

Public Abstract

First Name:Naomi

Middle Name:Ruth

Last Name:Kaloudis

Adviser's First Name:Susan

Adviser's Last Name:Langdon

Co-Adviser's First Name:

Co-Adviser's Last Name:

Graduation Term:WS 2007

Department:Art History & Archeology

Degree:MA

Title:Money, Power, and Gender: Evidence for Influential Women Represented on Inscribed Bases and Sculpture on Kos

In this thesis I have attempted to show evidence for a rise of influential women on Kos during the Hellenistic period in the Greek East. I gathered my evidence from sculptural inscriptions and portraits to count the number of females who either were the honorand or the agent in the dedication. I broke these influential females into three categories to facilitate my study: priestess, private, and royal. I use the islands of Delos and Samothrace as comparanda to test if the presence of influential women spreads throughout the Greek East. I also look at the Dodekanesos for comparison and argue for a regional tradition. My research shows that Kos was an anomaly in the Greek world in the number of influential women for a couple of reasons. I believe that the ubiquity of the cult of Demeter on Kos and the Hellenistic queens, especially Egypt, influenced the women who held their own money.