

## **Sábado no Museu**

### **Exposição 3: Mitos: heróis e deuses**

**07/05/2022**

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*Pithos* (large wine-jar /  
grande vaso de vinho),  
c. 650 BC / a.C.,

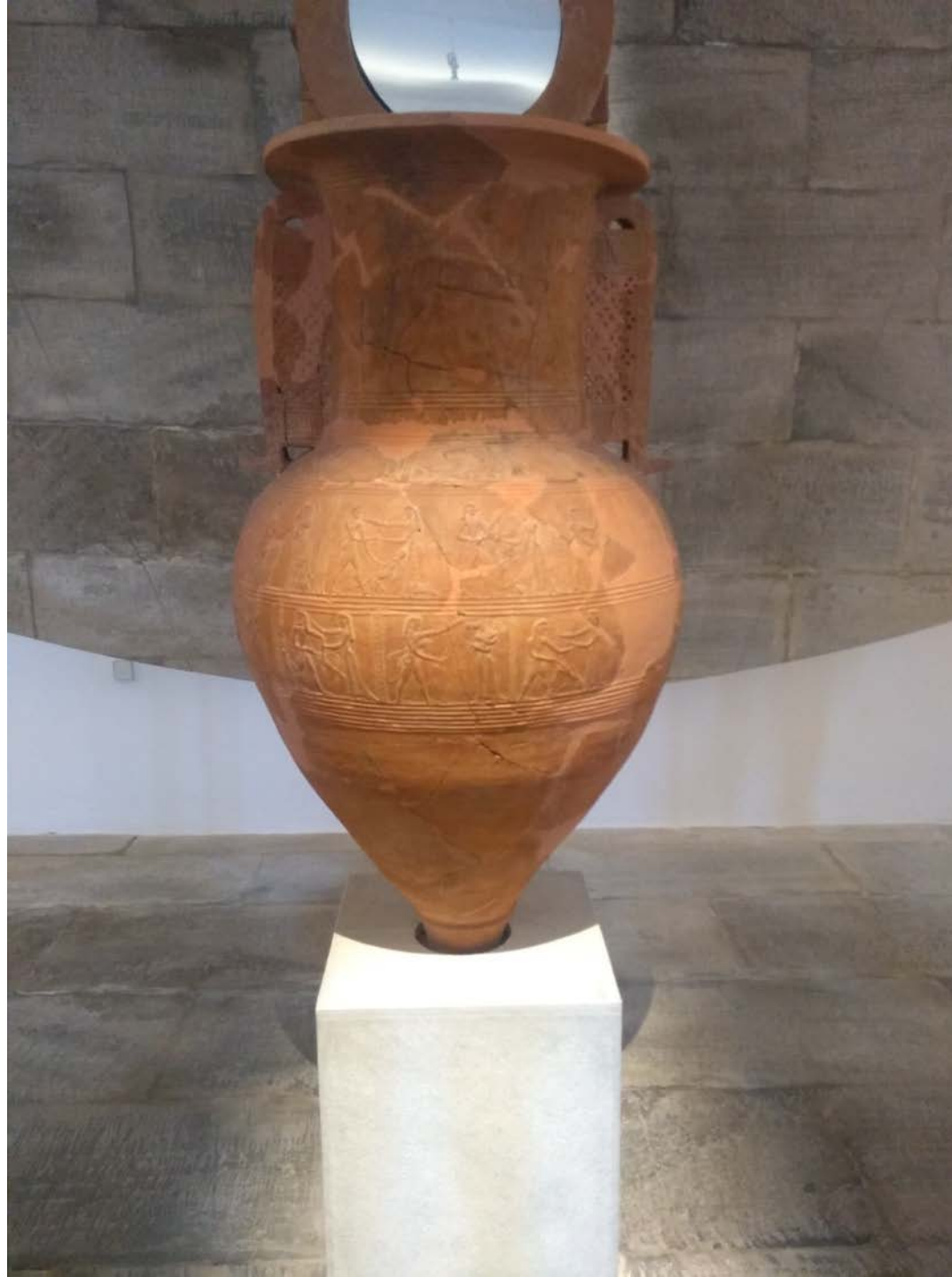
Sack of Troy / Saque de Troia

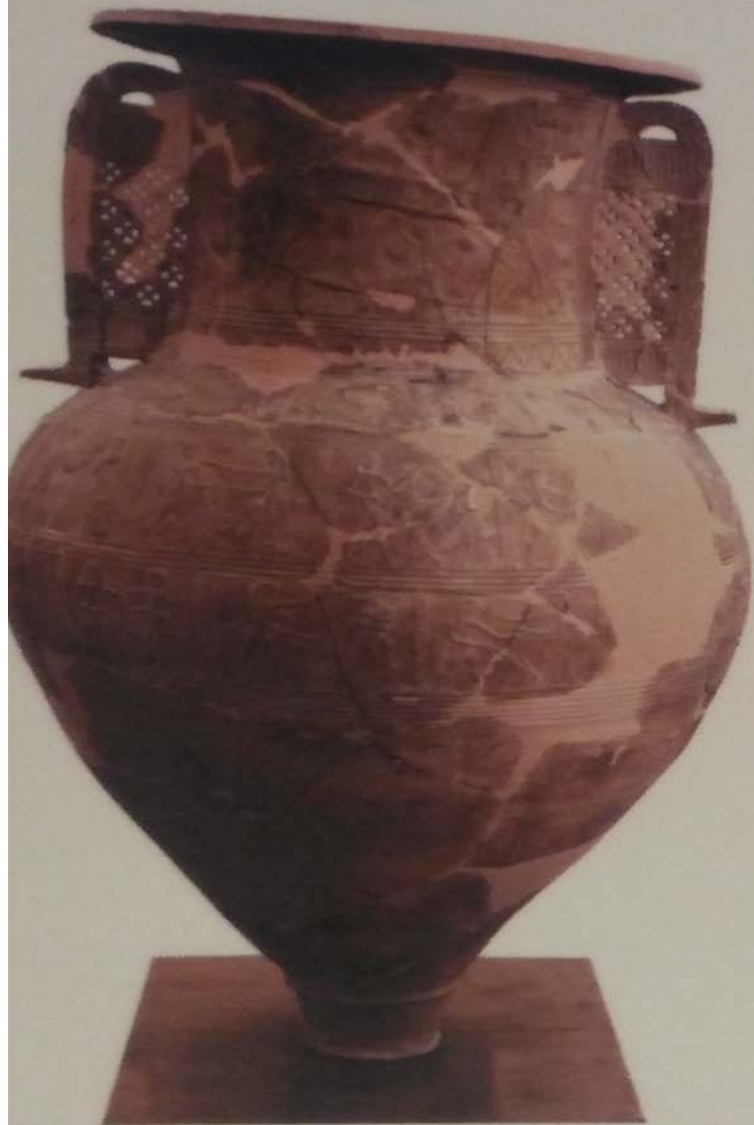
Found in the island of  
Mykonos

Encontrado na ilha  
de Miconos (mar Egeu)

Testimony to the circulation  
of the Homeric poems  
(c. 750 BC ) /

Testemunho da  
circulação dos poemas homéricos  
(c. 750 a.C.)





...within the wooden horse,  
wherein all the bravest of the Argives were lying in  
wait to bring death and destruction upon the Trojans.  
*Odyssey 4.273-274 (trans. Samuel Butler)*

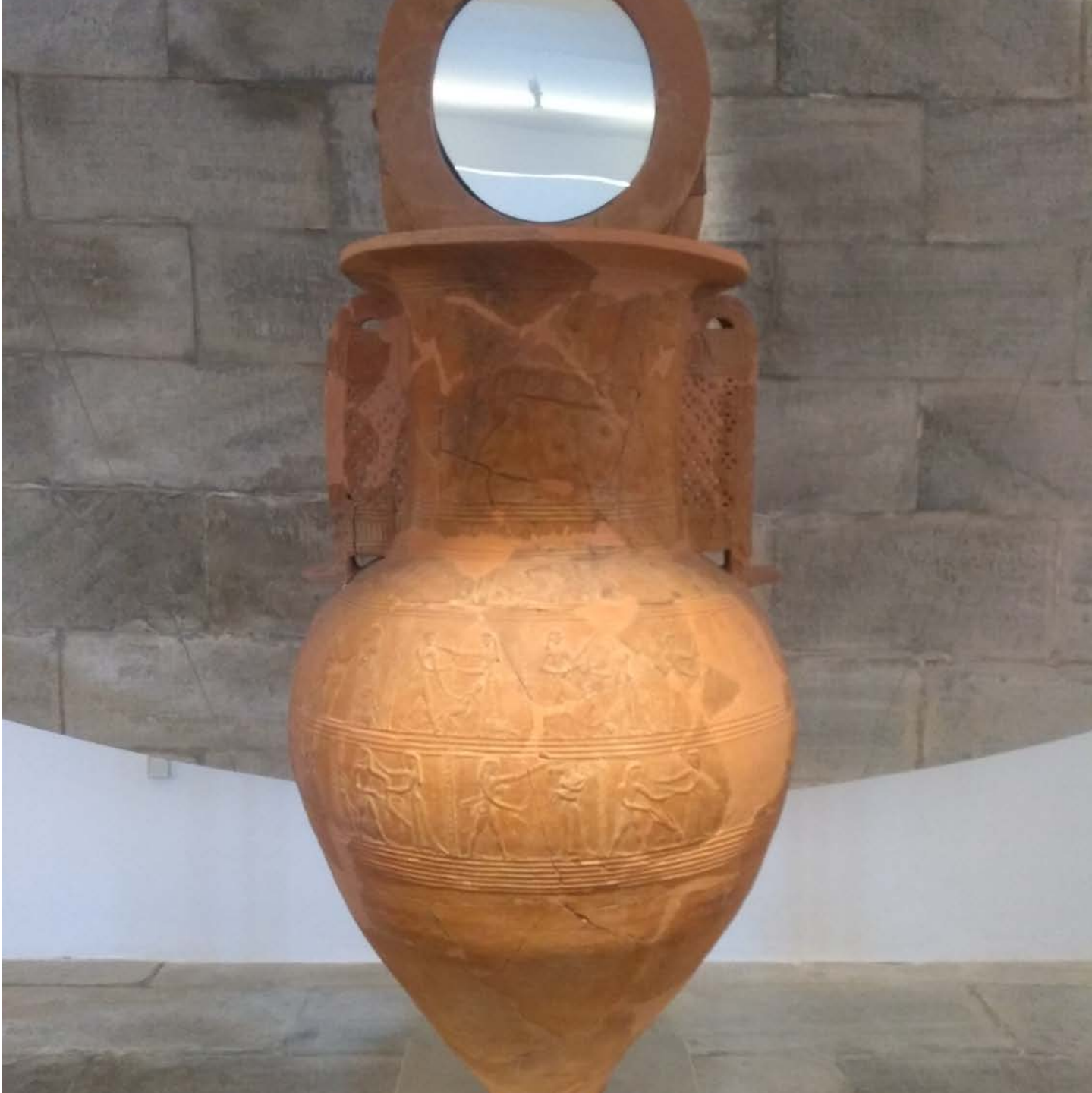
Pithos with relief decoration from a Tenian workshop.  
Found in the area of Matogiannia-Fournakia, Chora,  
Mykonos. The pithos was probably a tomb marker.

On the pithos are depicted scenes recounting in  
temporal succession dramatic scenes from the  
Fall of Troy, as recited in the poems of the Trojan  
Cycle and ancient authors. On the neck, the  
disembarking of the Achaean fighters from the  
wooden horse constructed by the Achaean engi-  
neer Epeios; on the body, the scenes of brute  
violence which unfolded in the unsuspecting,  
nearly-unguarded city of Troy following the previ-  
ous night's celebration. These scenes involve  
primarily the slaughter of children before the eyes  
of their mothers, who are begging for mercy.

Some of the metopes have been identified with  
specific persons and episodes in the Trojan cycle.  
Thus we see the killing of Astyanax, Hector's  
young son, and Cassandra, who was raped and  
killed in the sanctuary of Athena Ilias by the  
Locrian Ajax, while the couple in the only peaceful  
scene is identified as Helen and Menelaos.

The images of the brutality of the sack of Troy are  
depicted here with a raw realism which goes  
beyond any other pictorial depiction of this  
theme in ancient Greek art. At the same time, they  
prove that songs inspired by the Trojan cycle were  
performed in the Aegean from at least the early  
7th century B.C.

*2nd quarter of the 7th c. B.C.*





Neck of *pithos*

the Trojan horse

wheeled wooden  
machine

with heroes inside and  
coming out of it to  
sack the citadel

Pescoço do *pithos*

o cavalo de Troia

máquina de madeira,  
com rodas, e os heróis  
dentro dela e dela  
saindo para saquear  
a cidadela











Body / corpo do *pithos*

Brutal scenes of the sack/  
cenas brutais do saque:

bodies trespassed by swords /  
corpos trespassados por espadas;

mothers and women pleading for  
their lives and that of their children/  
mães e mulheres implorando por  
suas vidas e a de suas crianças











The killing of Astyanax,  
Hector's son,  
seen by a desperate  
Andromache

A morte de  
Astíanax, filho de Heitor,  
vista pela desesperada  
Andrômaca





Cassandra, the Trojan princess raped by Ajax Locrian

Cassandra, a princesa troiana e profetisa de Atena violada por Ájax Lócrio





