



Ancient Greek art: an overview.

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[μίμησις] *mimesis*

Lecture 6

Mimesis:

nature as aesthetic ideal.

Course structure

1. *Techne*: what is 'Greek' about Greek art? (6/3)

Section 1: Early Greece, ca. 1200-480 BCE

1. ***Sema*: commemorating the dead in Early Greece. (Dr Harokopos)**
2. ***Anathema*: gifts to the gods in Greek sanctuaries. (Dr Harokopos)**
3. ***Kerameus*: the art of Greek pottery. (Dr Harokopos)**
4. *Agalma*: pleasing immortals and mortals alike. (3/4)

Section 2: Classical Greece, ca. 480-336 BCE

1. *Mimesis*: nature as aesthetic ideal. (10/4)
2. *Skiagraphia*: painting with shadows. (8/5)
3. *Hieron*: visiting a Greek sanctuary. (15/5)

Section 2: Art in the Hellenistic World, ca. 336-30 BCE

1. *Pathos*: sculpture in the Hellenistic period. (22/5)
2. *Eikon*: immortalising the mortals. (29/5)

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Greek art chronological art:

- **Bronze Age (3200-1100 BCE)**
- **Submycenaean (1100-1050 BCE)**
- **Protogeometric period (1050-900 BCE)**
- **Geometric period (900-700 BCE)**
- **Archaic period (700-480 BCE)**
- **Classical period (480-336 BCE)**
- **Hellenistic period (336-31 BCE)**

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- Archaic period (700-480 BCE)
- **Classical period (480-336 BCE)**
- Hellenistic period (336-31 BCE)



***Classicus* (Latin): a rare privilege that only the upper classes could afford**

Classical period (480-336 BCE):

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- **city-state socio-politics**

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- **city-state socio-politics**
- **democracy at large**
- **middle classes to the fore**
- **intellectual peak**

5th c. BCE:

- **‘Golden Age’**
- **Removal of the Persian threat in 480 BCE**
- **End of the Peloponnesian War in 404**



AVRATON DV FENELOS D'APOLLON

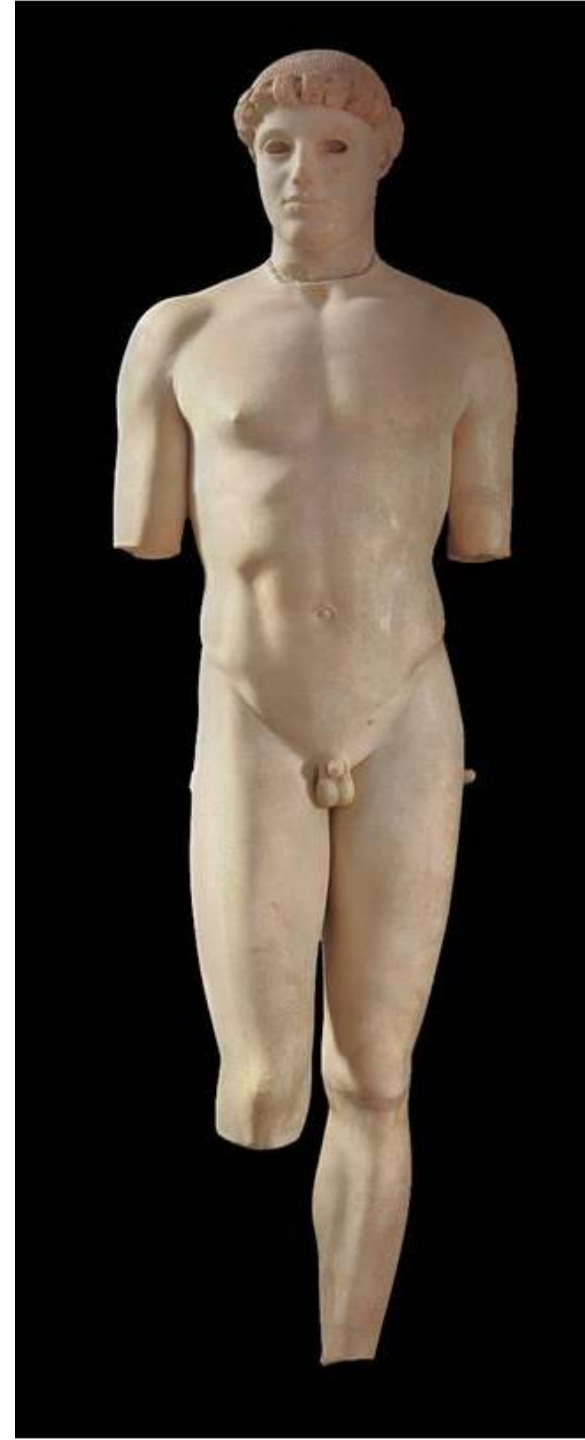


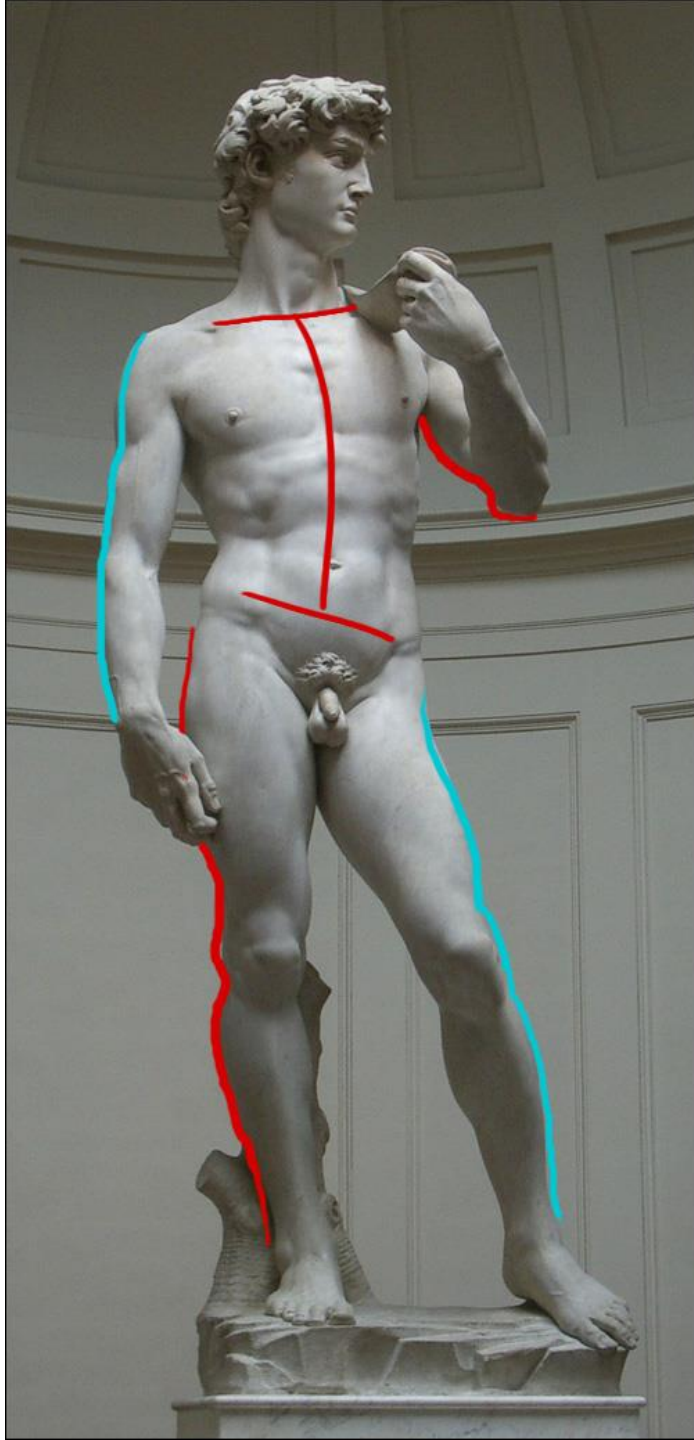




‘Severe style’:

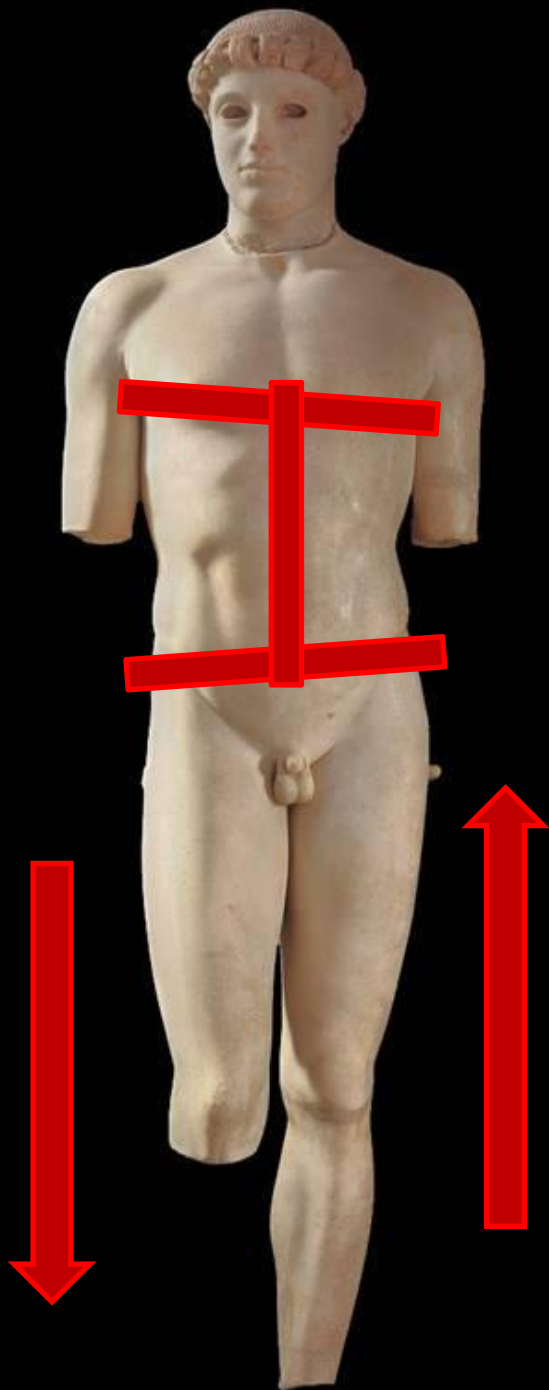
- **480-450 BCE**
- **lack of the archaic smile**
- **Introspection**
- **Musculature**
- **natural pose**

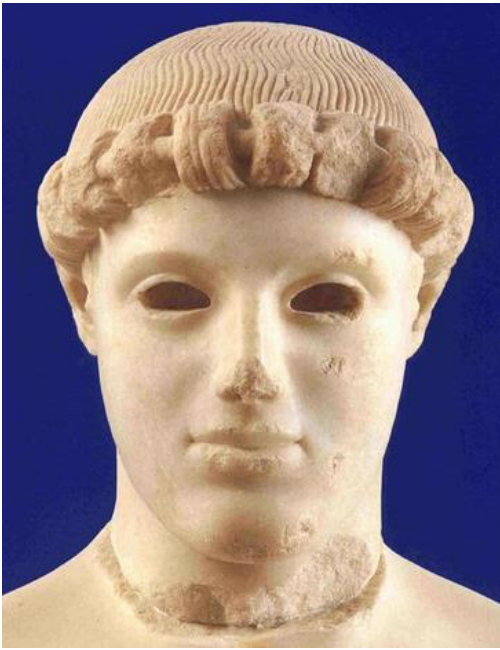




The Kritian boy.
c. 480 BCE







The Kritian boy.
c. 480 BCE





stylisation
naturalness

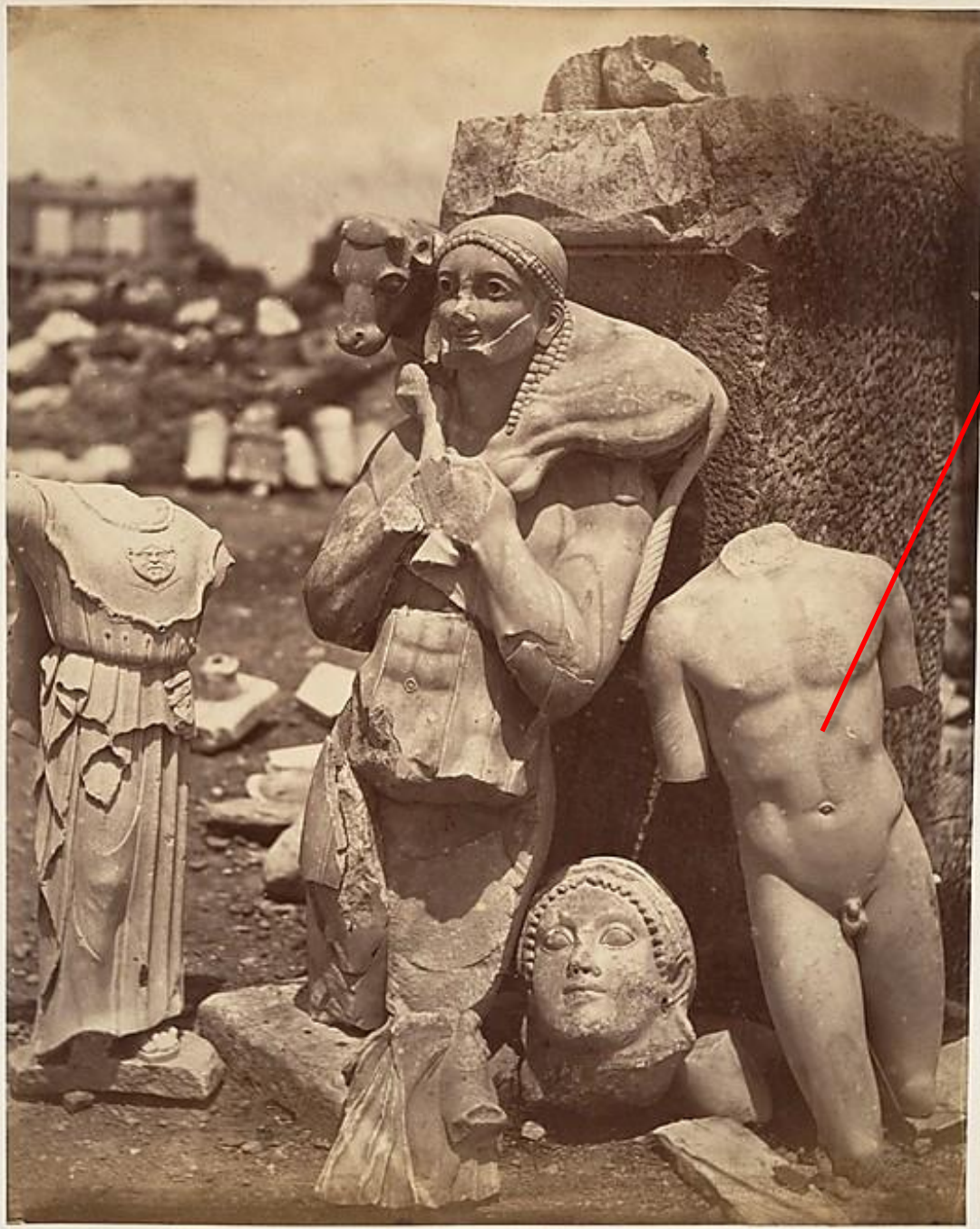
frontality
movement

symmetry
counterpose

ornamentality
introspection

symbolism
representation





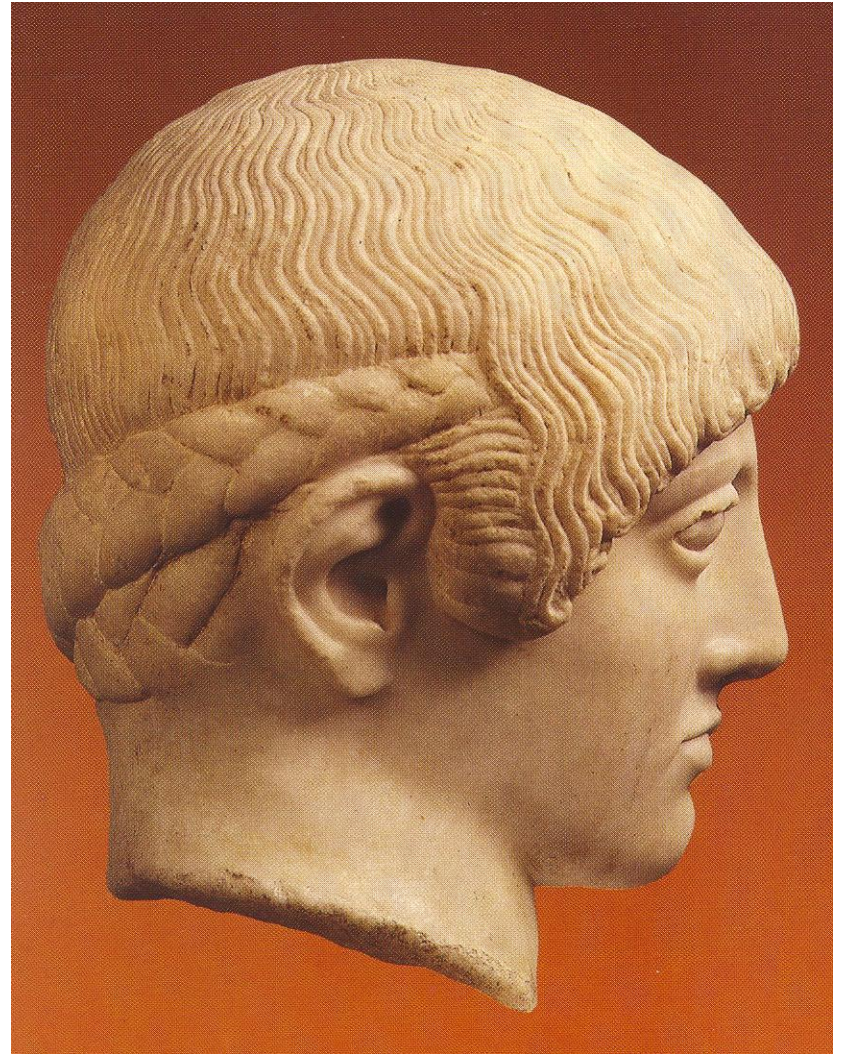
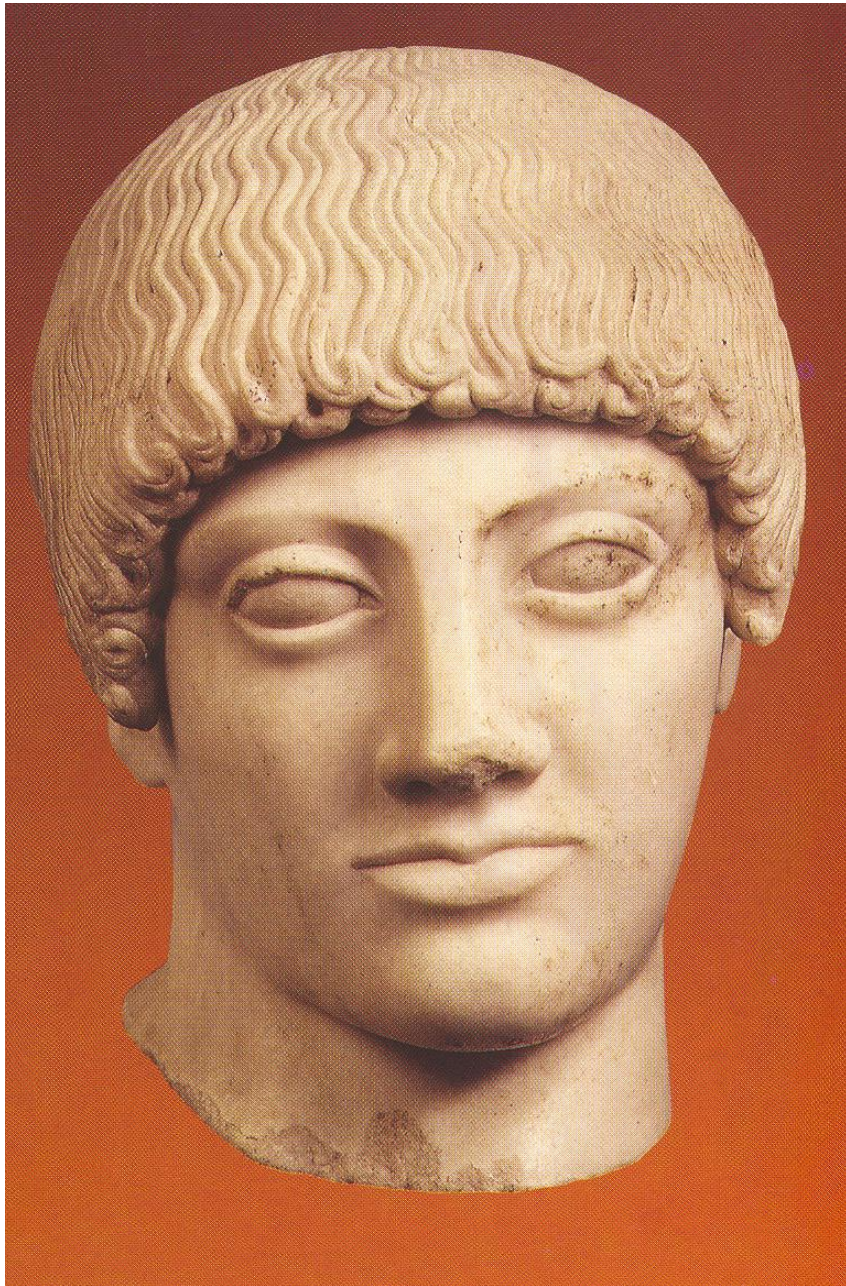


Aristogeiton

Harmodios

The Tyrannicides

c. 477 BCE



The 'blond youth'.

c. 490-480 BCE

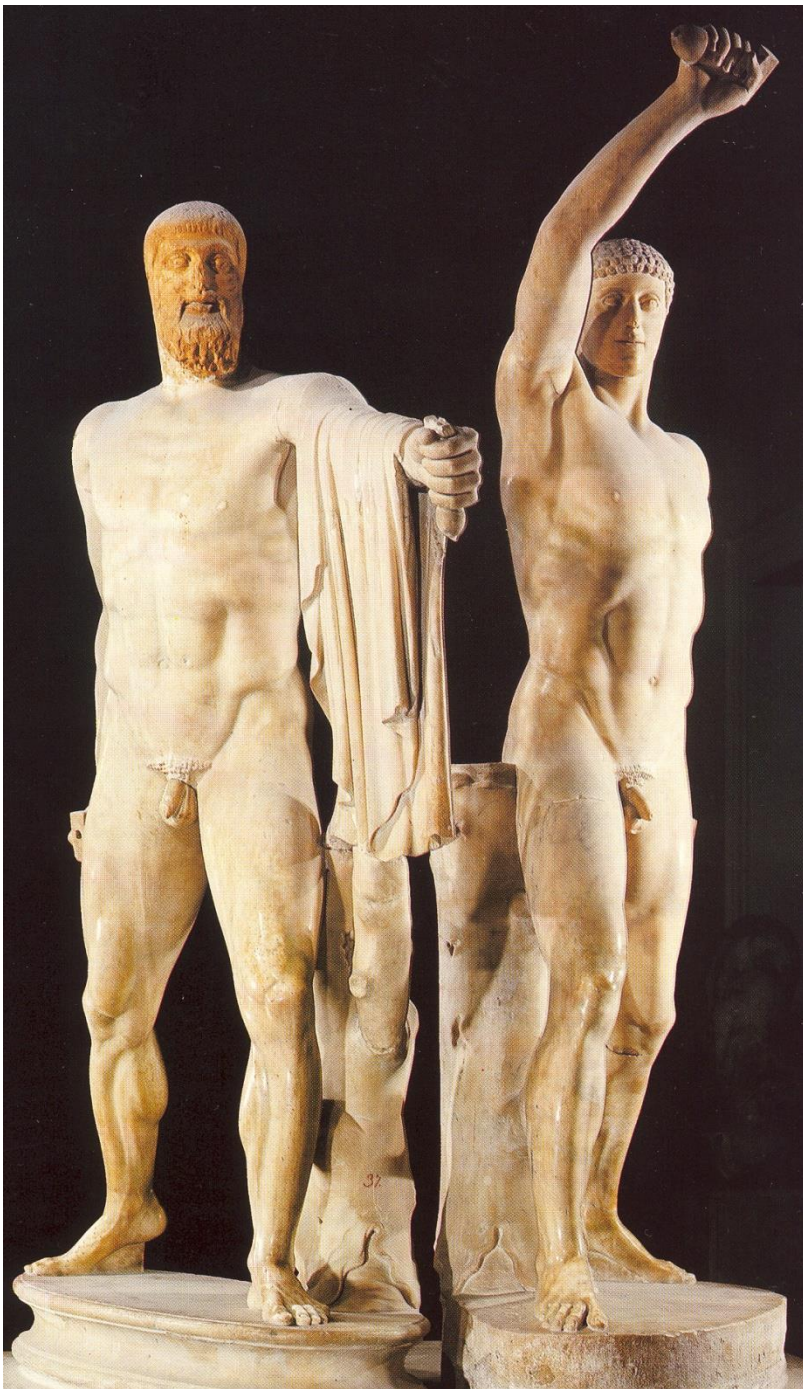


The 'blond youth' (reconstruction).

c. 490-480 BCE

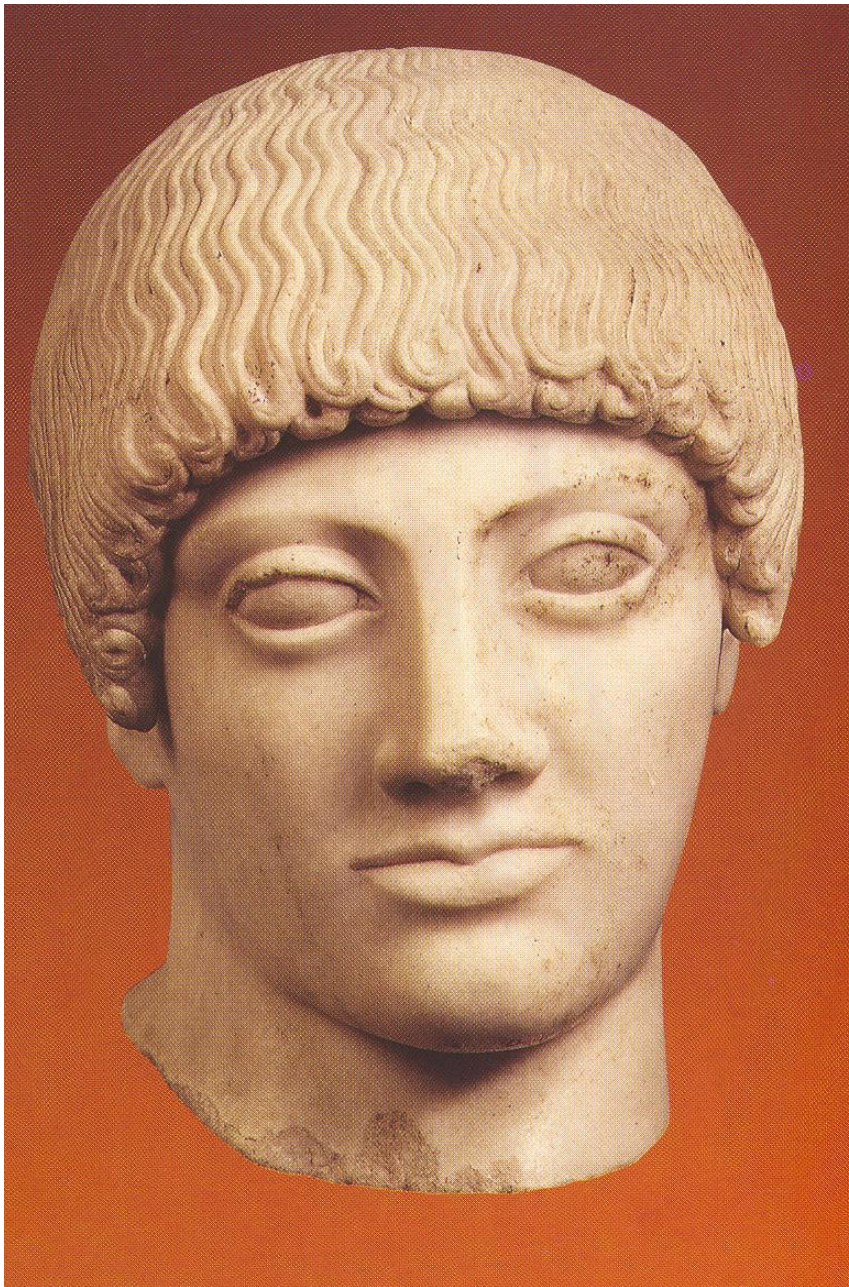
The Kritian boy.
c. 480 BCE





The Tyrannicides

c. 477 BCE





The 'mourning Athena'.

c. 470 BCE



**Roman copy of a female statue
of c. 470 BCE**



**Bronze figurine.
c. 460 BCE**



470-450 BCE





**Red-figure cup depicting a foundry.
c. 490 BCE**

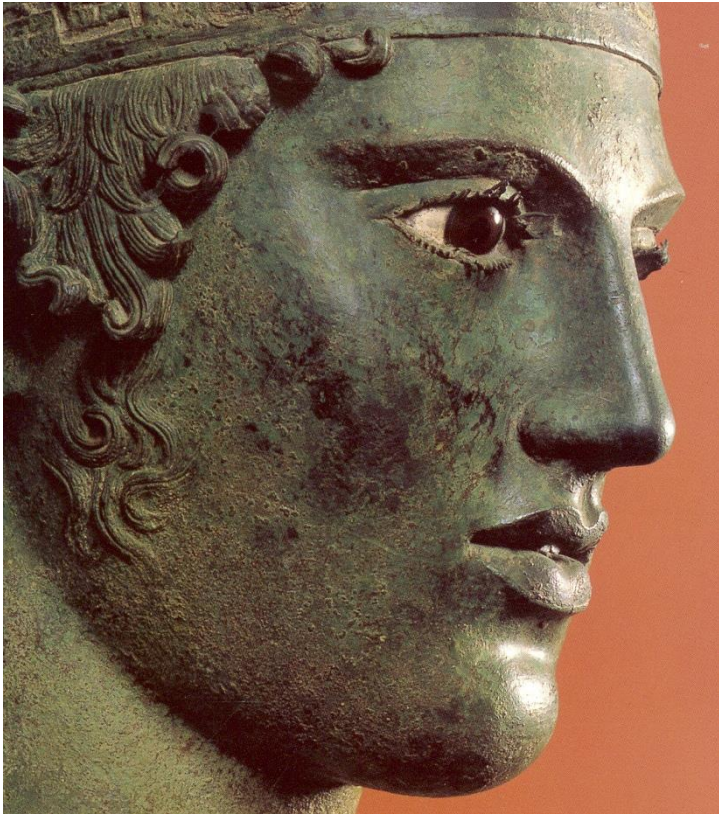


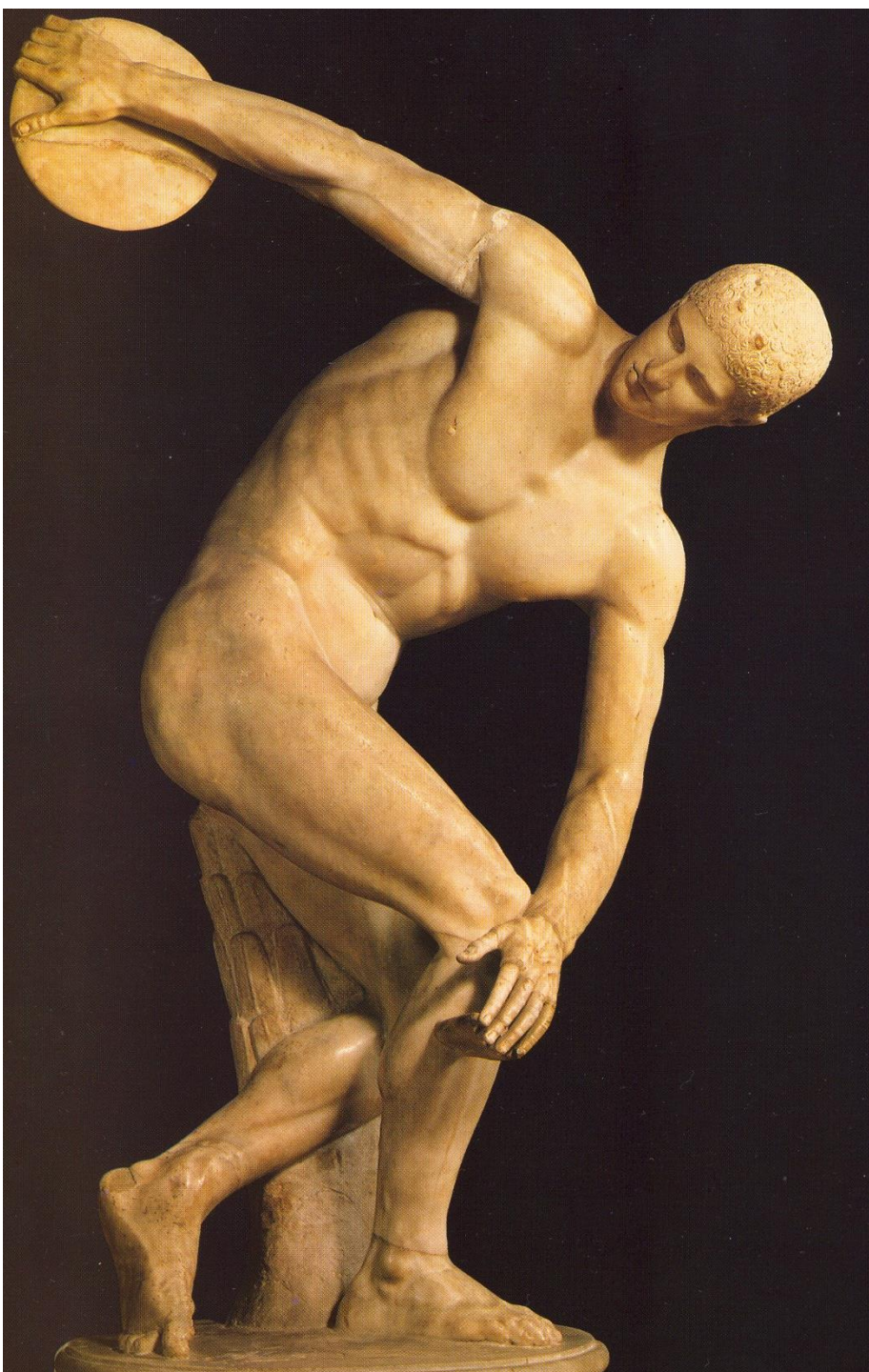
**Artemision Zeus.
c. 460-450 BCE**



Delphi Charioteer.
c. 478-474 BCE





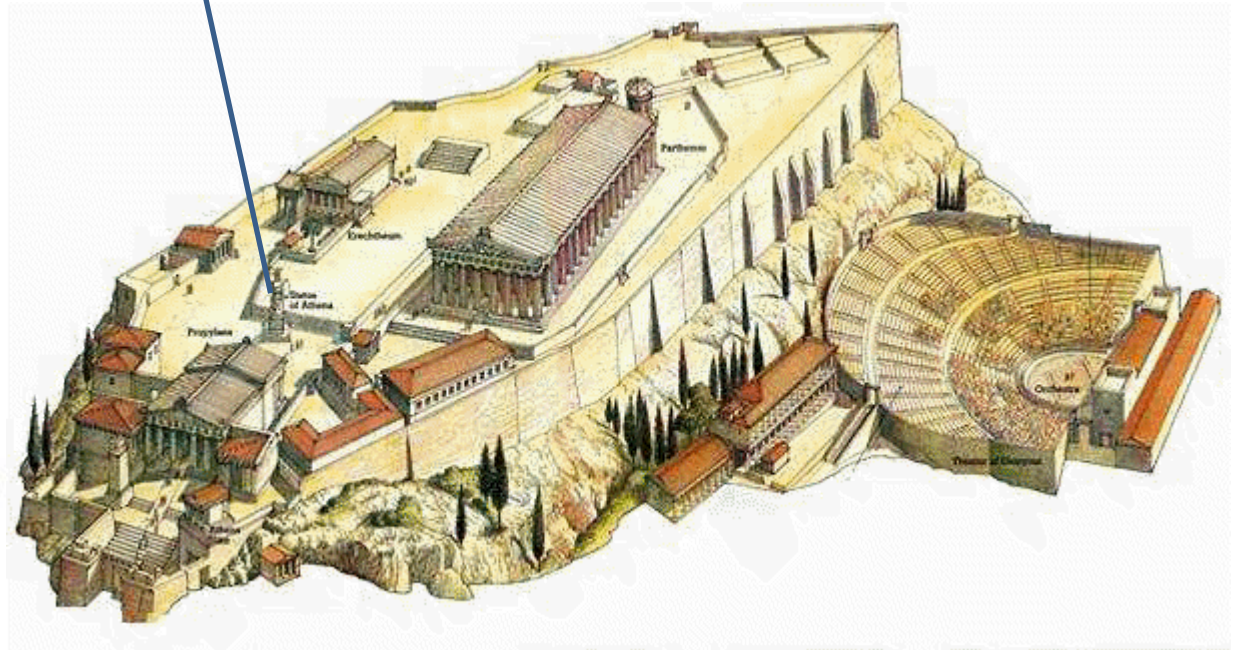


**The 'Discus-thrower'.
Roman copy of a 450 BCE original.**



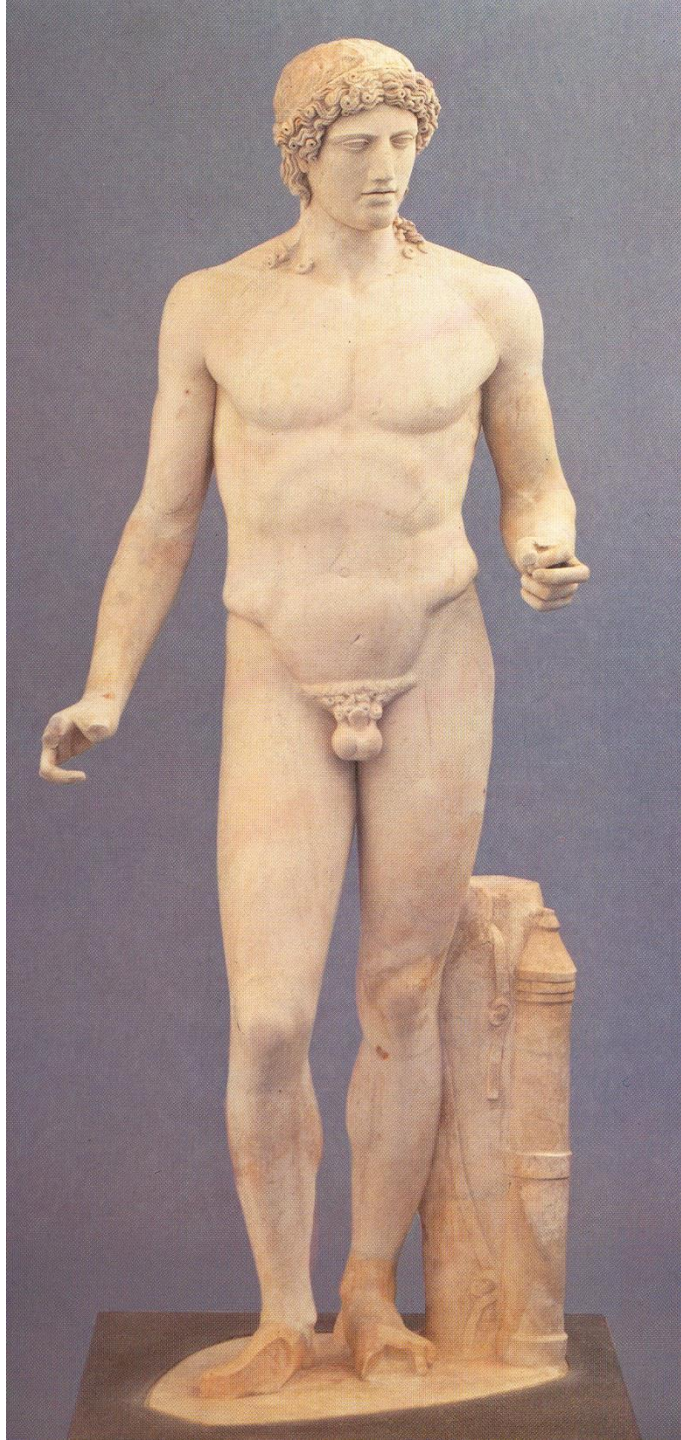


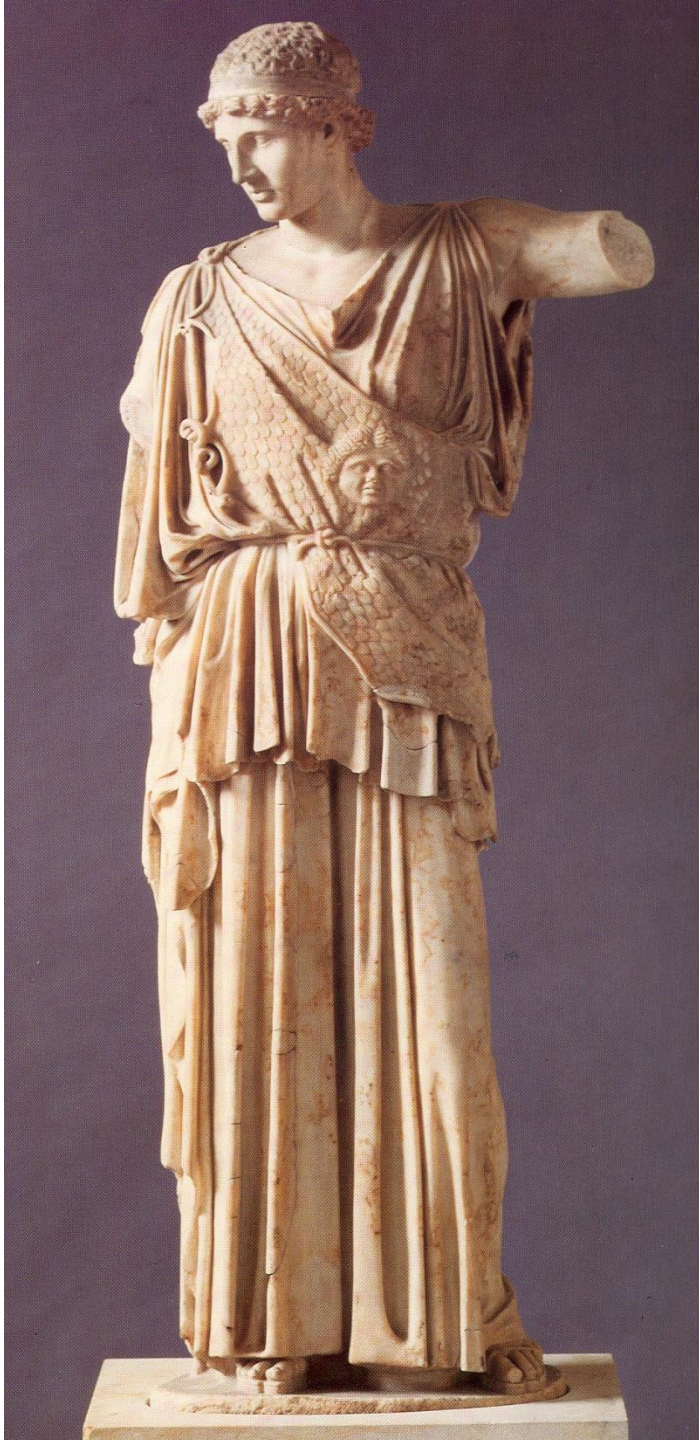
**Athena Promachos by Phidias,
465-456 BCE.**





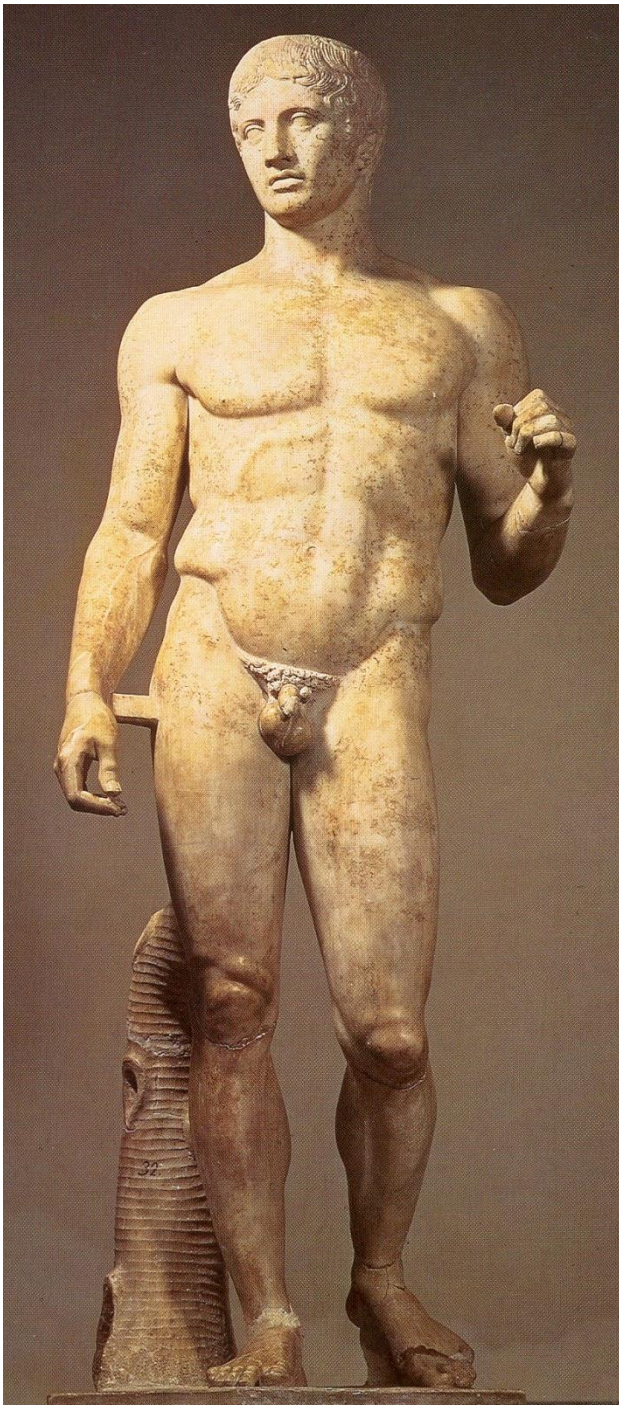
Apollo Parnopios.
Roman copy of a 450 BCE original.





**Athena Lemnia.
Roman copy of a 440 BCE original.**

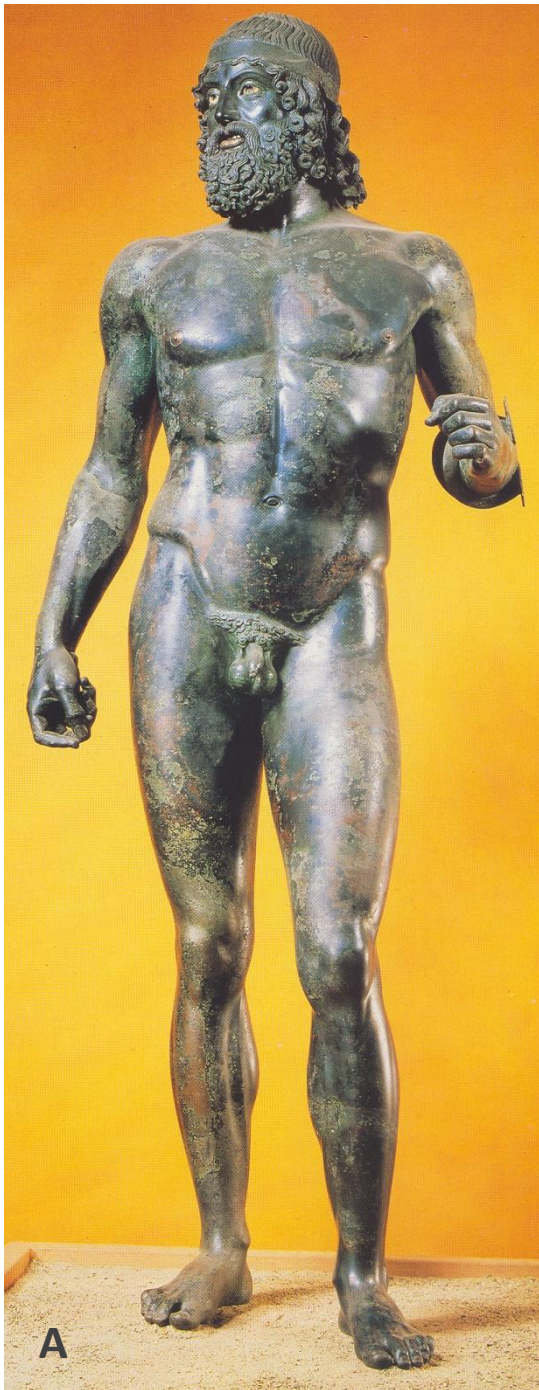




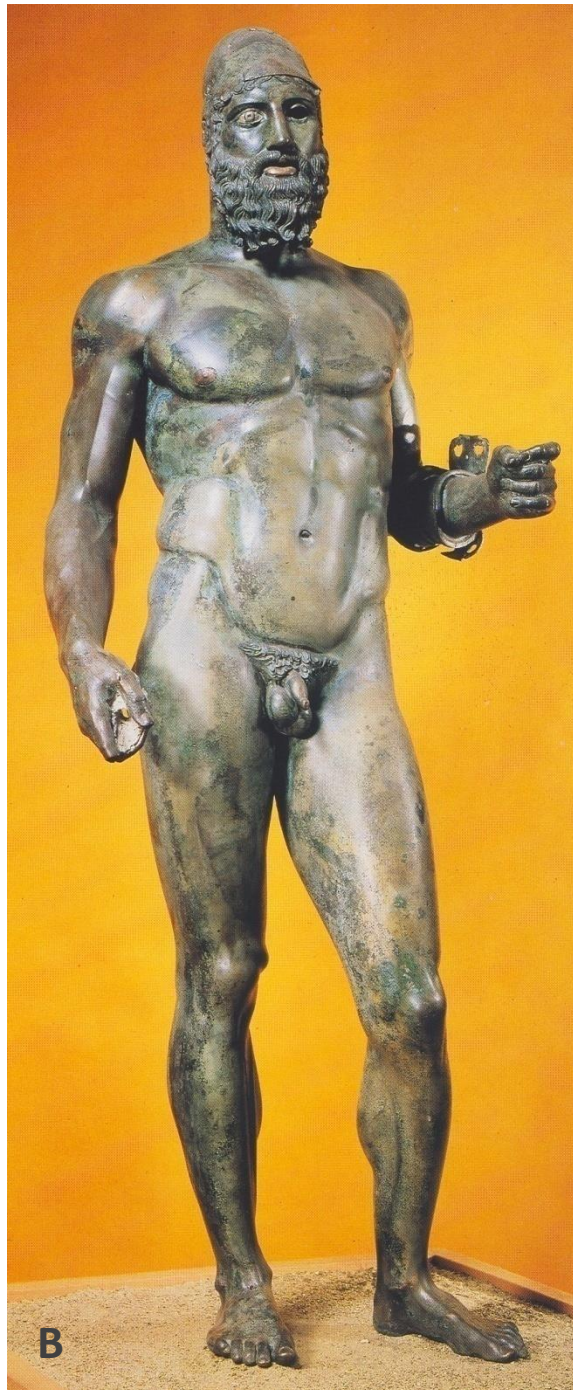
Doryphoros.
Roman copy of a 440 BCE original.



**Diadoumenos.
Hellenistic copy of a 430 BCE original.**

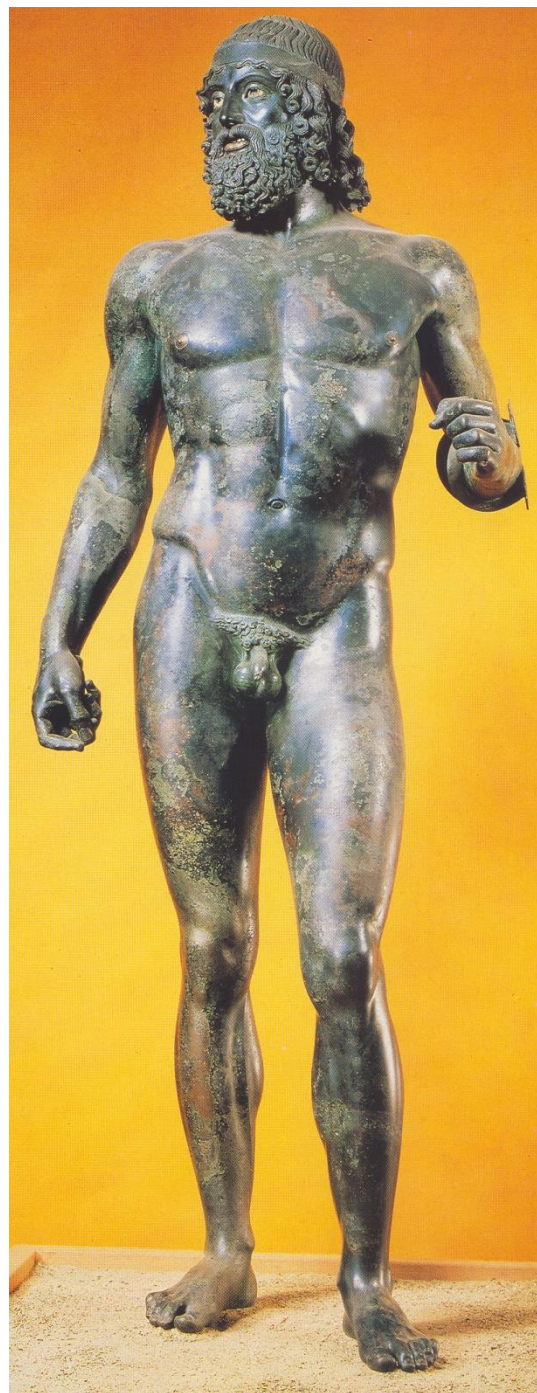


A

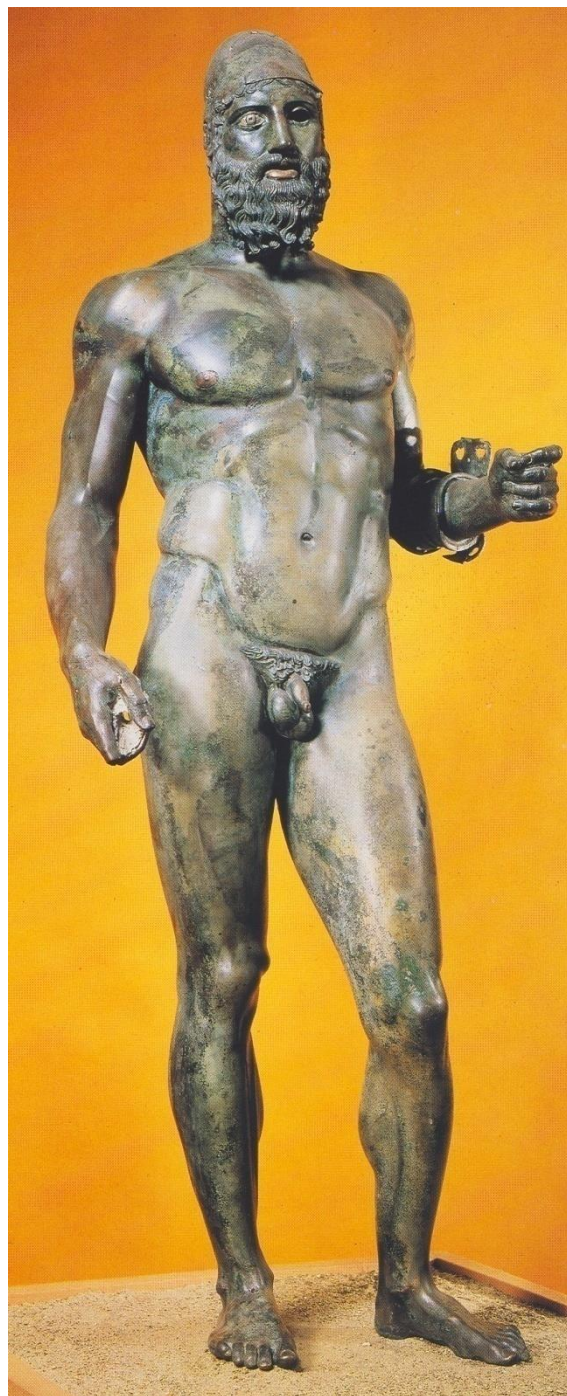


B

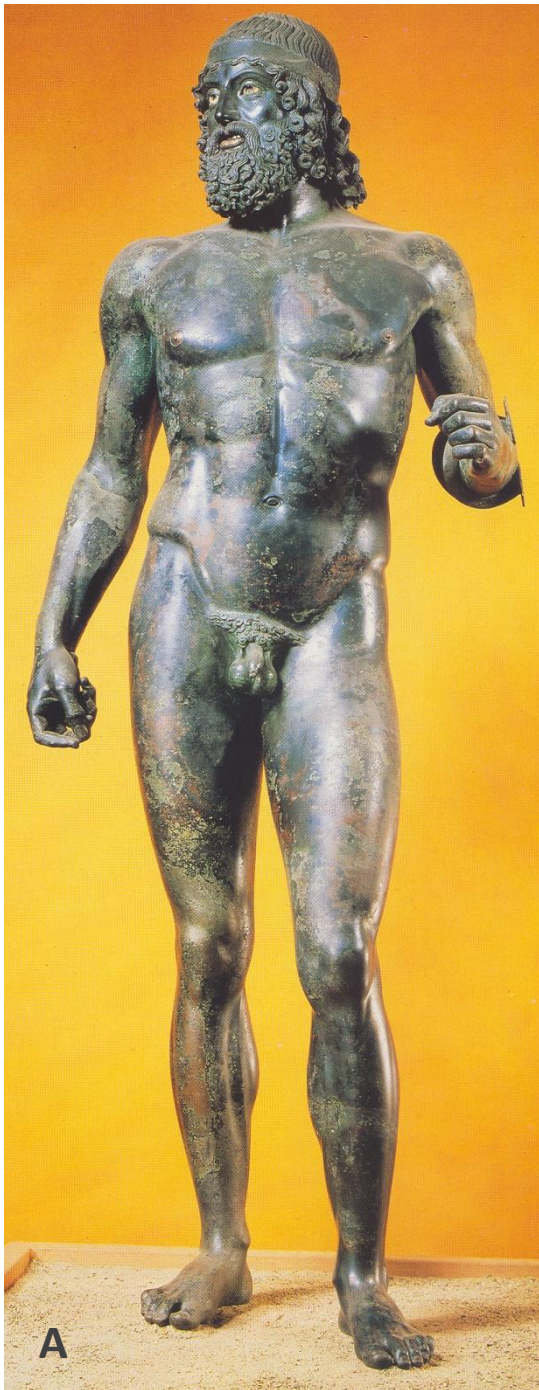
The Riace Warriors.



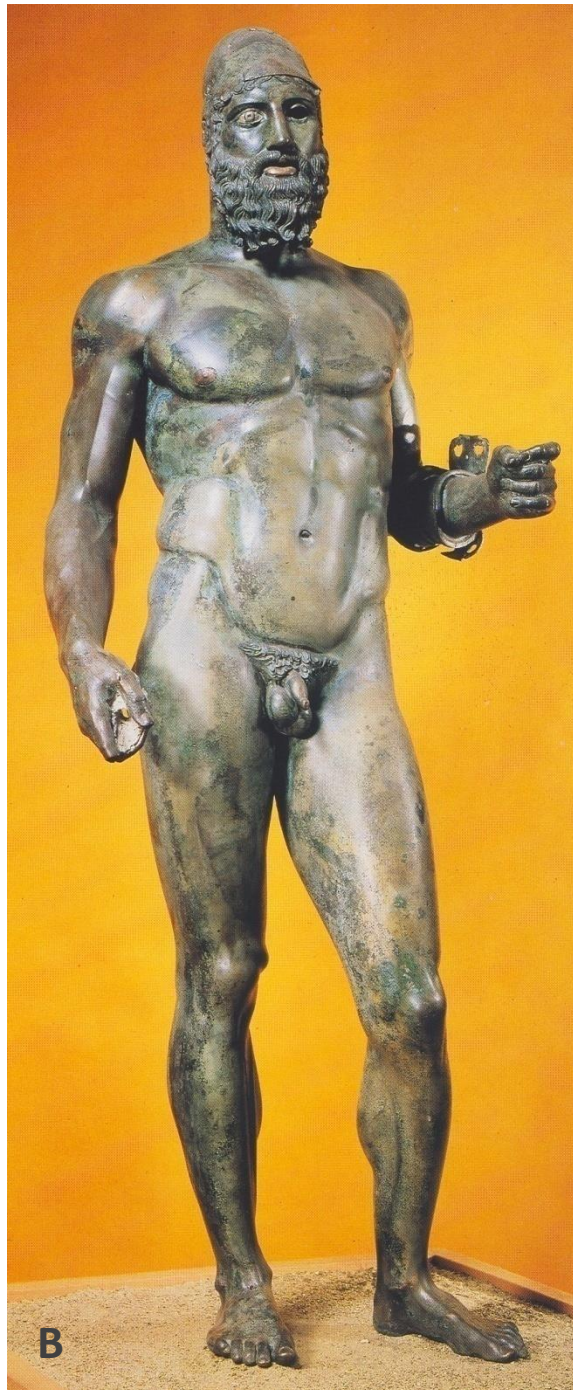
c. 450 BCE



c. 430 BCE



A

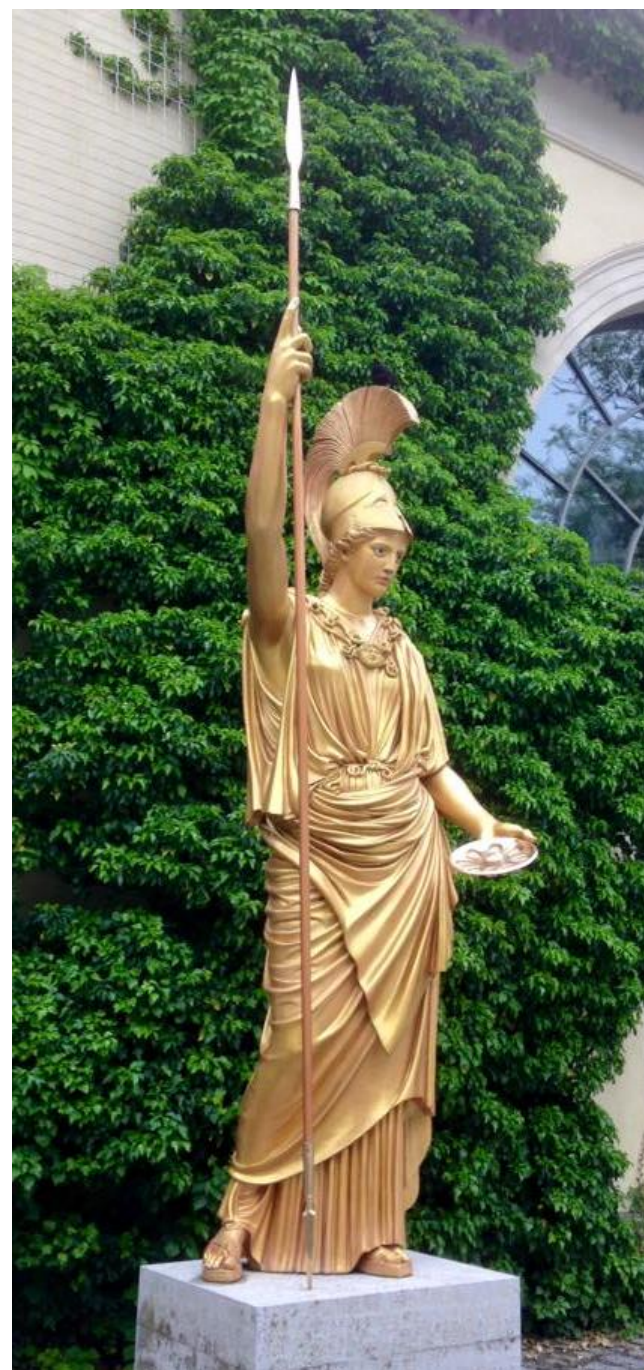


B

The Riace Warriors.



**Athena Veletri.
Roman copy of a 430 BCE original.**





The Messenians and the Nafpaktians dedicated this to Zeus at Olympia as a 1/10 share of the enemy (spoils).

Paionios from Mende made (me) who won [the competition] to make also the akroteria on the temple.

**Nike by Paionios.
c. 420 BCE.**

