

# 1 The Dedication of Praxias

from the Sanctuary of Asklepios on the south slope of the Acropolis

Inside this stone block you can see part of a woman's face with impressive brown eyes that have a lively and intense expression. Praxias, a faithful believer in the gods, dedicated it to Asklepios, the god of medicine and health, as a thank you gift for the treatment of his wife's eyes.

Look next to the block and find other similar dedications. Which parts of the body are presented in these?



# 2 Pediment

of the "Archaic Parthenon", the first large temple on the Acropolis which no longer exists today

*Pediment: the triangular area formed by the roof on each narrow side of a temple*

In the centre of the pediment two lions tear a bull. To the left another great battle is raging between Hercules and Triton, a mythical sea creature with a human body and a fish tail. To the right you can see the winged Three Bodied Daemon, with three human bodies to the waist and from the waist down, snakelike tails entwined together. The first figure holds a lightning bolt, the symbol of fire, the second; water and the third; a bird, the symbol of air.



Draw the pediment with your own fantastic creatures!



# 3 The "Peplous Kore"

an archaic Kore, a dedication to the Sanctuary of the goddess Athena

This Kore is called the "Peplous Kore" because of the clothes she wears, namely the "peplos". It's thought she might represent the goddess Artemis. Look at the colours that still survive on her wavy hair, her face and her clothes. Her bright eyes and radiant smile give her a lively and pretty appearance.



*Peplous: Usually a woolen fabric that was wrapped around the body and folded at the top. It was fixed at the shoulders and waist.*



Look at the digital representation of the statue on the screen and try to find how many different animals decorate her clothes



# 4 The goddess Athena

from the pediment of the "Old Temple", an ancient temple of the Acropolis that no longer exists



Here you see Athena in another mythical battle, that of the Gigantomachy between the Gods of Olympus and the Giants. The goddess Athena lunges toward Engelados, the Giant of Earthquakes! You can only see a part of his foot now. The goddess threatens with her outstretched left hand, that is completely covered by her aegis, a leather coat with snakes around its edges. To her left and right are other fallen or injured Giants.

Can you imagine what Athena was holding in her right hand?

Look at the reconstruction of the statue in the coloured text label.



# 5 Caryatids

the Korai (young girls) of the Erechtheion, an important temple on the Acropolis

These impressive female statues supported a small section of the Erechtheion in the place of the columns. The folds of their clothes do in any case look a little like the flutes (grooves) in columns! Would you believe that they guarded the tomb of the mythical king of Athens, Kekrops!

Look at the video on the nearby screen that shows how the surface of the statues was cleaned. Find the small black points left behind deliberately by the conservators so you can see the 'before' and 'after' the cleaning!



Which exhibit did you like most? Write its name or draw it!