



Necropolis of Is Pirixeddus

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Jug with a bi-lobate lip

The jug with the bi-lobate lip was found inside tomb 11 AR of the Phoenician-Punic necropolis of Sulky and belongs to some grave goods which date from the first half of the fifth century B.C. It is characterised by a dark red englobe and has the typical decoration of grouped horizontal lines (fig. 1).



Fig. 1 - Bi-lobate truncated-cone jug from tomb AR 11 of the necropolis of Sulky. Municipal Archaeological Museum "F. Barreca" (photo by Unicity S.p.A.)

This type of jug is part of a ritual kit which was widespread in the Phoenician-Punic necropolis in Sulky (fig. 2).



Fig. 2 - One of the sets of grave goods from the Phoenician-Punic necropolis in Sulky. Municipal Archaeological Museum "F. Barreca" (photo by C. Olianias).

It is also called a biconical jug due to the shape of the body that is one of the later characteristics of its evolution: the body, that was oval between the 7th and 6th century B.C., became typically that of two opposing truncated cones in the early years of the fifth century B.C.



Fig. 3 - Bi-lobate jug with ovoid belly dating from the seventh century B.C. in Tharros. Antiquarium Arboreense (Or)
(from http://www.antiquariumarboreense.it/it/Museo/Archivi/Reperti/Immagini/036_DSC_5753.jpg).

The rim also changed, increasing in size over time and the handle changed shape: in more ancient times it was a double stick, then in the early decades of the 5th century B.C. it became a long stick then became more of a band halfway through the same century. In the case of the Sulky item, it is a handle with a so-called false double stick, often used at a much later date (fig. 4). The bi-lobate jug was the container for the wine which was drunk in honour of the de-ceased, probably according to the rite of Marzeah, the eastern ritual feast in which wine was a very important element, able to give a closeness to divinities, and whose roots in the culture of the Near East are extremely ancient and linked to the cult of heroes and kings.



Fig. 4 - Bi-lobate truncated-cone jug from tomb AR 11 of Sulky with false double spout handle. Municipal Archaeological Museum "F. Barreca" (photo by Unicity S.p.A.)

■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Cinzia Olianas

■ Bibliographic abbreviations

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■ Periodicals and magazines

RSF *Rivista di Studi Fenici*, Roma, I, 1973 e ss.





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