Austria

Venus of Willendorf, Austria, Wachau region, excavated from Willendorf, Middle Upper Paleolithic Period, Gravettian, circa 25,000 B.C.E., ceramic. 3% x 1% x 3% in. (11.1 x 1.8 cm). Natural History Museum, Vienna, 44.484. © Naturalhistorisches Museum Wien. Photograph by Alice Schumacher

Bulgaria

Female Figurine ("Lady of Pazardzhik"). Bulgaria, Pazardzhik region, Middle Neolithic Period, Gumihtse, circa 4700–4200 B.C.E., Terracotta, 7% in. (19 cm) high. Natural History Museum, Vienna, 20.461. © Naturalhistorisches Museum Wien. Photograph by Alice Schumacher

China


Cyprus

Female Figurine. Provenance not known; type known from Cyprus. Late Bronze Age, Late Cypriot II, circa 1450–1200 B.C.E., Terracotta, pigments, 3% x 2% x 2% in. (9.1 x 5.5 x 3.3 cm). Brooklyn Museum, Gift of Mrs. Fred Betts, 22.12

Ecuador

Female Figurine. Ecuador, Guayas Province, Véridia artist, circa 2600–1500 B.C.E., ceramic, 4% x 1% x 1% in. (11 x 2.9 x 1.6 cm). Brooklyn Museum, Gift of Egizia Madiano, 76.166.41

Female Figurine, Ecuador, Guayas Province, Véridia artist, circa 2600–1500 B.C.E., ceramic, 3% x 1% x 1% in. (8.9 x 2.4 x 1.9 cm). Brooklyn Museum, Gift of Egizia Madiano, 76.166.42

Egypt

Female Figurine ("Bird Lady"). Egypt, excavated from Maminiah, Predynastic Period, Naqada I, circa 3650–3350 B.C.E., Terracotta, pigment, 11% in. (29.3 cm) high. Brooklyn Museum, Charles Edwin Wilbour Fund, 07.447.505

France

Venus of Laussel, France, Dordogne region, Paleolithic Period, circa 25,000–20,000 B.C.E., Limestone, 21% x 14% x 6% in. (54 x 36 x 15.5 cm). Musée d’Aquitaine, Bordeaux. 61.3.1. © Musée d’Aquitaine. Photograph by Lysiane Gauthier

Greece, Cyclades

Fragment of a Female Figurine. Provenance not known; "folded-arm Figurine" type. Spedos variety, known from the Cyclades, Greece. Early Bronze Age, Early Cycladic II, circa 2500 B.C.E., Terracotta, White marble, 4% x 3% x 1% in. (11.9 x 9.7 x 3.1 cm). Brooklyn Museum, Bequest of Mrs. Carl L. Seiden, 1996.146.4

India

Mother Goddess Figurine. India, Madura region, Mehrgarh Period, circa third–second century B.C.E., Terracotta, 7% x 9% in. (17.8 x 8.9 cm). Brooklyn Museum, Gift of Dr. Bertram H. Schaffner, 1969.179.4

Iran

Female Figurine. Provenance not known; type known from northern Iran. First millennium B.C.E., Red-brown burnished terracotta, 9% x 3% x 2% in. (22.9 x 8.9 x 6 cm). Brooklyn Museum, Lent by Dr. and Mrs. Leonard Danzig, 1973.9

Iraq (ancient Mesopotamia)

Female Figurine. Provenance not known; type known from Mesopotamia (modern Iraq). Late third millennium B.C.E., Terracotta, 5% x 3% x 1% in. (14 x 9 x 2 cm). Brooklyn Museum, Gift of Mrs. Helena Simkевич in Memory of Vladimir G. Simkевич, 72.133

Israel

Seated Woman. Israel, excavated from Harot Minne (Munhata), Neolithic Period, sixth millennium B.C.E., Pottery, 4% x 2% in. (11 x 6.5 cm). Israel Antiquities Authority, IAA 67-684, IAA Photo © The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

Japan


Pakistan (ancient Harappa)

Fragment of a Female Figurine. Pakistan, excavated from ancient Harappa, Ravi Phase, Period 1, circa 3500–2600 B.C.E., or Kal Diy Phase, Period 2, circa 2900–2600 B.C.E., (dyes calabrated), Terracotta, 1% x 1% x 1% in. (4 x 3 x 2 cm). Government of Pakistan, Department of Archaeology and Museums, H89-154/1101-2. © The Harappa Archaeological Research Project. Photograph by Richard H. Meadow

Russia

Female Figurine, Russia, Varanch region, excavated from Kasteni, Paleolithic Period, Kostenkovo–avdeevskaya, circa 23,000–21,000 B.C.E., Limestone, carved and engraved, 4% x 1% in. (10.2 x 4.1 cm). The State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, VH-8. © The State Hermitage Museum

Siberia

Female Figurine, Siberia, near Inuktaq, excavated from Malta, Paleolithic Period, Mallinsko-buretskaya, circa 20,000–16,000 B.C.E., Mammoth tusk, engraved, 3% in. (8.7 cm) high. The State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, 573/746. © The State Hermitage Museum

Sudan (ancient Nubia)

Female Figurine. Provenance not known; type known from Nubia (modern Sudan). Predynastic Period, Naqada II–Naqada III, circa 3500–3100 B.C.E., Terracotta, pigment, 5% x 1% x 1% in. (14 x 3.7 x 4 cm). Brooklyn Museum, Bequest of Mrs. Carl L. Seiden in honor of Bernard V. Balmor, 1996.146.1

Syria and Iraq (ancient Mesopotamia)

Female Figurine. Provenance not known; type known from northern Mesopotamia (modern Iraq) and Syria. Late Halaf Period, late fifth millennium B.C.E., Clay, pigment, 4% x 1% x 1% in. (10.4 x 4.7 x 4.2 cm). Brooklyn Museum, Hego Keawan Fund and Designated Purchase Fund, 1990.14

Turkey (ancient Anatolia)

Female Figurine. Provenance not known; "Kusura" type known from Anatolia (modern Turkey). Early Bronze Age, third millennium B.C.E., Marble, 6% x 4% x 1% in. (17.4 x 10.6 x 6 cm). Brooklyn Museum, Bequest of Mrs. Carl L. Seiden, 1996.146.5