

# Amathus sarcophagus essay



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The Amathus Sarcophagus was said to exist during the 5th Century B. C. in Cyprus. The combination of artistic values from different cultures, particularly Grecian, Egyptian, Persian, and Cypriot, made it easy to identify from which period it was from. Perhaps, this is the most interesting information read from the text accompanying the picture, as the diversity of art and style incorporated into the Amathus Sarcophagus made it an eye-catching subject of spectacle and scrutiny. What I like most about the sarcophagus are the intricate details designed all over it. The most interesting and attractive feature of the Amathus is the scene illustrated on the sides of the sarcophagus and the block of stone covering it. The scene on the long sides of the sarcophagus illustrates a procession of two chariots driven each by two horses, and preceded by two horsemen.

The procession is said to depict a funeral. On the short sides of the sarcophagus, four undressed women who represented goddesses of Egypt on one side, and gods on the other side, were illustrated. The goddesses were adorned with jewels and were represented with an air of divinity due to their stature, gestures or body language. These scenes were molded or carved into the sides of the Amathus, and not merely drawn or painted into it, making it more obscure and fine-looking.

The patterns on the borders of the scenes were elaborately done, incorporating stylistic value and intricacy into the surface of the sarcophagus. There are five different patterns contributing to its complexity and modishness. The topmost part of Amathus, covering the sarcophagus, was adorned with four sphinxes, also designed with floral patterns almost

resembling the fleur-de-lis. Yet again, details, such as the face, the wings, and other features of the sphinx were molded or carved.

Another thing that I appreciated was the jade-like colors fading on the sides of the sarcophagus. The fading colors on the sides depict secrecy and elegance.