

ESCULTURA DE JÚPITER

JUPITER SCULPTURE

Bronze, melted to the lost wax. Length, 8.5 cm. 1st century AD.

Origin

Indeterminate within the archaeological set.

-This piece represents the bearded god Jupiter, with a chlamyd that falls behind the left shoulder. In the right hand it holds the beam of rays and in the left - which appears raised towards the sky and has been lost from the forearm - probably carried a scepter or a spear. Next to his right foot appears the characteristic eagle.

Technical description

It comes to light during the archaeological excavation campaign of 1983. It is in the Museum of Cádiz since June 16, 1988.

TEMPLO DE ISIS

TEMPLE OF ISIS

•To the east of the capitol (Baelo Claudia, Capitolio) of Baelo Claudia was the sanctuary of the goddess Isis, the wife of Osiris.

The identification of this temple is safe, because at the foot of the first step of access to it, two inscriptions were discovered in the form of a dedication: Isidi Dominae.

ISIDI. DO[MINAE]
L(ucius) VECILI[VS]
L(ibens). A(nimo). V(otum) [.S(olvit).]

“A Isis soberana,
Lucius Vecilius
complied his vote voluntarily ”

[ISIDI D]OMINAE
M(arcus) [SEMP]RONIUS
MAXVMVS V(otum) S(olvit) L(ibens). M(erito).

“A Isis soberana,
Marcus Sempronius.

Maximus complied his vote willingly, how it's fairly”.

•The location of this temple, on the terrace overlooking the forum square (Baelo Claudia, Forum), next to the three temples (Baelo Claudia, Capitolio), shows us the importance of this eastern religion and its cult status in Baelo public.

•The building was surrounded by a rectangular wall (5.50 m high) that isolated him from people outside his cult.

•It had a single entrance by a wide staircase that ended in a door of two leaves.

Its plant presented the five specific spaces of the Isea: the porch, on the outside; the patio, in the center; the temple proper, in the courtyard; the priests' rooms and an initiation room, in the back.

•It is undoubtedly one of the temples of this goddess best preserved.

•The porch. The entrance door gives access to a portico covered with columns. On the north

side, in front of the three rooms that occupy the back of the temple, the gallery is a little wider, but two poyetes, attached to the south wall of the rooms in the background, hinder the passage and also the gallery narrows a lot in the back of the temple's podium. Circling this north gallery between the poyetes and the podium is very difficult: access to this corridor must be controlled or forbidden to the faithful.

- The central place. The gallery surrounds an almost square space, without cover. In this area most of the elements necessary for the cult of Isis were raised: the temple, an altar, a pylon, a hearth (in which were found remains of offerings such as coins, burned bones of chickens and dates and charred figs)) and a well, which is lowered by a staircase. The altar, cubical in shape, is in front of the temple staircase; the well, the pylon and the hearth correspond to the liturgy of water and the fire that serves to awaken the goddess every morning to the sound of the flute. The staircase, with eight steps, descended to a shallow well. At the foot of this staircase was found a tablet with supplication to Isis Murionima. It is a supplicatio, a sentence with legal form: the victim asks the goddess to avenge the thief who has stolen any bedding.

- The temple. We only have the basement, a podium that rises a meter at most on the floor of the patio. The entire elevation of the building is missing; Only two steps are preserved in the front, giving access to a shallow pronaos. The front door was finished off by a pediment. The cella is small and only a marble arm has been found, which would belong to the statue of the goddess.

- españolThe rooms in the back. At the bottom of the north portico, three doors opened, giving access to the rooms that occupied the entire back of the sanctuary. The two rooms in the west are similar in size, but the east one is much wider. And it is this room, part of which went to bare skies, which offers a greater interest, because in it took place the ceremony of initiation to the esoteric cult proper to the isiac religion. In the middle of this room there are still four bases that supported columns with Corinthian capitals, which supported the edges of the vain of the roof; here a small almost square hollow structure and a square section base that was the base of an altar or the pedestal of a sacred image. The other half includes another element of original cult: a crypt that is partly built in the room and partly under the floor of it. Its dimensions are small on the outside and even smaller in the interior, which is accessed by a very narrow door. In it, only one person could crouch and the darkness was total; it was only illuminated with lamps. This room was destined to the ceremonies of the initiatory rituals; in it, by observing the starry sky through the opening of the roof and, later, by going down to the crypt, the astral and infernal journey that revealed to the neophyte the figure of the gods was performed in a fictitious way.

AQUEDUCT OF THE PIGEON

The Roman aqueduct of Punta Paloma was the most important of the three that supplied water to the Roman city of Baelo Claudia. This city that possibly reached the number of 2000 inhabitants also had its water needs like any other. It had numerous wells but needed large quantities of water for the hot springs and salting factories. For that reason, aqueducts were indispensable.

Aqueduct that carried the water to the Roman city of Baelo Claudia.

- It started from the source of Las Palomas, east of the bay of Bologna, and it seems that on its way through the place called La Teja, would receive the contribution of a nearby spring.
- It provided a daily flow of six million liters.

- It can be assumed that its waters were not dedicated, at least fundamentally, to human consumption, but to the salting industries.
- This aqueduct from the source of Las Palomas rose over important arcades at five points of its layout.
- The aqueduct would cover about 550 m. from the source of Punta Paloma to the center of the old town and would have a vertical drop of 54 m.
- The layout is practically parallel to the beach line.