

# Depiction of the female form; Pre-Greek

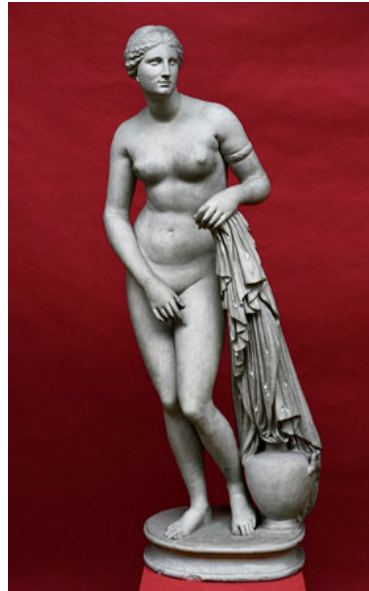


*Seated Statue of Hatshepsut. ca. 1479–1458 B.C. From Egypt, Upper Egypt, Thebes, Deir el-Bahri & el-Asasif, Senenmut Quarry, MMA excavations, 1926–28/Lepsius 1843–45.*

<http://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/544450>, 29.3.2

In the above statue, composed of indurated limestone and paint, clearly depicted we find a female figure prior to the innovations of the Ancient Greek society. The statue stands rigidly ifeless, void of emotion, motion, and nudity. It is a monument, but one that requires submission, not admonishes respect. The statue stands 76 3/4 inches tall, 19 5/16 inches wide, and 44 7/8 inches thick (Metmuseum).

# Depiction of the female form; Ancient Greek



Aphrodite of Knidos. Praxiteles. Mid C4 BCE. Lippold: Griechische Plastik, 239 (n.3), pl. 83.3 (for reconstruction)  
Walston: Catalogue of Casts in the Museum of Classical Archaeology (1889), 76, no.363  
Picard: Archéologie Grècque; Sculpture III (1948), 572, fig.236  
Furtwängler: Catalogue of the Munich Museum, 266-  
Reporter: 19 June 1885, 893, no.300  
<http://museum.classics.cam.ac.uk/collections/casts/aphrodite-knidos>

In the above statue, the ebb and flow of the Ancient Greek innovation is clearly apparent. Whereas previous depictions of women in art were rigid, prudish and unflattering, the Aphrodite of Knidos marked a movement toward idealized beautiful striking and proud female figures of perfected sexualization. This development would later captivate the Romans of antiquity and glorify the female form in art for millennia to come. The statue stands 59.8 inches tall, composed of marble (Museum).

# Depiction of the female form; Post-Greek



*The Three Graces. C. 2nd A.D. Imperial Roman. Roman copy of Greek statue C2nd B.C.  
Restorations by Nicolas Cordier (1609). Musée du Louvre, Paris.  
<http://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/544450>, Louvre Ma287.*

In the above statue the effects of the Ancient Greek influence on art are immediately apparent. The statue is flowing, natural, and free. The female figures are sexualized, beautified, and inviting. This is a complete change in direction from styles pre-dating the Ancient Greek innovations. The statue stands 46.8 inches tall, it is composed of carved Marble, and of the Hellenistic style (Theoi).

## References

- *Seated Statue of Hatshepsut. ca. 1479–1458 B.C. From Egypt, Upper Egypt, Thebes, Deir el-Bahri & el- Asasif, Senenmut Quarry, MMA excavations, 1926–28/Lepsius 1843–45.* <http://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/544450>. 29.3.2
- Aphrodite of Knidos. Praxiteles. Mid C4 BCE. Lippold: Griechische Plastik, 239 (n.3), pl. 83.3 (for reconstruction)  
Walston: Catalogue of Casts in the Museum of Classical Archaeology (1889), 76, no.363  
Picard: Archéologie Grècque; Sculpture III (1948), 572, fig.236  
Furtwängler: Catalogue of the Munich Museum, 266-  
Reporter: 19 June 1885, 893, no.300 <http://museum.classics.cam.ac.uk/collections/casts/aphrodite-knidos>
- *The Three Graces. C. 2nd A.D. Imperial Roman. Roman copy of Greek statue C2nd B.C. Restorations by Nicolas Cordier (1609). Musée du Louvre, Paris.* <http://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/544450>. Louvre Ma287.