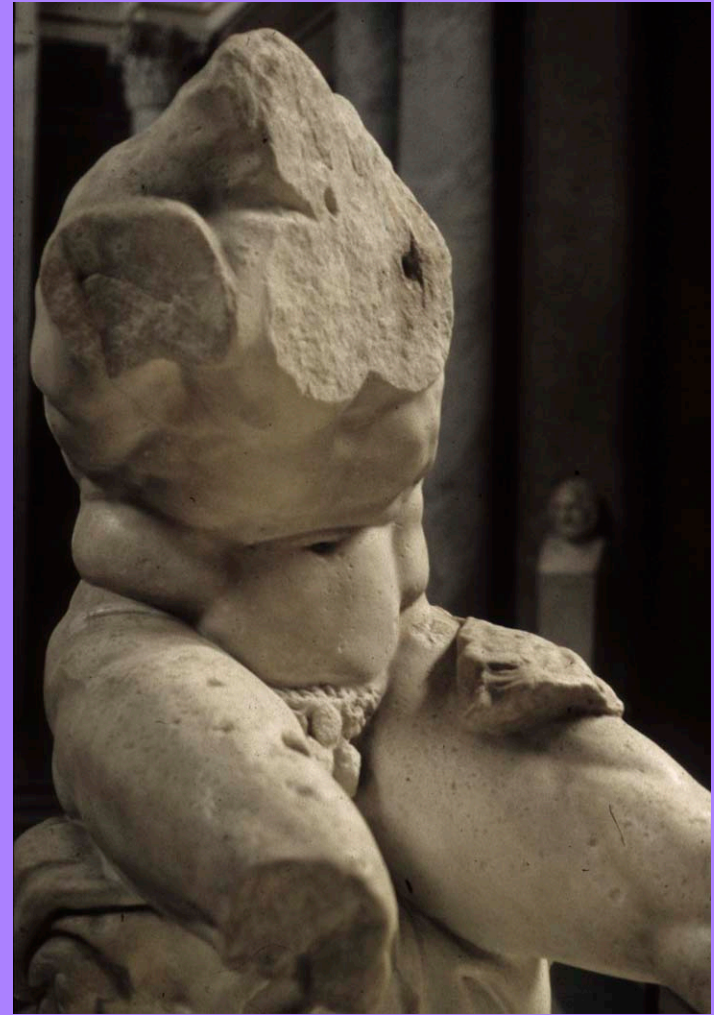
Aphrodite from Milos (“Venus de
Milo”) 2nd cent. BCE (Louvre) (right)



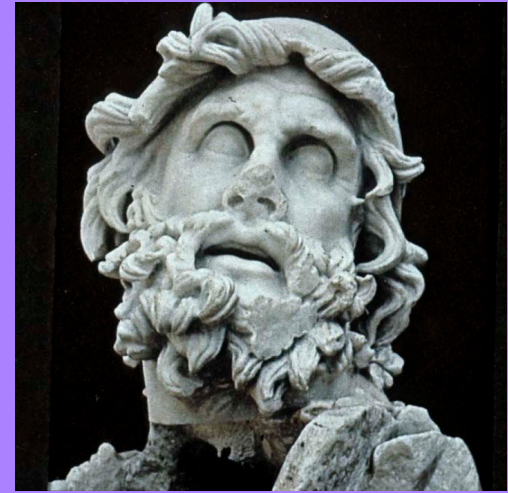


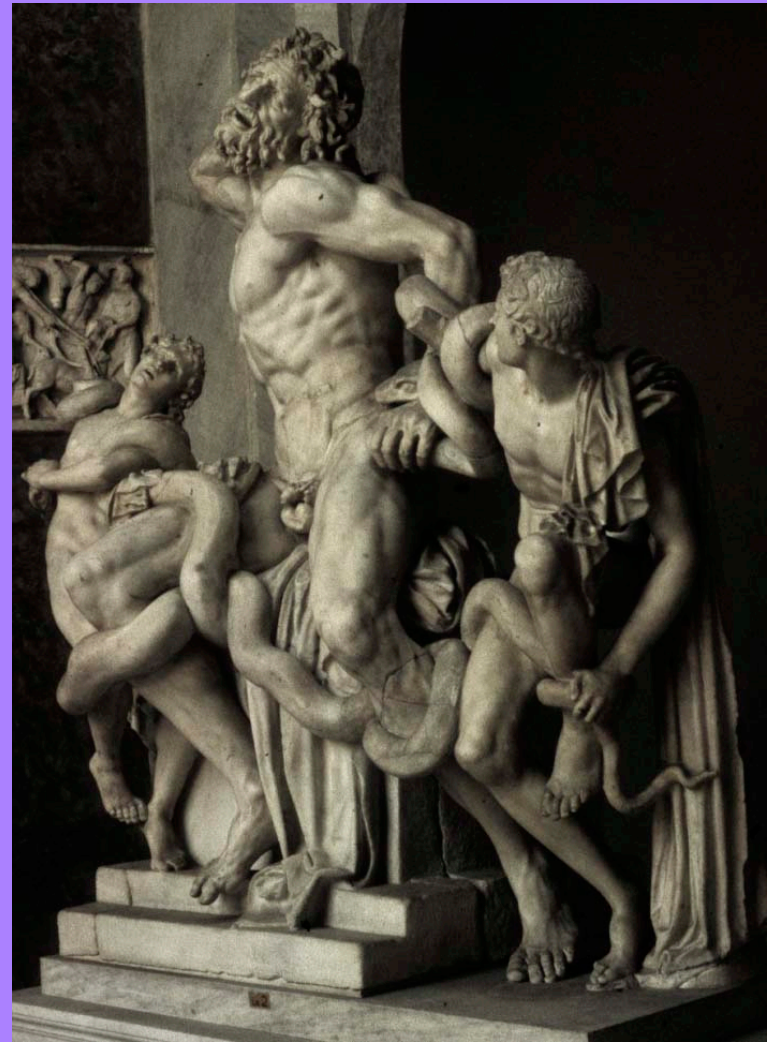
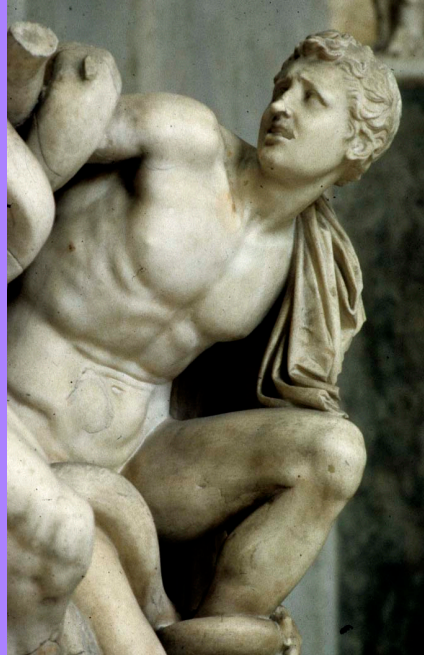
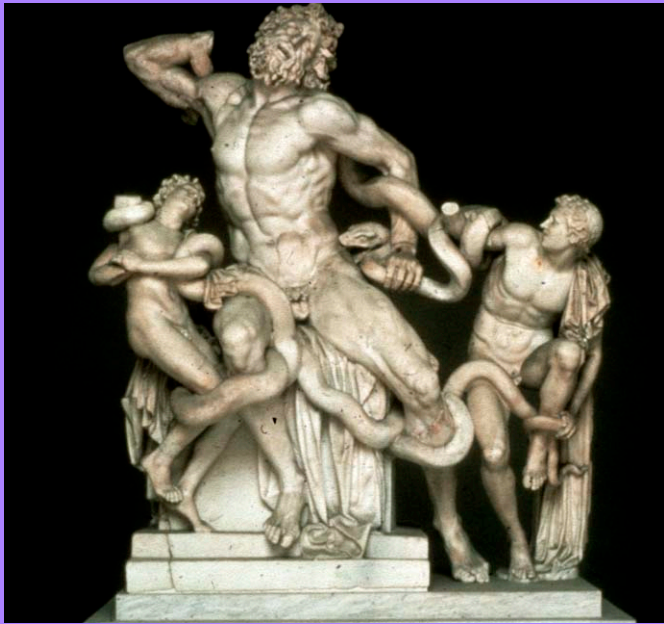
Sleeping Satyr (“Barbarini Faun”)
220 BCE (Munich) (above)

Dionysian figure seated on a
panther skin (“Belvedere Torso”)
ca 200 BCE (Roman copy) (Rome)

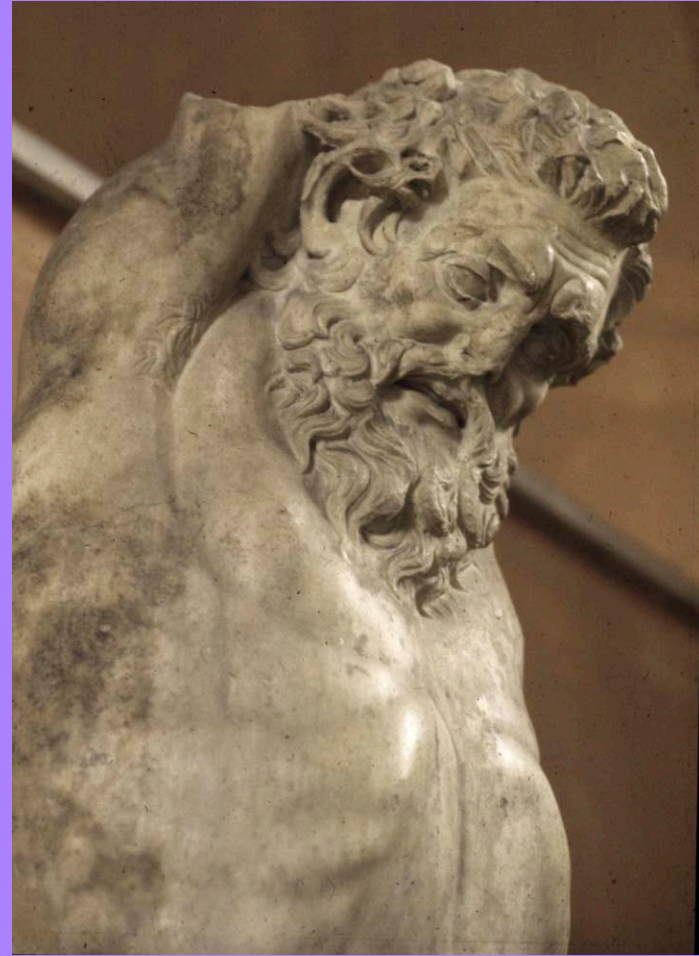
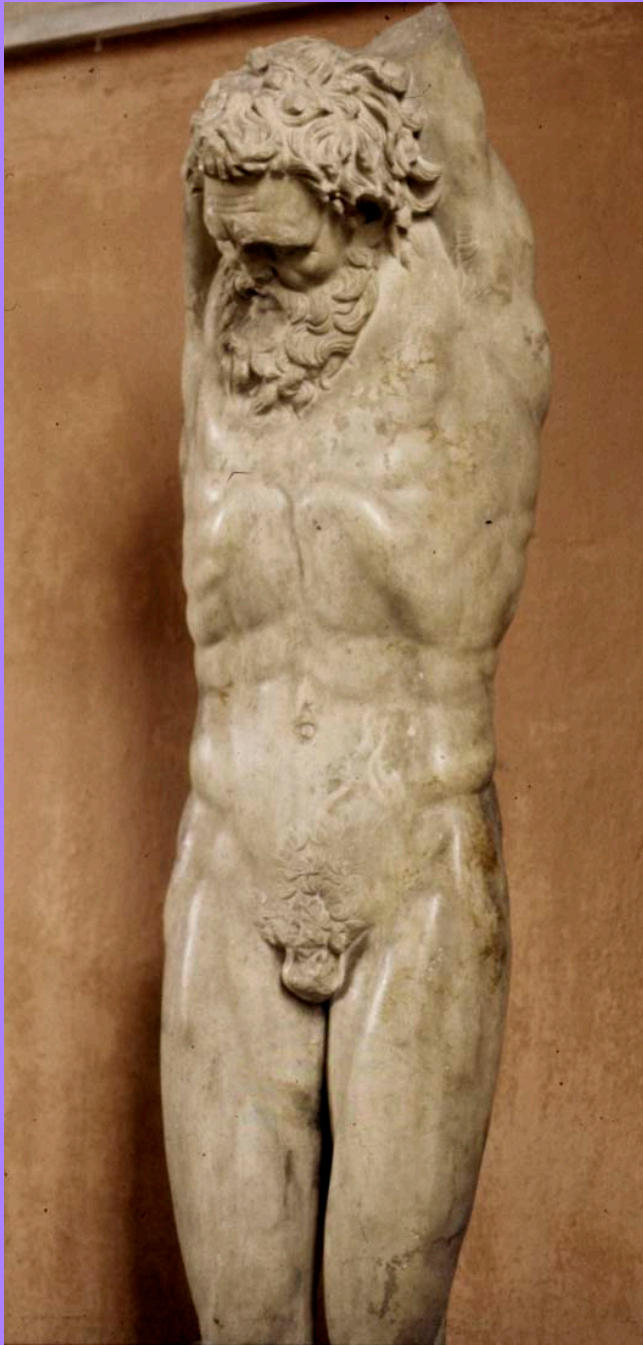


Blinding of the Cyclops (from Sperlonga, Italy)
2nd cent. BCE (head of Odysseus, right)





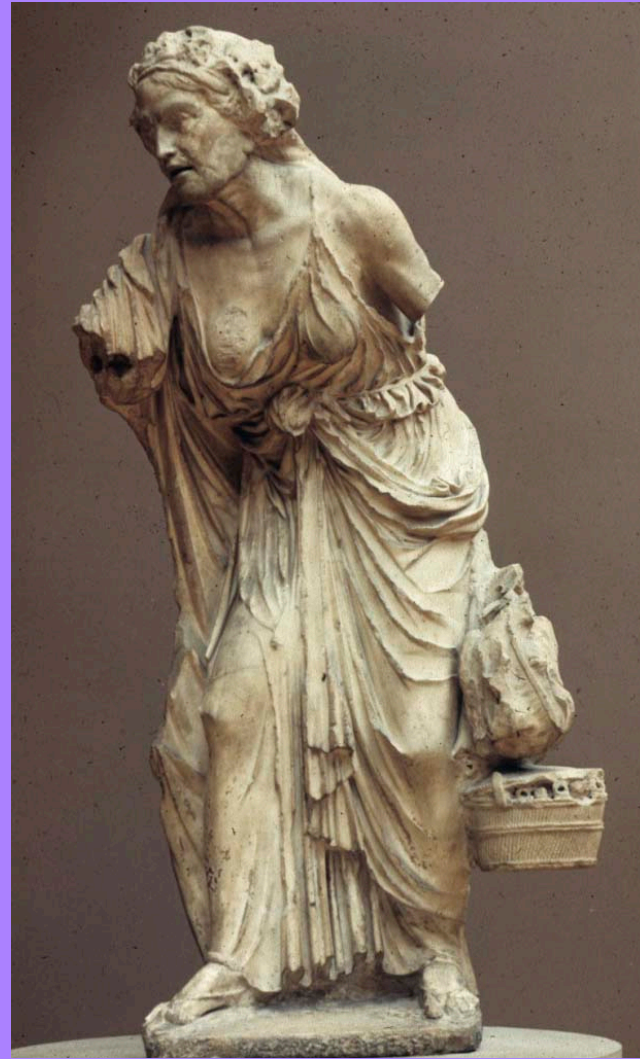
Laocoon and his sons crushed by Snakes from the sea ca 50 BCE (Roman copy) (Vatican Museum)



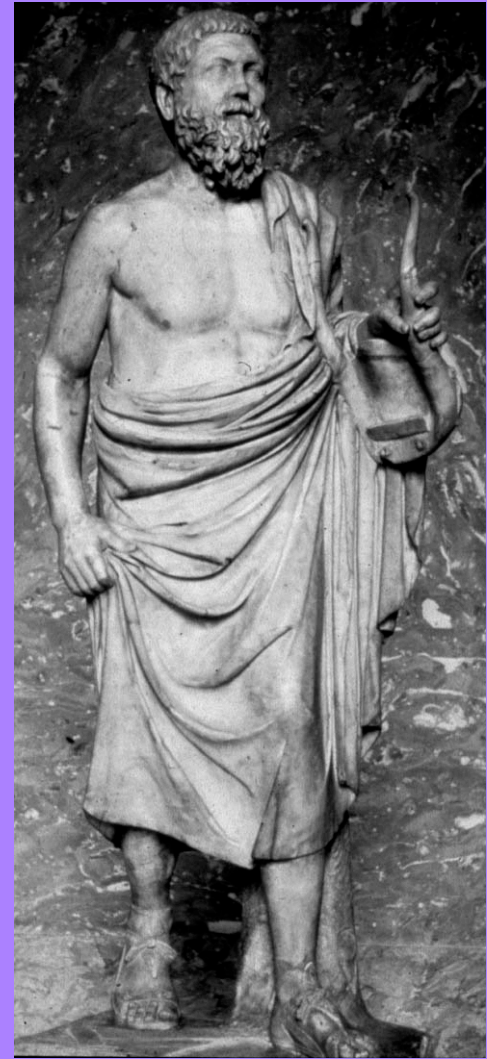
Satyr, Marsyas, punished for boasting that he was a better musician than Apollo. 250-200 BCE (Istanbul Mus)



Old Fisherman
200 BCE (Roman copy)
(Rome)



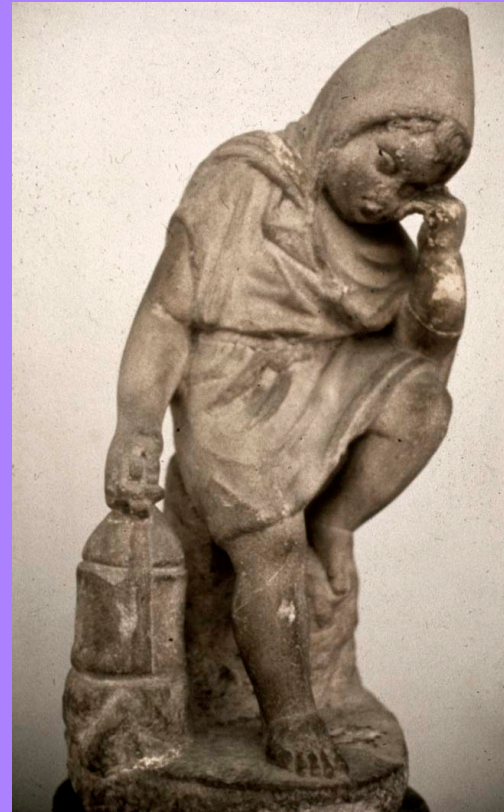
Old Fisherwoman
2nd cent. BCE (Roman
copy) (New York)



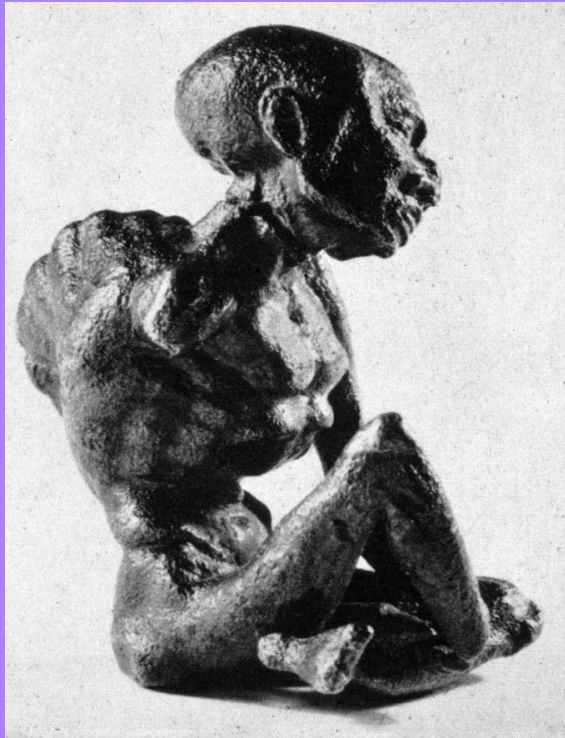
Greek Lyric Poet
(Louvre)



Lysippos Bronze Boxer
3rd-2nd cent. BCE (Rome)

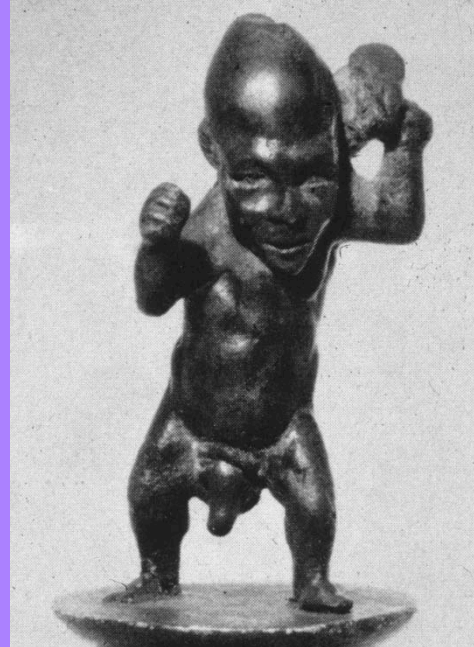


Sleeping Slave Boy
(Rome)

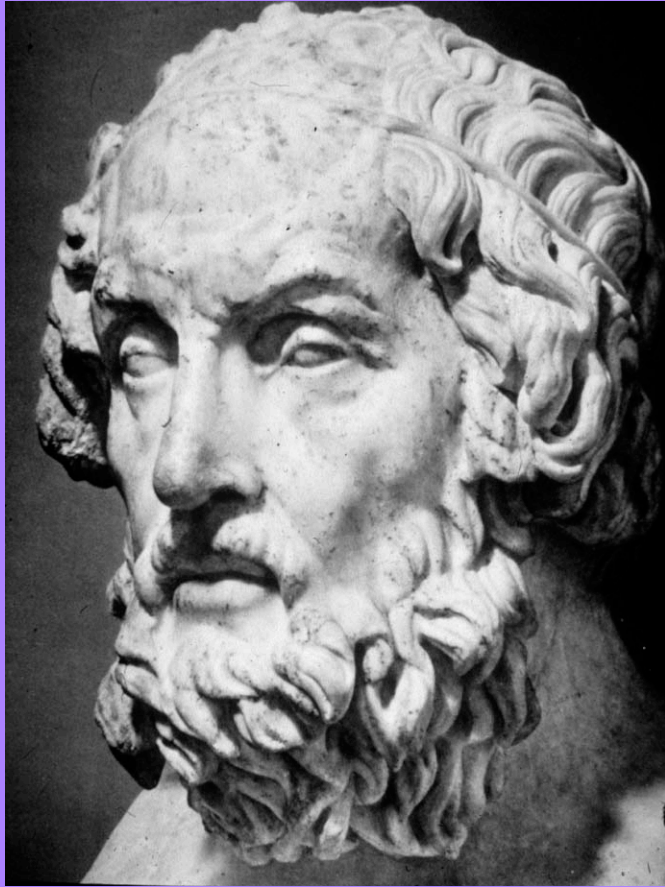


Hunchback ca 250 BCE
Hamburg (left)

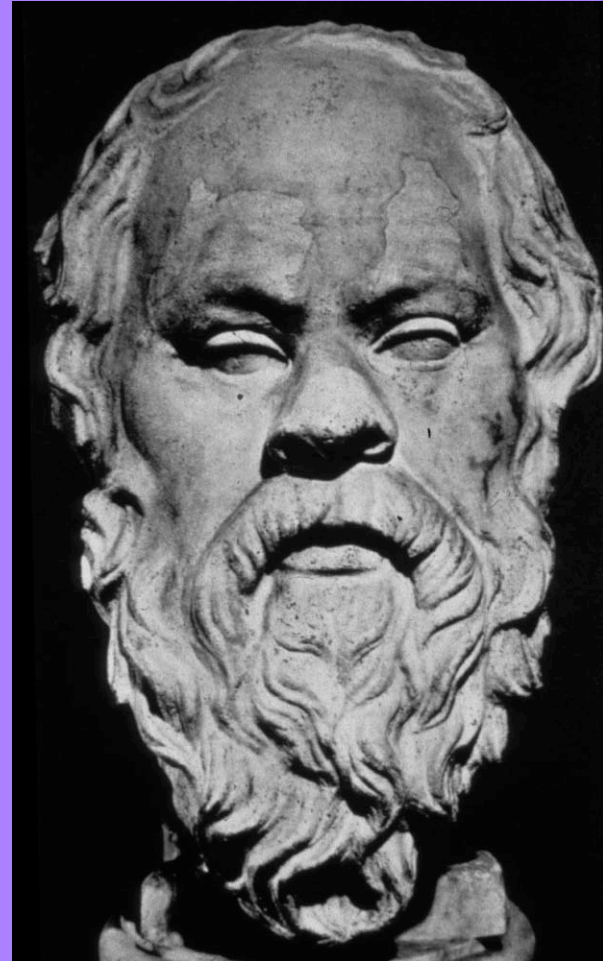
Dwarf carrying a vase,
perhaps 1st cent. BCE,
Alexandria (center)



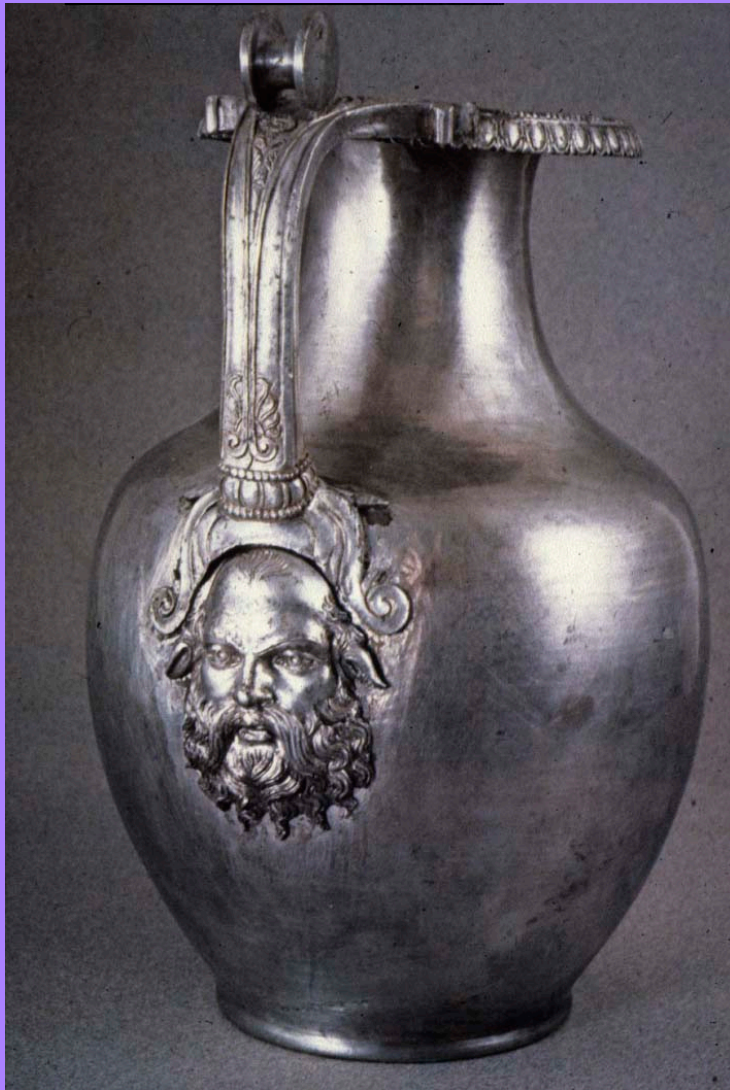
Hunchback 3rd cent. BCE
from Asia (Berlin Mus)



Portrait of Homer ca 200 BCE
(Louvre)

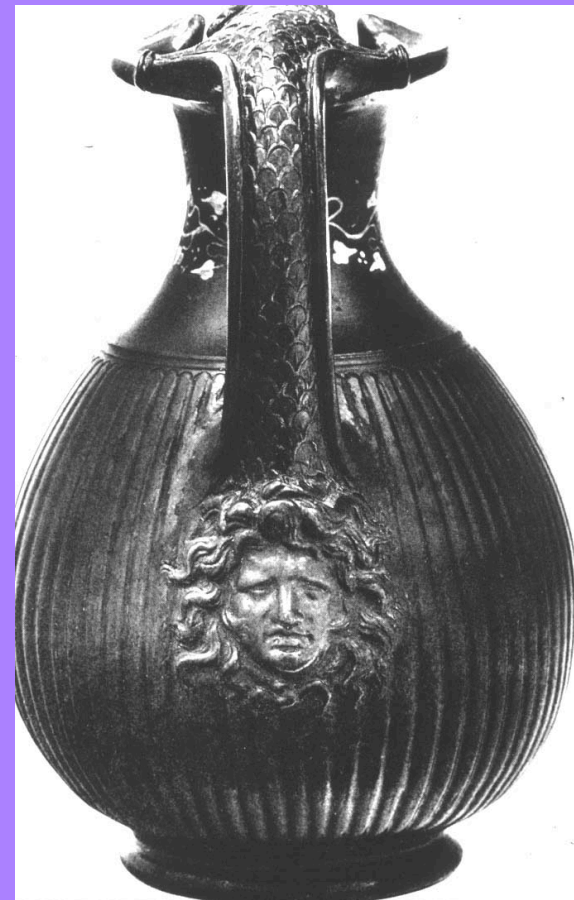


Lysippos c. 350 Portrait of
Socrates (Rome)



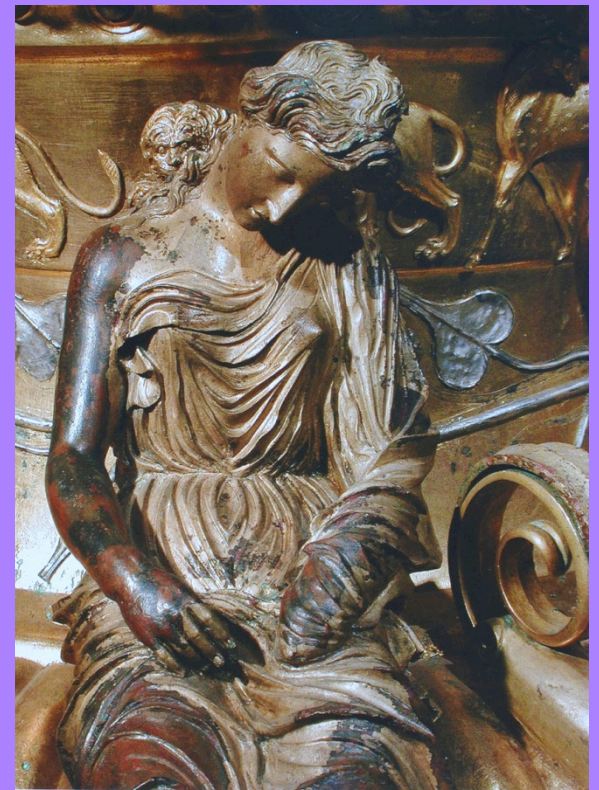
Silver Oinochoe (Wine Pitcher)
350-325 BCE Macedonian
(Thessalonike Mus)

Silver Oinochoe ca 200
BCE (from Gnathia)





“Dherveni Krater” 2nd-3rd cent.
BCE (Thessaloniki Mus)

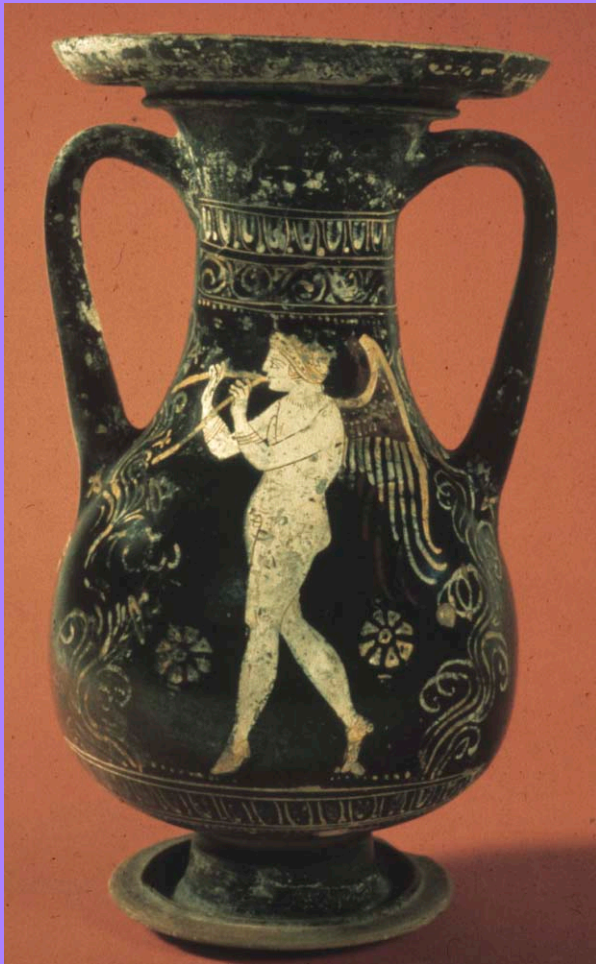




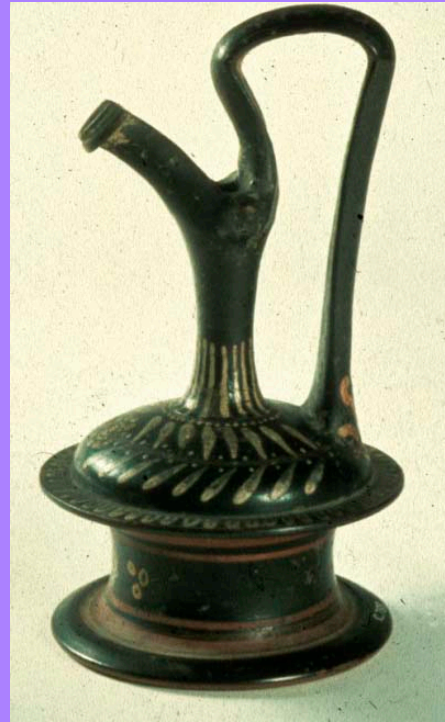
Above: Attic Red Figure Kalyx Krater ca 330 BCE (Athens)

Below: 2 sides of an Attic Leges Gamikos ca 320 BCE





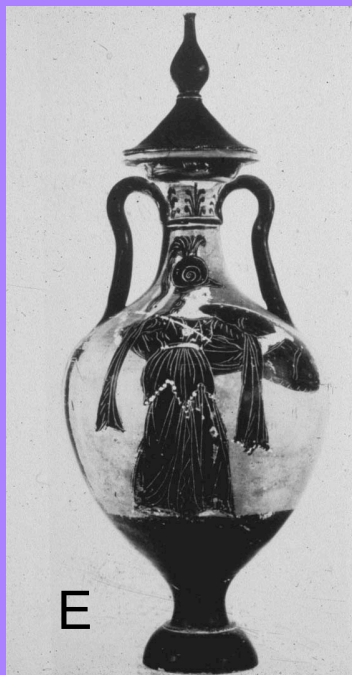
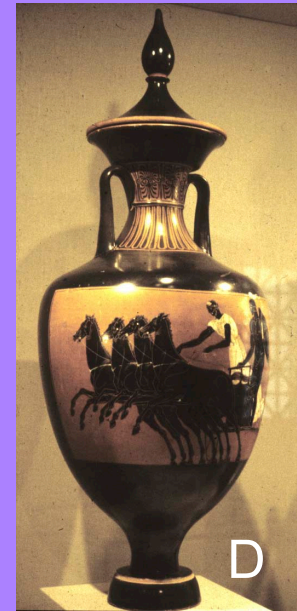
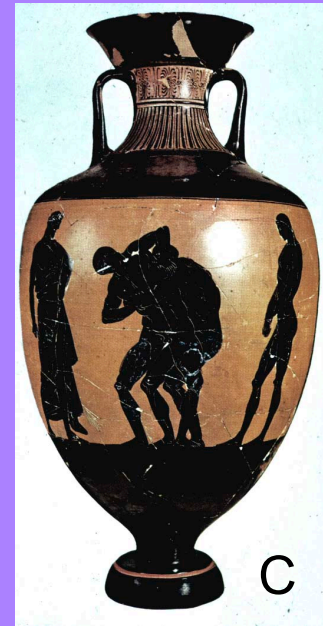
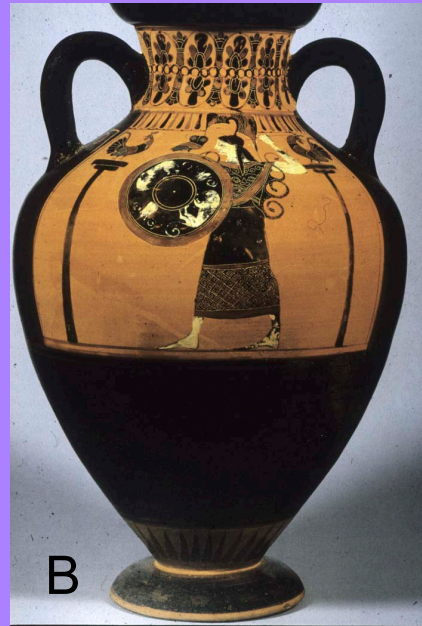
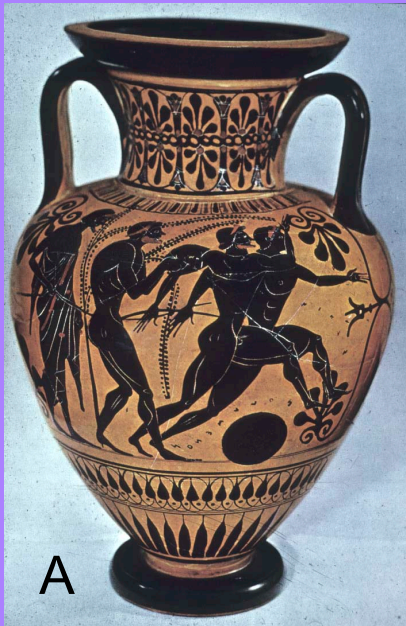
Pelike from Gnathia, So. Italy
4th cent BCE (Ontario Mus)
(left above)



“Epichysis” from Gnathia,
So. Italy 350-320 (center)
(Toronto)

Silver “kantharos” from
Macedon 350-325 BCE
(Thessaloniki) (below)





Evolution of the shape of the Panathenaic Amphora

A-B 6th century
C: 363-359 BCE
D: 340-339 BCE
E: 2nd cent BCE