

Greek Art Notes

1. Golden Statue of Athena vs. Marble Statue of Athena

- Brought up that Golden statue seemed to have an Eastern influence compared to the Marble version. However, this statue was built in recent times (not in Ancient Greece like the marble statue) and is housed in a museum in America

- The golden statue is wooden framework with ivory. It is painted, possibly made with gold and other precious metals.
- The question that was raised was, "What kinds of influence did other cultures have on Greek sculpture and art?"

2. East Frieze

39 & 40 – Men talking, women looking the other way. Why so?

-Why can be translated as human characteristics, these figures are in fact gods.

2-17- Only place that women are shown is East Frieze.

- Not only is it a procession to sacrifice to the gods, but also to the heroes of Athens.

20. -Notice the humans are always standing, gods always sitting.

- Gods and goddesses interact differently than Greek men and women
- Gods were created much bigger in stature.

3. Southern Frieze

-Procession of horsemen. Significance of dress? Ranking or social status. Each group has unique dress, some with armor, and some with "weird" hats. Different tribes have different dress?

-Citizens of Athens supplied their own armor, horses, and weapons. The richer one was, the more armor they had.

4. Northern Frieze

119 – This piece is in Baxter Hall's main lobby. Why? This image was of the Greek and Trojan War. All pieces close to this one look quite similar, however they are not faded and are well in tact.

4. VMR – Ideal men vs. ideal women

- How are women portrayed differently back then compared to now? Are men the same way?
- Men are stud species. Females function to make babies.
- Big hips were attractive, plus a little chubbiness, because healthier babies would be bred.

5. Dionysus Reclining compared to Dorophorus

- Dionysus is relaxed in this world, while Dorophorus was rigid.
- No emotion in the face, however both seemed relaxed.
- Supposed to be perfection in the human body, with correct proportions and chiseled muscles.
- Interesting point: Dionysus is the only one on Parthenon that's facing away from the center.

6. Temples

- Impractical. However, Parthenon was a treasury.
- Were not city centers, most of them located outside of town.
- Wanted the temples to be seen, so most were built on hills.
- Purpose was two things: Religion and showing off.
- Used optical illusions to make buildings look as impressive as possible.