

RADICI DEL PRESENTE

ROOM **G**

**BURIAL RITES
IN ANCIENT ROME**



G
01



STRIGILLATED SARCOPHAGUS

Palazzo Poli Collection

White marble sarcophagus decorated with strigillations on the front. In the center there is a tabula without inscription, at the corners of the sarcophagus two fluted columns are surmounted by small composite capitals.

II-III century A.D.

G
O2



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH LION HEADS

Merolli-FATA Collection

The lion's head of white marble was part of the decoration of a *lenòs* sarcophagus (tub shaped). It was placed on the right or the left end of the sarcophagus as mirror image of another head on the opposite side.

III century A.D.

G
03



FRAGMENT OF LENÒS SARCOPHAGUS

Palazzo Poli Collection

The white marble fragment is the upper corner of a *lenòs* sarcophagus (tub shaped), of which is visible the tub edge. It is decorated with a lion catching a prey, of which is preserved only the head.

III century A.D.

G
04



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH LION HEADS

Palazzo Poli Collection

The white marble fragment is a lion's head, seen in profile, which decorated the upper part of the side of a *lenòs* sarcophagus (tub shaped). It was placed on the right or the left end of the sarcophagus as mirror image of another head on the opposite side.

III century A.D.

G
05



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH LION HEADS

Palazzo Poli Collection

The white marble fragment is a lion's head belonging to the decoration of the side of a *lenòs* sarcophagus (tub shaped). It was placed on the right or the left end of the sarcophagus as mirror image of another head on the opposite side.

III century A.D.

G
06



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH LION HEADS

Palazzo Poli Collection

The white marble fragment is part of a lion's head, which was placed on the right or the left end of a sarcophagus probably of the *lenòs* type (tub shaped). It was placed as mirror image of another lion's head on the opposite side of the sarcophagus.

III century A.D.

G
07



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH LION HEADS

Merolli-FATA Collection

The lion's head of white marble was part of the decoration of a *lenòs* sarcophagus (tub shaped). It was placed on the right or the left end of the sarcophagus as mirror image of another head on the opposite side.

III century A.D.

G
08



SARCOPHAGUS FRAGMENT WITH SEASON GENIUS

Palazzo Poli Collection

The fragment belongs to a white marble sarcophagus of the *lenòs* type (tub shaped). It depicts a season Genius identifiable with the Fall. He wears a *chlamys* (cloak) held by a buckle on the shoulder, with his right arm he holds a basket full of fruits turning his gaze to the left toward a hare.

Second half of the III century A.D.

G
09



SARCOPHAGUS FRAGMENT WITH CIRCUS SCENE

Palazzo Poli Collection

The fragment belongs to a white marble child's sarcophagus of the *lenòs* type (tub shaped), of which the upper edge is visible. There is represented a winged Eros holding a whip with his right hand.

Second half of the III century A.D.

G
10



FRAGMENT SARCOPHAGUS WITH EROS

Palazzo Poli Collection

On the fragment of white marble is depicted an Eros holding an object with his hand. It probably belonged to a child's sarcophagus.

Second half of the III century A.D.



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH GENIUS

Palazzo Poli Collection

The white marble fragment belongs to a sarcophagus of the *lenòs* type (tub shaped), of which is visible the upper edge decorated with ovoli (ionic *kyma*). There is depicted a season genius with the face turned towards right and the head surrounded by a crown.

Second half of the III century A.D.

G
12



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH FUNERARY EROS

Assicurazioni Generali Excavations 1902-1904

The white marble fragment of a strigillated sarcophagus depicts an Eros holding a torch.

III century A.D.

G
13



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH EROS

Palazzo Poli Collection

The white marble fragment of sarcophagus represents a winged Eros, looking childlike, which proceeds to the right.

III century A.D.

G
14



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH MALE FIGURE

Assicurazioni Generali Excavations 1902-1904

The fragment of white marble depicts a male figure dressed in short tunic, which proceeds to the right.

II century A.D.

G
15



FRAGMENT OF CINERARY URN

Palazzo Poli Collection

The white marble fragment belongs to a cinerary urn shaped like a vase and decorated with “baccellature” (molded design of pod-shaped grooving).

First Imperial Age

G
16



CINERARY URN

Assicurazioni Generali Excavations 1902-1904

Cinerary urn of white marble shaped like a vase and decorated with strigillations.

First Imperial Age

G
17



LID/COVER OF CINERARY URN

Palazzo Poli Collection

The lid/cover of bardiglio marble belonged to a cinerary urn shaped like a vase. It is decorated on the outer surface with leaves and a button-shaped grasp.

First Imperial Age

G
18



FEMALE HEAD BELONGING TO A CLYPEUS

Palazzo Poli Collection

The female head of white marble belongs to a clypeus that probably decorated a funerary monument. The face is seen from the front. The hair is parted in the middle with four soft curls for each side. Above the head there is an arm, consumed, that belongs to another figure (an Eros or a Victory), holding a garland of acanthus leaves.

End II - Early III century A.D.

G
19



SARCOPHAGUS FRAGMENT WITH SHEPHERD

Palazzo Poli Collection

The sarcophagus fragment of white marble represents a young shepherd with a ram on his shoulders. The allusion to the Gospel parable of the Good Shepherd derives its iconography from the pagan culture.

First half of the IV century A.D.

G
20



FRAGMENT OF TOMB SLAB

Assicurazioni Generali Excavations 1902-1904

The fragment of white marble belonged to a slab that probably closed a tomb placed on the floor. It is decorated with an engraved dolphin with the snout opened, in which the teeth are visible, and the eye in the shape of a star. The motif of the dolphin is very common in Early Christian decoration.

III-IV century A.D.

G
21



SARCOPHAGUS FRAGMENT WITH SCENE OF MIRACLE

Assicurazioni Generali Excavations 1902-1904

The sarcophagus fragment probably represents the miracle of the born blind. The adult male figure could be interpreted as the Savior. To his right is depicted a child.

IV century A.D.

G
22



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH AEDICULAE

Palazzo Poli Collection

The white marble fragment preserves the upper part of one of the aediculae of a sarcophagus. It is possible to see only the arc of the aediculae, that was supported by small columns and capitals, the corner is decorated with a theatre mask.

III century A.D.

G
23



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH AEDICULAE

Palazzo Poli Collection

The white marble fragment preserves the upper part of one of the aediculae of a sarcophagus. It is possible to see only the arc of the aedicule, that was supported by small columns and capitals, the corner is decorated with a theatre mask.

III century A.D.

G
24



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH HEAD OF MEDUSA

Palazzo Poli Collection

The head of Medusa belonged to a white marble sarcophagus with garlands of Microasiatic origin. The hair is characterized by wavy and snaky locks, the eyes are wide open.

First half of the II century A.D.

G
25



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS

Palazzo Poli Collection

The white marble fragment of a sarcophagus represents a female figure dressed with a short chiton and mantle and with exposed breasts. With one hand she holds a sword and with the other probably a shield. The iconography refers to the figure of an Amazon or a *Virtus*.

Early III century A.D.

G
26



FRAGMENT OF RELIEF

Palazzo Poli Collection

The fragment of relief of white marble represents a female figure while she is making a high bed and turning his gaze to another seated female figure, of whom we can see the legs covered by a heavy *himàtion* (mantle) and part of a long stick.

Second half of the II century A.D.



FRAGMENT OF SARCOPHAGUS WITH THE MYTH OF ADMETUS AND ALCESTIS

Palazzo Poli Collection

The sarcophagus fragment of white marble preserves the figures of a man and a woman, represented on overlapping registers and belonging to two moments of the myth. The female figure mourns the death of Alcestis, who is surrounded by her family. The male figure can be identified with Admetus who thanks Hercules for having brought back on earth his beloved wife.

Late II century A.D.

G
28



SARCOPHAGUS FRAGMENT WITH HERACLES

Palazzo Poli Collection

The sarcophagus fragment of white marble depicts a male figure, with curly hair and full beard. It was identified as Hercules because of a particular on the left shoulder, today no longer visible: the *leonté*, the lion skin worn by the hero.

End of the II century A.D.



SARCOPHAGUS FRAGMENT WITH THE MYTH OF ADMETUS AND ALCESTIS

Palazzo Poli Collection

The white marble fragment preserves the upper frame of the sarcophagus and three figures of the myth of Admetus and Alcestis: a young naked man, except his back covered by the chlamys (cloak), is in the middle between two bearded men. The scene might represent the first moment of the myth, when Admetus, indicated in the central figure and accompanied by his servants, went to talk to the parents to ask them to die in his place.

End II - Early III century A.D.