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REGIONE AUTONOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Roman baths of Forum Traiani

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Statue of Bes II

The statue (figs. 1-2), is small and badly preserved: it has no legs and forearms and the surface is worn and eroded to an extent that details of the face and sculpture have been cancelled.



Fig. 1 - Statue of Bes/Asclepius from the Baths area (photo N. Monari - RAS Archives).



Fig. 2 - Statue of Bes/Asclepius from the Baths area (photo N. Monari - RAS Archives).

The you can see the figure of the god Bes, minor divinity of the Egyptian pantheon, then passed on to the Punic and the Roman ones. The god, beneficial and healthy, thus assimilated with the healer god Asclepius, is portrayed as an obese dwarf, with a high belt covering the lower part of his stomach. Despite the state of preservation, you can still see the belt laces and the chest's notation with its pronounced breasts.

The Bes one is a popular cult, widespread in Sardinia in the late Punic and Roman periods, as the statues found in Cagliari (fig. 3) and Bithia (Torre di Chia-Domusdemaria) (fig. 4) show.



Fig. 3 - Statue of Bes from Cagliari. III-I cent. B.C. (from Barreca 1986, p. 137)



Fig. 4 - Statue of Bes from Cagliari. III-I cent. B.C. (from Barreca 1986, p. 137)

■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Carlo Tronchetti

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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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