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# FASCINUM: THE APOTROPAIC PHALLUS OF CAMPANIA IN THE ANCIENT & MODERN IMAGINATION

## **Volume II of Two**

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A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Classics and Ancient History

Department of Classics and Ancient History The University of Warwick

April 2019

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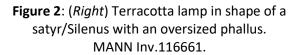
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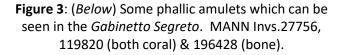
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All three photos – author's own.







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Accessed: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019.



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Accessed: 25th March 2019.



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All five photos – author's own.







THE

# LAST DAYS

OF

# POMPEII.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "PELHAM,"
"EUGENE ARAM," "ENGLAND, AND THE ENGLISH,"
&c. &c.

"Such is Vesuvius! and these things take place in it every year. But all eruptions which have happened since would be trifling, even if all summed into one, compared to what occurred at the period we refer to.

"Day was turned into night, and night into darkness—an inexpressible quantity of dust and ashes was poured out, deluging land, sea, and air, and burying two entire cities, Herculaneum and Pompeii, while the people were sitting in the theatre!"

DION CASSIUS, lib. lxvi.

IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

#### LONDON:

RICHARD BENTLEY, NEW BURLINGTON STREET;

SUCCESSOR TO HENRY COLBURN.

1834.

#### Figure 7:

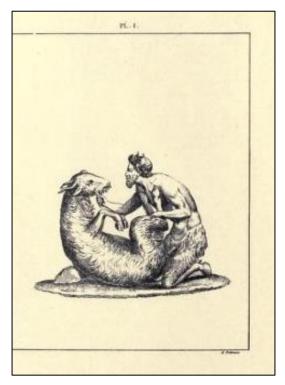
Title page of Bulwer Lytton's first edition (1834) of *The Last Days of Pompeii*. https://archive.org/details/lastdaysofpompei01lyttuoft/page/n6 Accessed: 25th March 2019.



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Floorplan of British Museum exhibition 'The Warren Cup: Sex and Society in Ancient Greece and Rome' (2006).

https://www.britishmuseum.org/pdf/Warren%20cup%20final%20online.pdf Accessed: 25th March 2019.





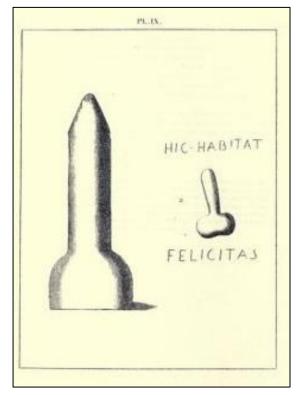


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All from https://archive.org/details/museeroyaldenapl 00famiiala Accessed: 25th March 2019.

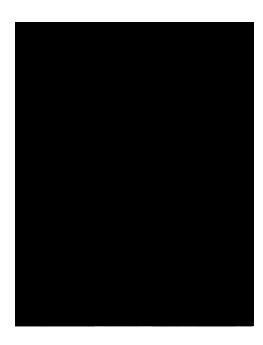


Figure 12:

Still from Mary Beard's television documentary 'Pompeii: Life and Death in a Roman Town', broadcast on broadcast on BBC2 on 14th December 2010.

https://www.independent.co.uk/artsentertainment/tv/features/queen-of-theunderworld-mary-beard-is-bringing-the-ancientcity-of-pompeii-to-life-in-a-bbc-2154808.html Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 13:
Some Guatemalan 'mushroom stones'.
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Psilocybe\_Mushrooms\_statues.jpg
Accessed: 25th March 2019.

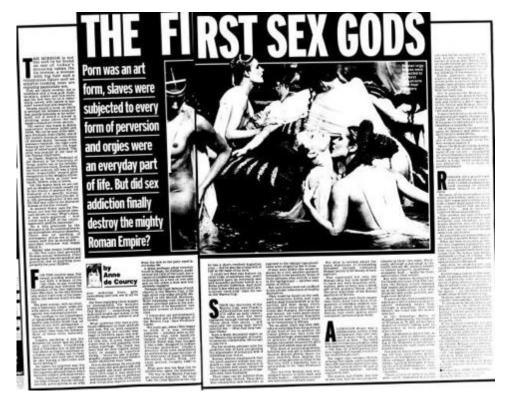


Figure 14:

Feature article by Anne de Courcy for Daily Mail May 3rd 2003,pp.44-45, Issue 33249.

Via Daily Mail Historical Archive.

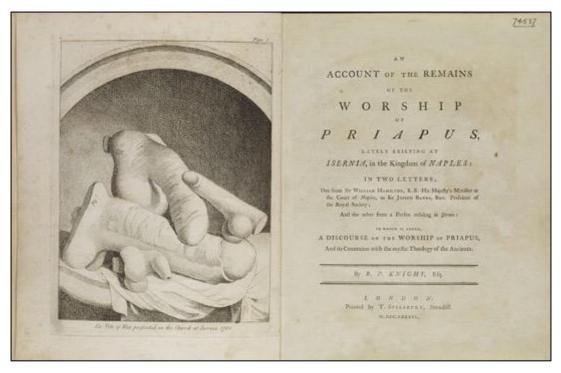


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Figure 16:
Portrait of Richard Payne Knight (1751-1824) by Sir Thomas Lawrence.
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Accessed: 25th March 2019.

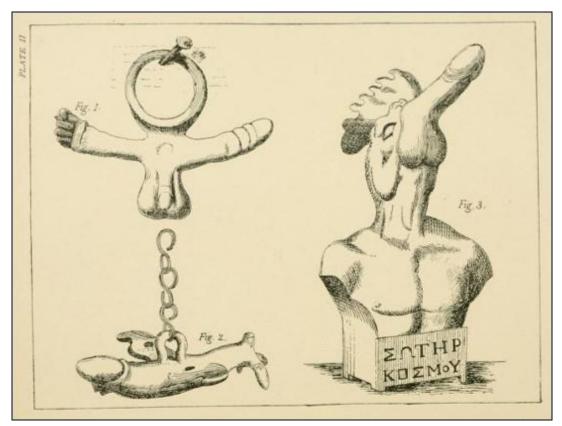


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"Many small images of this kind have been found among the ruins of Herculaneum and Pompeii, attached to the bracelets, which the chaste and pious matrons of antiquity wore round their necks and arms" (bottom left of plate).

https://archive.org/details/discourseonworsh00knig/page/n285

Accessed: 25th March 2019.



#### Figure 18:

Portrait of Sir William Hamilton (1730-1803) by David Allan.

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#### Figure 19:

Sir William Hamilton's letter, published at the front of the 1894 edition of Payne Knight's *Discourse*.

https://archive.org/details/discourseonworsh00knig/page/n25 Accessed: 25th March 2019.



# A LETTER FROM SIR WILLIAM HAMILTON, Etc.

SIR,

Naples, Dec. 30, 1781.



AVING last year made a curious discovery, that in a Province of this Kingdom, and not fifty miles from its Capital, a fort of devotion is still paid to PRIA-PUS, the obscene Divinity of the Ancients (though under another denomination), I thought it a circum-

flance worth recording; particularly, as it offers a fresh proof of the similitude of the Popish and Pagan Religion, so well observed by Dr. Middleton, in his celebrated Letter from Rome: and therefore I mean to deposit the authentic proofs of this affertion in the British Museum, when a proper opportunity shall offer. In the mean time I send you the following account, which, I statter myself, will amuse you for the present, and may in suture serve to illustrate those proofs.

I had long ago discovered, that the women and children of the lower class, at Naples, and in its neighbourhood, frequently wore,

<sup>&#</sup>x27; A specimen of each of the ex-voti of wax, with the original letter from Isernia. See the Ex-voti, Plate 1.



Figure 20:

'Charles Townley and Friends in His Library at Park Street,
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https://artuk.org/discover/artworks/charles-townley-and-friends-

https://artuk.org/discover/artworks/charles-townley-and-friendsin-his-library-at-park-street-westminster-151327 Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 21:

'Presentation of the Mahometan Credentials, or the Final Resource of French Atheists', a 1793 political cartoon by James Gillray. https://www.npg.org.uk/collections/search/portraitZoom/mw63259/Presentat ion-of-the-Mahometan-credentials---or---the-final-resource-of-French-atheists Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 22:
An example of the lingam and yoni.
https://www.thoughtco.com/what-isshiva-linga-1770455
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Figure 23:

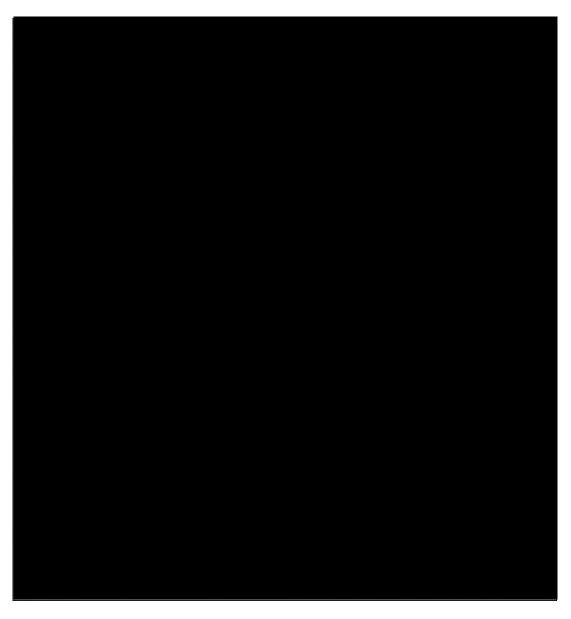
J. M. W. Turner's painting of the Golden Bough episode recounted in Virgil's Aeneid, which Frazer used as a jumping off point for, and introduction to, the Golden Bough. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Golden\_Bough#/media/File:Golden\_bough.jpg

Accessed: 25th March 2019.

Figure 24:

Front-cover of one of the many treatises on phallism/phallicism which were published in the nineteenth century (this one anonymous).

Bodleian Library official Instagram account, @bodleianlibs, posted 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018.



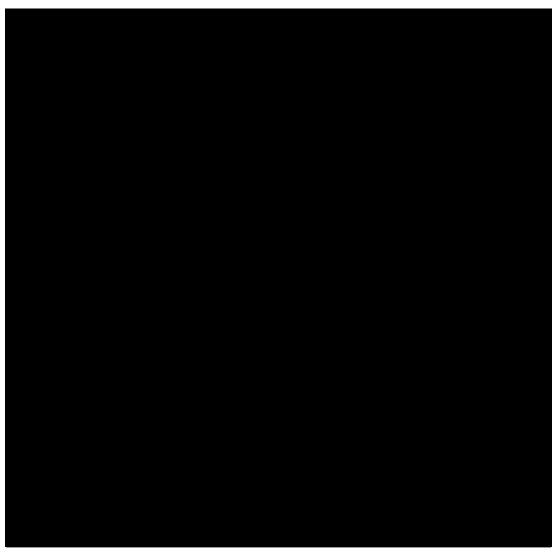


Figure 25:

Plate from volume six of *Le antichità di Ercolano esposte*, *De Bronzi*, showing the small bronze figurine with the much-debated hand gesture.

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https://digi.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/diglit/ercolano1771bd6/0399/image

Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 26:
An example of Capodimonte Porcelain three figures of Pulcinella from the commedia dell'arte.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capodimonte \_porcelain#/media/File:Jar\_MET\_DP16833 1\_(cropped).jpg Accessed: 25th March 2019.



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Photo – author's own.



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https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Campi\_Phlegraei\_(Sir\_William\_Hamilt on,\_1776)#/media/File:The\_discovery\_of\_the\_temple\_of\_Isis\_at\_Pompeii,\_buried\_un der\_Wellcome\_V0025285.jpg

Accessed: 25th March 2019.



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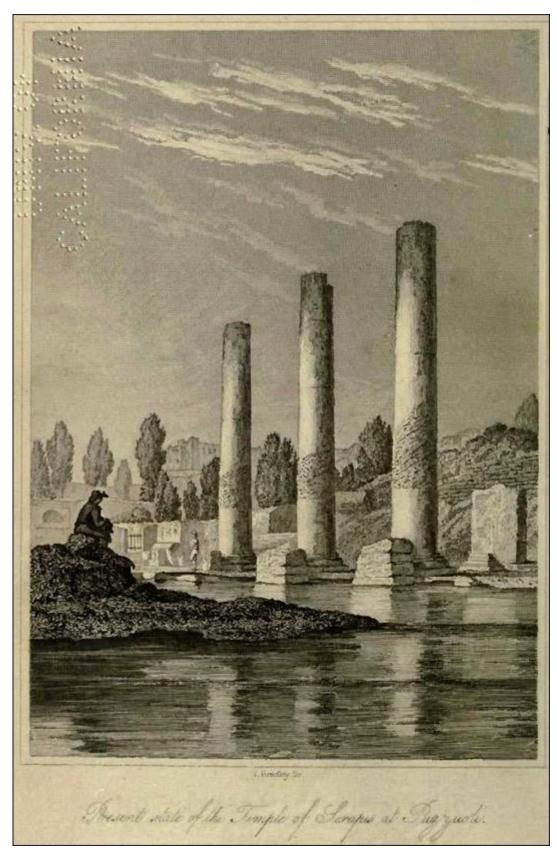


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The Temple of Hera at Paestum by Pietro Fabris, 1770s.

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Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 33:

Naples from the West, with Peasants Gaming, by Pietro Fabris, approximately 1760. 
https://www.comptonverney.org.uk/cv\_collections/naples-from-the-west-withpeasants-gaming/ Accessed: 25th March 2019.

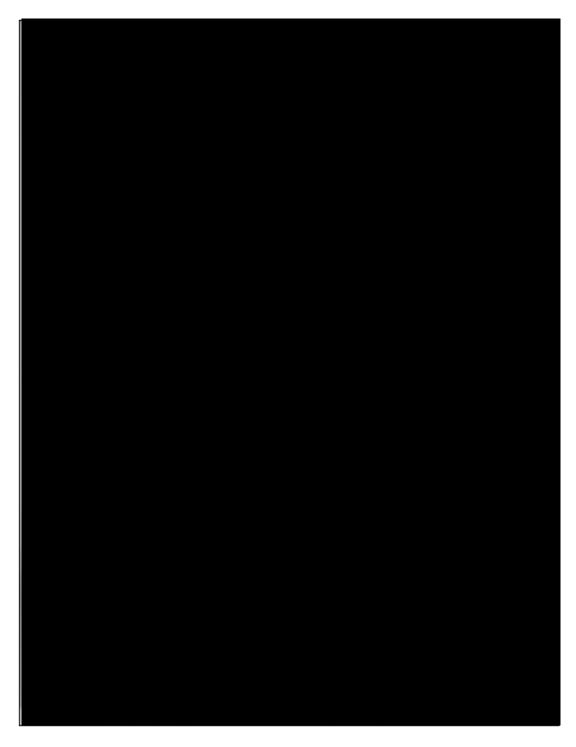


Figure 34:

Coral, silver, gilt-copper and enamel nativity group, Italy, 1650-1700.

https://www.comptonverney.org.uk/c

v\_collections/trapani-nativity-group/

Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 35:

Frontispiece to the catalogue of the Duchess of Portland's collection.

British Museum, Inv. D,3.351.

https://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection\_online/collection\_object\_detail
s.aspx?objectId=3581304&partId=1&subject=16580&page=7
Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 36:
Plate detailing volcanic minerals from Solfatara, by Pietro Fabris for Hamilton's 1776 Campi Phlegraei.

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/yddeyd23

Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 37:
Nineteenth-century mano in fica pendants from Italy.
Science Museum Invs. A665908 & A665892.
https://wellcomecollection.org/works/rwafsw2n
Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 38:
Nineteenth-century evil eye
amulets from France.
Science Museum
Invs. A132526 & A666110.
https://wellcomecollection.org/work
s/eme3ysym Accessed: 25th March
2019.



Figure 39:
Ancient mano in fica and phallus pendants, bronze, from the Gabinetto Segreto.

MANN Invs.27815 & 27819.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 40:
Nineteenth-century coral mano cornuta pendant from Italy. Pitt Rivers Museum Inv. 1985.52.2. http://web.prm.ox.ac.uk/amulets/index.php/protection-2/index.html Accessed: 25th March 2019.

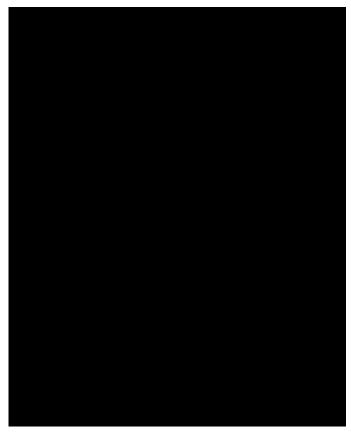


Figure 41:

The objects considered "amuleti principi" referred to by De Jorio, according to Kendon.

Volume six of Le antichità di Ercolano esposte, De Bronzi, Plate 407.

https://digi.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/diglit/ercolano1771bd6/0423/image

Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 42:

Phallic and coral amulets of the sort which can be purchased today from the many jewellery boutiques which line the streets of Naples' historic quarter.

Photo – author's own.

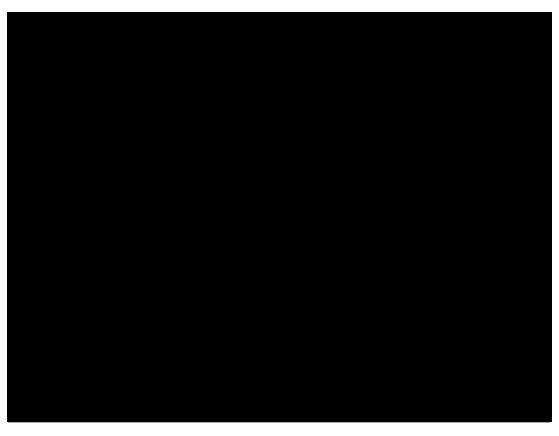


Figure 43:

Remaining Isernia wax phallic votives, deposited in the British Museum by Sir William Hamilton. British Museum Inv. WITT.319

https://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection\_online/collection\_object\_details.a

spx?objectId=41299&partId=1&searchText=isernia&page=1

Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 44:

Anne Vallayer-Coster, 'Still-Life with Tuft of Marine Plants, Shells and Corals', 1769.

https://www.wikiart.org/en/anne-vallayer-coster/still-life-with-tuft-of-marineplants-shells-and-corals-1769

Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 45:

An example of a votive uterus from the sanctuary at Nemi.
Nottingham City Museums & Galleries.
https://nemitonottingham.wordpress.com/2013/06/18/1053/
Accessed: 25th March 2019.



A 2013 reprint of Gautier's Arria Marcella. https://www.amazon.com/Arria-Marcella-nouvellesfantastiques-French-ebook/dp/B00EW0UYB4 Accessed: 25th March 2019.

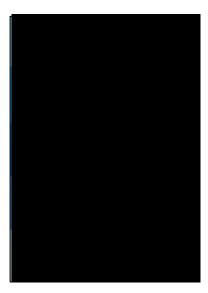




Figure 47:

A cast reproduction of the imagined Gradiva relief, from the Freud Museum, London (from an original in the Vatican Museum), 1908. Inv. 3713. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gradiva\_(novel)#/media/File:Gradiva\_Freud\_Museum\_London.jpg
Accessed: 25th March 2019.

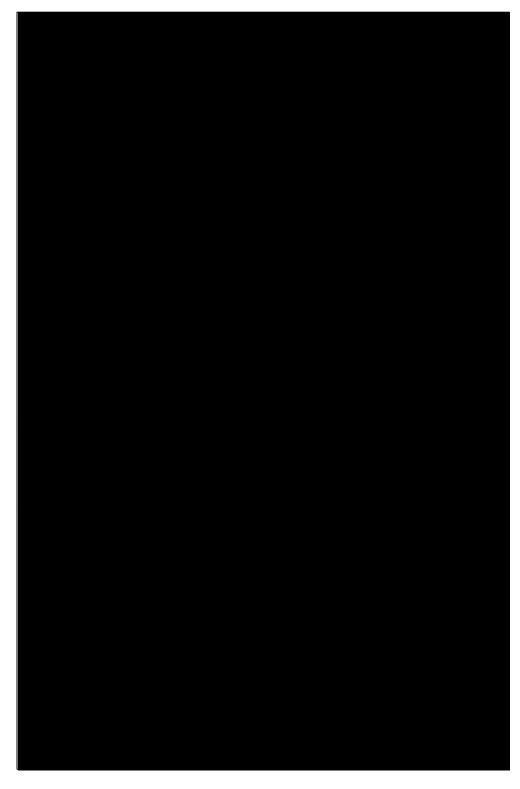


Figure 48:

Floorplan of the 1913 exhibition.

Wellcome Library Inv.:b20457388

https://wellcomecollection.org/works?query=L0034818&wellcomeImage

sUrl=/indexplus/image/L0034818.html

Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 49:

Blue glass beads believed to prevent against bronchitis, collected by Edward Lovett from Greenwich, London during the nineteenth century.

Science Museum London, Inv.: A630908

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/erus7h2v

Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 50:

A brooch containing human hair, Europe, 1701-1900.
Science Museum, London.
https://wellcomecollection.org/works/ahuh2rn9
Accessed: 25th March 2019.



Figure 51:

"Lump of clay stuck with pins and glass, used in sympathetic magic." From Norfolk, England. Acquired by the Pitt Rivers Museum in 1893.

Pitt Rivers Museum Inv.: 1893.81.3.

http://objects.prm.ox.ac.uk/pages/PRMUID110721.html

Accessed: 25th March 2019.

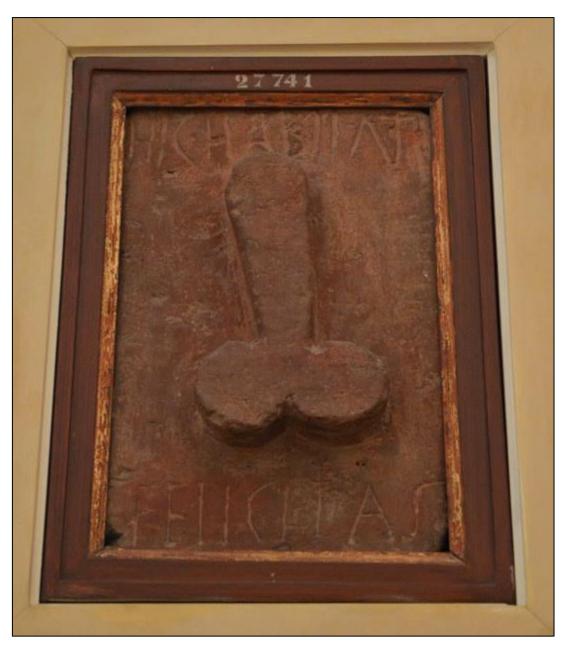


Figure 52:
HIC HABITAT FELICITAS plaque from above the oven at the House of Pansa, Pompeii VI.6.1. MANN Inv.27741.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 53:
Phallic plaque from Pompeii VI.17.3-4.

Photos – author's own.

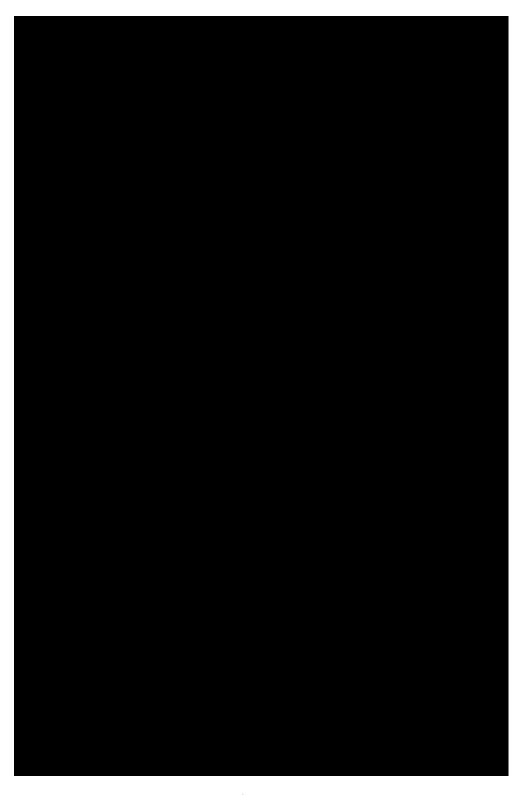
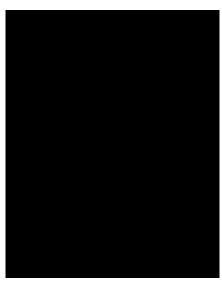


Figure 54:

Plate 37 from Pompeiana: The topography, edifices, and ornaments of Pompeii by Sir William Gell and John P. Gandy (1817-1819), showing the HIC HABITAT FELICITAS plaque in its original context. https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=gri.ark:/13960/t11n8b17x;view=1up;seq=310
Accessed: 25th March 2019.



## Figure 55:

Dr Conyers Middleton (1683–1750) by John Giles Eccardt, 1746.

National Portrait Gallery, London.

http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/10.1093/ref:
odnb/9780198614128.001.0001/odnb9780198614128-e1003525?rskey=IBHiat&result=1
Accessed: 25th March 2019.

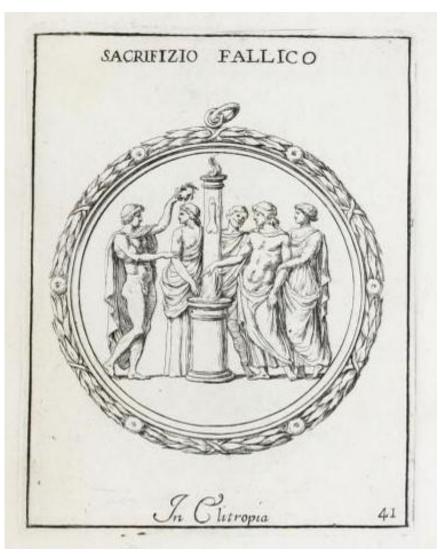


Figure 56:

Plate XLI, 'Phallic Sacrifice' in *Gemme antiche figurate* by Domenico de' Rossi and Paolo Alessandro Maffei, 1707.

https://archive.org/details/gemmeantichefigu03maff/page/n95

Accessed: 25th March 2019.

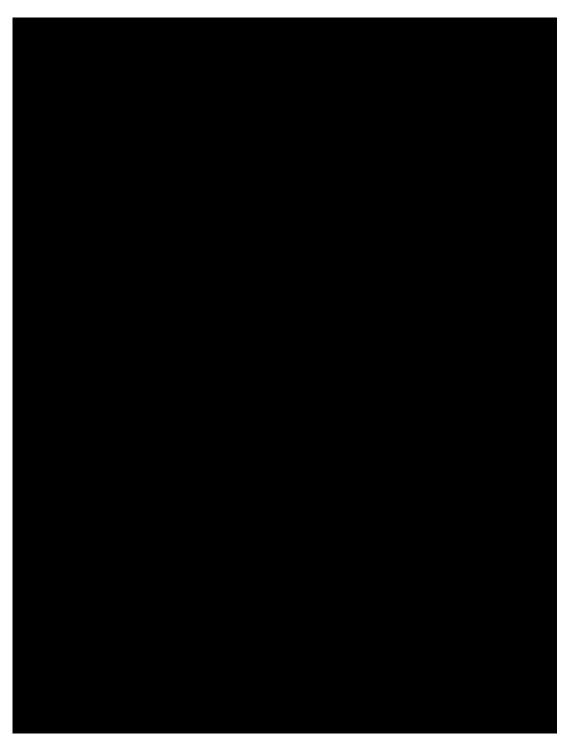


Figure 57:

Plate VI from Millingen's 'Some observations on an Antique Bas-relief, on which the Evil-Eye, or *Fascinum*, is represented' (1818) *Archæologia* Volume XIX, pp.70-4.



Figure 58:



Figure 59:

The Evil Eye mosaic from the House of the Evil Eye at Antioch. Hatay Arkeoloji Müzesi, Antakya, Inv.-Nr. 1024.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Antiochia\_-\_House\_of\_the\_Evil\_Eye.jpg Accessed: 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019.



Figure 60:
An example of a jutting out, sculptural protuberance phallus on an external wall in Pompeii, IX.5.13.

Photo – author's own.

Figure 61: DISTRIBUTION MAP

Distribution Map of all the different formal phallus installations – not including graffiti - which can be found in the streets of Pompeii (including those which are no longer in situ).

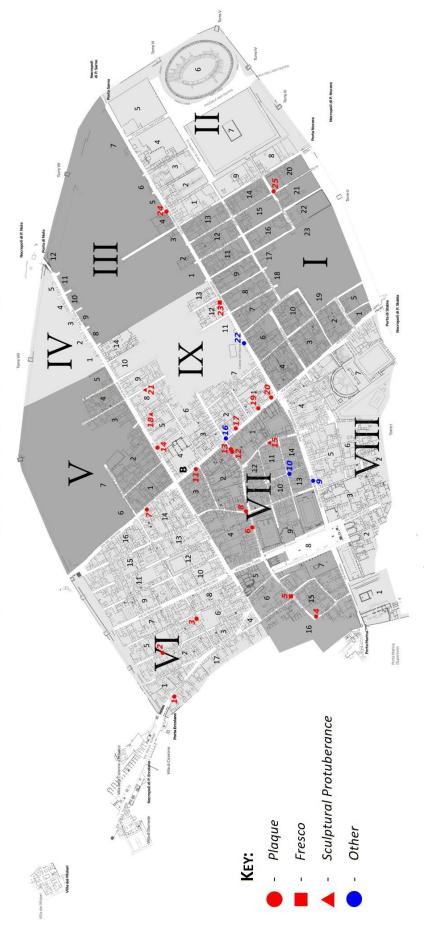




Figure 62:

A marble face inserted into the external wall of a property in Pompeii, I.4.25.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 63:
A terracotta face inserted into the external wall of a property on the Via dell'Abbondanza, Pompeii.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 64:

Possible remains of a jut-out phallic plaque from the House of the Loom, Herculaneum Ins. V.3-4.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 65:

A jut-out phallus, now in the *Gabinetto Segreto*, which strongly recalls the remains of the street plaque outside the House of the Loom, Herculaneum Ins. V.3-4.

MANN Inv.: s. n.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 66: (Left)
Tintinnabulum showing a dwarf riding a phallus, or with a phallus so large it has overwhelmed its body.

MANN Inv.: 27844

Photo – author's own.

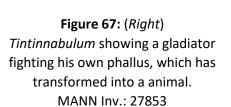






Figure 68: (Left)
Tintinnabulum comprised of a phallus being ridden by a phallus, with its own phallus, a phallus for a 'tail'.

MANN Inv.: 27835
Photo – author's own.



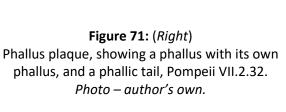
Figure 69: (Right)
Phallus-bird plaque, Pompeii III.4.3.
Photo – author's own.



Figure 70: (Left)
Tintinnabulum comprised of a phallus with phallus for a tail and phalluses for feet.

MANN Inv.: 27837

Photo – author's own.





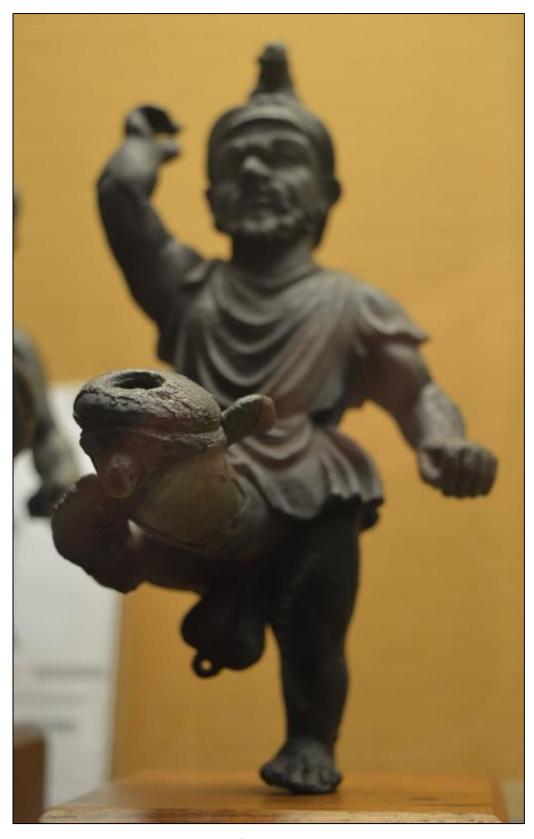


Figure 72:
Bronze dancing dwarf figurine lamp.
MANN Inv.: 27870
Photo – author's own.



Figure 73:
Terracotta lamps in the form of satyr-like figures.
MANN Invs.:27868, 27869 & 116661.

Photo – author's own.

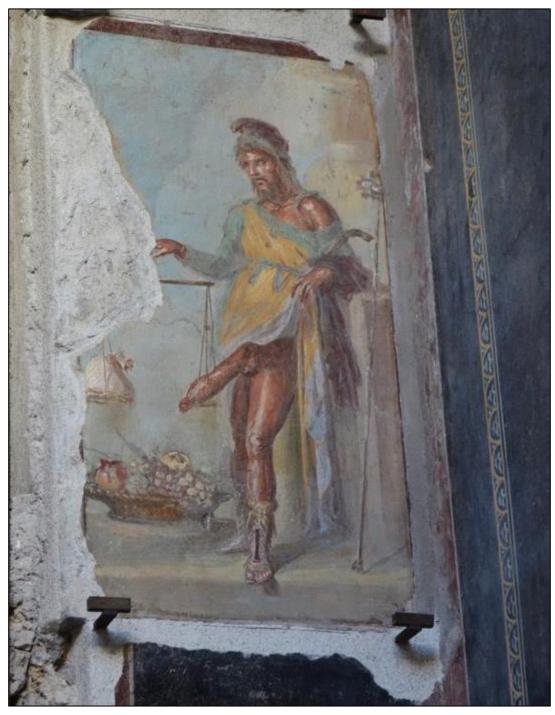


Figure 74:
The Priapus painting from the vestibule of the House of the Vettii, VI.15.1.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 75:

The recently-discovered Priapus painting from the vestibule of a house on the Via del Vesuvio.

http://www.arte.it/notizie/napoli/a-pompei-riemerge-un-affresco-di-priapo-14857

Accessed: 26th March 2019.



Figure 76:

The marble fountain-statue of Priapus from the House of the Vettii. VI.15.1. https://sites.google.com/site/ad79eruption/pompeii/regio-vi/reg-vi-ins-15/house-of-the-vettiiAccessed: 26th March 2019.

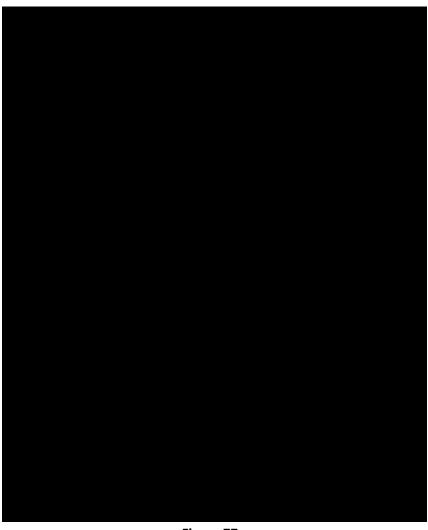


Figure 77: Adaptation of Clarke (2007) Plate 22 (pages 188-9).



Figure 78:
A phallic plaque also featuring a dice cup, Pompeii VI.14.28.

Photo – author's own.

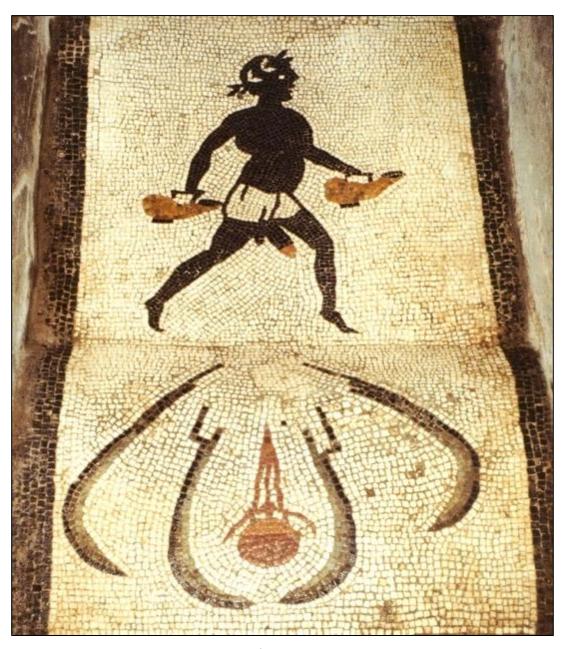


Figure 79:

The ithyphallic aethiops mosaic from the bath suite at the House of Menander, I.10.4. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pompeii\_-\_House\_of\_Menander\_-\_Caldarium\_-\_Mosaic\_1.jpg Accessed: 26th March 2019.



Figure 80: A phallus in the decorative scheme of the women's baths at Herculaneum, VI.8.  $Photo-author's\ own.$ 



Figure 81: Some terracotta figurines of old men with oversized phalluses. Photo – author's own.



Figure 82:
Bronze 'dumb waiter' figurine.
Photo – author's own.



Figure 83:
Herm of Caecilius lucundus.

Photo – author's own.

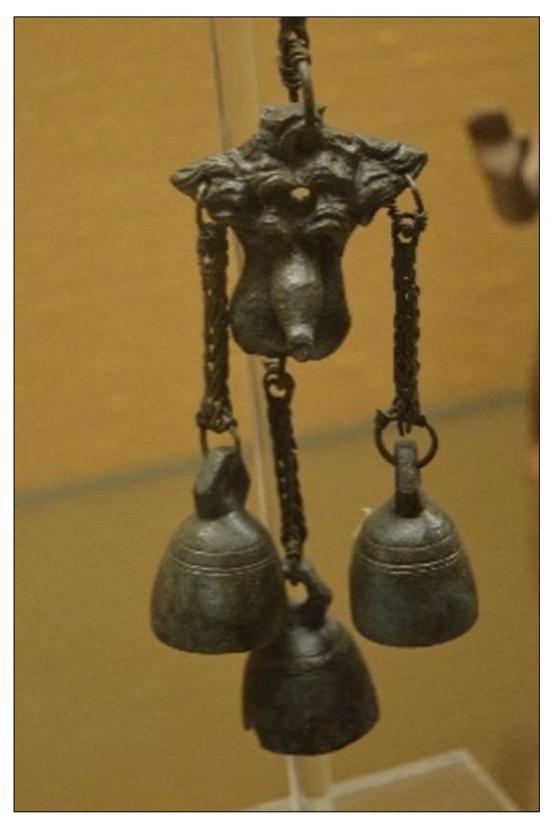


Figure 84:
A phallic tintinnabulum with a more anatomical style.

MANN Inv. 27845

Photo – author's own.



Figure 85:
Two phalluses on the hood of the oven in the bakery at Herculaneum, Ins. Or.II.8.

Photo – author's own.

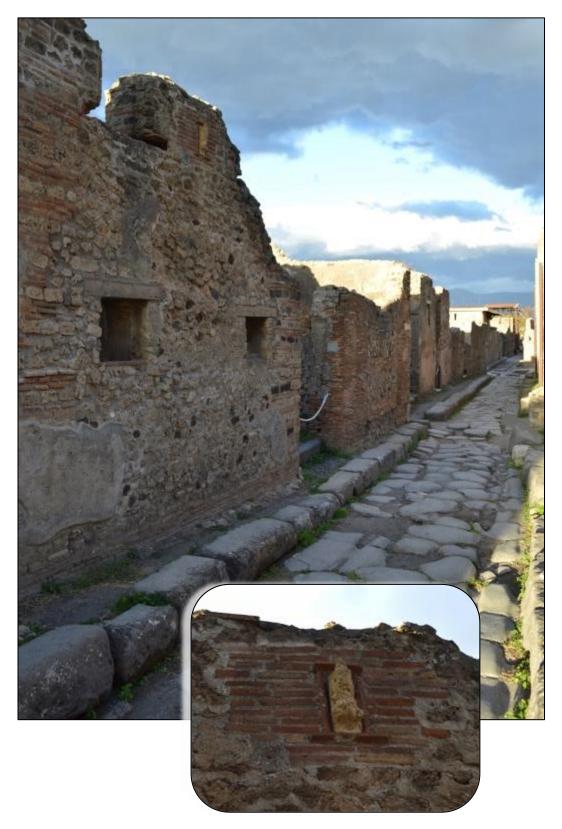


Figure 86:
Plaque with phallus swelling out of its frame, Pompeii VI.5.16.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 87:

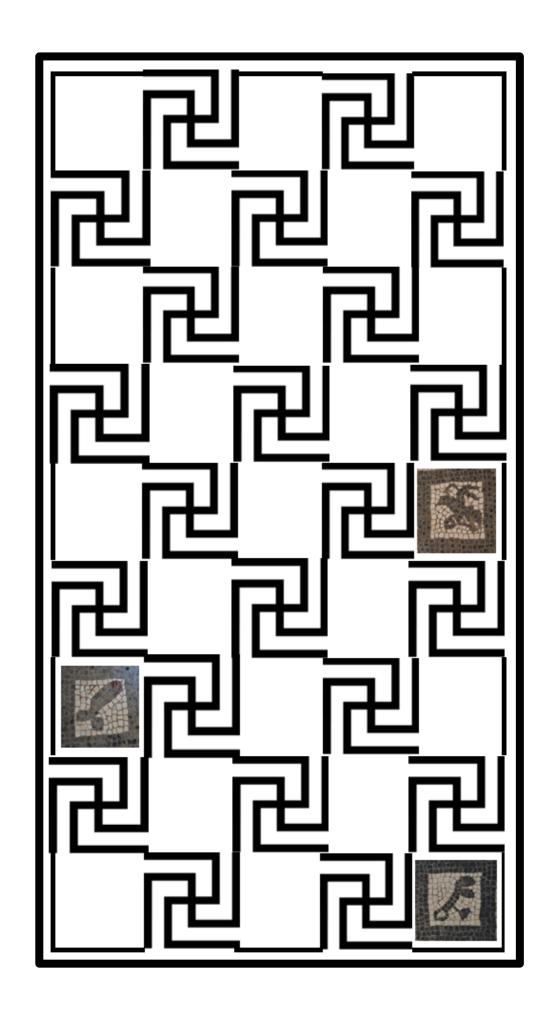
Design of mosaic on floor of tepidarium, Women's Baths, Herculaneum, VI.8.

Photo – author's own.

Figure 88: (Overleaf)

Diagram illustrating the location of the phalluses in the mosaic design of the Women's Baths, Herculaneum, VI.8.

Author's own.







Figures 89 & 90:
Two phallic *tintinnabula* in the mosaic design of the Women's Baths at
Herculaneum, VI.8.

Photos – author's own.



Figure 91:
Fresco of ithyphallic Mercury from outside the House of Chaste Lovers,
Pompeii IX.12.6.
MANN Inv.: s.n.
Photos – author's own.



Figure 92:
Bronze figurine of Mercury (what remains of a tintinnabulum).
MANN Inv.: 27854
Photos – author's own.

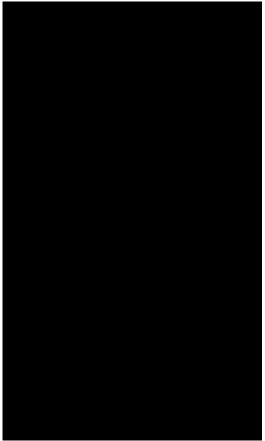


Figure 93:

A Greek black-figured neck-amphora showing a sacrifice to a "terminal figure".

British Museum Inv.: 1856,1226.220

https://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection\_online/collection\_object\_details.aspx ?objectId=459436&partId=1&searchText=1856%2C1226.220&page=3 Accessed: 26th March 2019.



Figure 94:
A plaque from outside the Bakery of Modestus, Pompeii VII.1.36.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 95:

A plaque showing two figures carrying an amphora, Pompeii VII.4.16.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 96:
Plaque showing a phallus alongside builder's tools, from outside the workshop of Livius Firmus, Pompeii IX.1.5.

Photo – author's own.



Plaque showing a phallus alongside builder's tools.

Pompeii Antiquarium 2254, from Pompeii VII.15.1/2.

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b8/Firmenschild\_des\_Mau
rers\_Diogenes\_Pompeji.jpg

Accessed: 26th March 2019.



Figure 98:
Stucco phallus design on front of a furnace, Pompeii IX.7.2.

Photo – author's own.

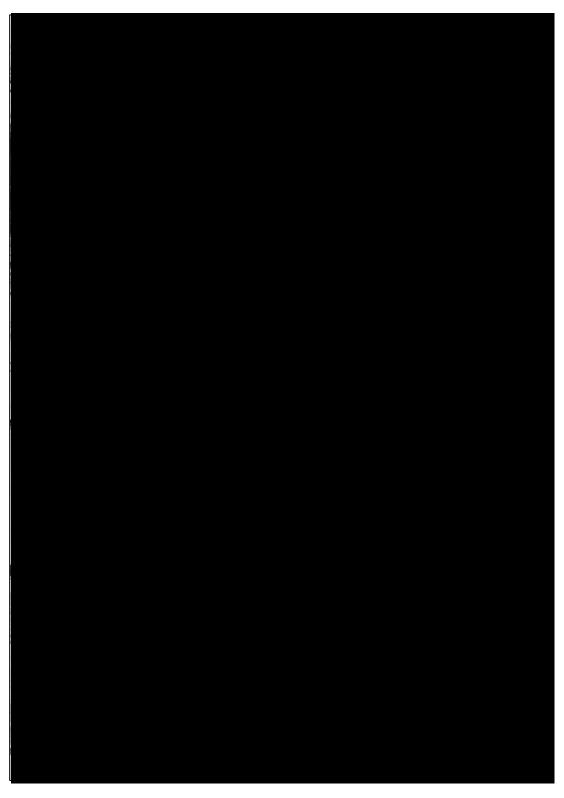


Figure 99:

Photo of the furnace and building frontage from 1911, Pompeii IX.7.2.

Clarke (2007) Plate 27, page 71.



Figure 100:
Tufa plaque (original location unknown).
MANN Inv.: s. n.
Photo – author's own.



Figure 101:

Lares Compitales street shrine with phallus on arcade pillar, Pompeii IX.2.1.

Photo – author's own.

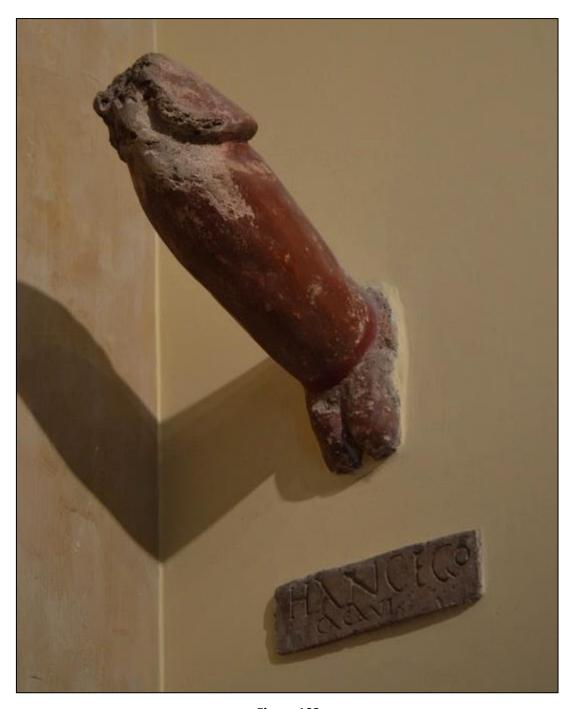


Figure 102:

Phallus and accompanying plaque from external wall of the House of the Centenary, Pompeii IX.5.

MANN Inv.113415

Photo – author's own.



Figure 103:
Phallus on a paving slab on the Via dell'Abbondanza, Pompeii VII.13.3.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 104:
Graffito of a man with an oversized, ejaculating phallus from the main entrance corridor to the large theatre, Pompeii VIII.7.20.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 105:
Fresco of a double-phallus Priapus from the *lupanar*, Pompeii VII.12.18.
Photo – author's own (replica – original now in Gabinetto Segreto).



Figure 106:
Phallus on a tufa block, Pompeii VII.13.14.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 107:

Phallus plaque from a building opposite the Stabian Baths, Pompeii IX.1.13/14.

Photo – author's own.



Figure 108:

Frieze from the House of the Pygmies, Room I, north wall, west end of property, Pompeii IX.5.9.

https://pompeiiinpictures.com/pompeiiinpictures/R8/8%2005%2024%20p5.htm Accessed: 26th March 2019.



Figure 109:
Fresco of Fortuna crowning a donkey whilst it penetrates a lion, from Pompeii VII.6.34-5.

MANN Inv. 27683

Photo – author's own.



Figure 110:
A winged phallic tintinnabulum.
MANN Inv.27831
Photo – author's own.