

1. IDENTIFICATION: (Artist, title, date, size, country of origin, period/style)

029. SARCOPHAGUS OF THE SPOUSES

Etruscan

c. 520 BCE

2. FORM: (use of design elements/ principles: color, shape, value, texture, line, space; balance, contrast, emphasis, movement, etc.)

Relaxed reclining pose, animated face, created in parts so awkward transition

3. MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUE: (art making processes)

Terra cotta

4. CONTENT: (subject & genre: iconography, symbolism, the story)

Features a reclining couple, probably at a symposium / banquet

Woman is part of party as well, showing that women in Etruscan society enjoyed more freedom in comparison to Greek culture



5. ORIGINAL CONTEXT/ SITE/ INTENDED FUNCTION OF THE WORK: (Overlap to #6)

Found in tomb (necropolis) sarcophagus

6. INTENDED PURPOSE & MOTIVATION (why was it made?); **PATRON/AUDIENCE** (who was it made for?);

ARTIST'S DECISION MAKING:

Patron was an elite

Difficult to create, had to be in kiln in parts

Made to be a sarcophagus, probably done in a relaxed pose as though at a party to show elite status

7. INNOVATION/ CHANGE(S):

Animated expression, relaxed pose, sarcophagus / tomb more reminiscent of Egypt influence than Greek, intimacy, woman having some power

CONVENTION/ TRADITION(S):

Human forms, hand extended to hold an object, somewhat realistic style

8. THEME(S):

Funerary, human form

COMPARE TO ANOTHER WORK:

Like the Anavysos Kouros, this was used for a grave and showed a human form. However, this piece is less stiff and instead has a relaxed pose with animated expression. Both of these styles will influence Roman art later.