



Smithsonian Associates

The Origins of Western Art: From The Paleolithic Through The Aegean Bronze Age

Renee Gondek

Tuesday, July 16, 2024 - 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. ET

THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST

Lecture 2

PERIODS / CHRONOLOGY

Bronze Age = ca. 3500 – 1200 BCE

- Sumerians = ca. 4000 – 2332 BCE
- Akkadians and Neo-Sumerians = 2332 – 2000 BCE
- Babylonians and Hittites = ca. 2nd m. BCE
- Assyrians and Neo-Babylonians = 1st m. BCE

KEY ARTIFACTS / STRUCTURES FROM LECTURE

1. Warka Vase, from Uruk, Iraq (ca. 3200 – 3000)
2. Statuettes of worshippers, from Square Temple at Eshnunna (modern Tell Asmar), Iraq (ca. 2700)
3. Standard of Ur, from Royal Cemetery (modern Tell Muqayyar), Iraq (ca. 2600)
4. Head of Akkadian Ruler, from Nineveh (modern Kuyunjik), Iraq (ca. 2250 – 2200)
5. Victory Stele of Naram-Sin, from Susa, Iran (ca. 2254 – 2218)
6. Seated statue of Gudea, from Girsu (modern Telloh), Iraq (ca. 2100)
7. Ziggurat, from Ur (modern Tell Muqayyar), Iraq (ca. 2100)
8. Law Code of Hammurabi, from Susa, Iran (ca. 1780)
9. Citadel of Sargon II and Lamassu, Dur Sharrukin (modern Khorsbad), Iraq (ca. 720 – 705)
10. Relief panels, from the palace of Ashurnasirpal II, Kalhu (modern Nimrud), Iraq (ca. 875 – 860)
11. Relief panels, from palace of Ashurbanipal, Nineveh (modern Kuyunjik), Iraq (ca. 645 – 640)
12. Ishtar Gate, from Babylon, Iraq (ca. 575)

RECOMMENDED BOOKS:

- Zainab Bahrani, *Mesopotamia: Ancient Art and Architecture or Art of Mesopotamia*
- Henri Frankfort, *The Art and Architecture of the Ancient Orient*
- Nicola Crusemann (ed) et al, *Uruk: First City of the Ancient World*
- Paul Collins, *Assyrian Palace Sculptures*



Smithsonian Associates
World Art History Certificate Program

Lecturer: Renee Gondek, PhD
Reneegondek@gmail.com