



Writing on Terracottas

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The appearance of writing on works of art in Greek antiquity was a phenomenon that has elicited considerable attention in the archaeological literature on vase painting, especially of the Archaic period, and sculpture in all media. A particular focus has been placed on artisan's signatures, but dedications and other types of texts also have received comment. On the other hand, the presence of writing on figurative terracottas, those portable sculptural objects made in clay, has been completely overlooked in discussions concerning the intersection of writing and art, promoting the impression that such a practice did not exist. This paper is an attempt to rectify that impression.

