



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Giants' tomb of Thomes

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Nuragic bronze statue of a boxer (Gonone)

In 1947 Pietro Pisano, a local surveyor, gave the archaeologist Doro Levi a votive bronze statue (measurements: h. 13.1 cm; width 3,5 cm; depth 6 cm) from Gonone di Dorgali, that the archaeologist interpreted as a “tanner” (figs. 1, 2).



Figs. 1, 2 - Boxer (from Moravetti, Alba, Foddai 2014, p. 369).

The bronze statue, made using the lost wax fusion technique, is of a boxer, covered only by a triangular tailed skirt, sewn at the back, wrapped around the waist. The figure has a long shield on his head, probably made from leather with a wooden frame, with a folded edge; he is wearing a glove around his hand, and has his right-hand forearm raised and bent.

The artefact, dated to the X-VII centuries BC, is on display at the National Archaeological Museum of Cagliari.

The boxers' category was closely connected to the rituals that were carried out in sacred places, in which sacred games were also planned. In the realm of Sardinian bronze figures, the boxer found in the Cavalupo Tomb in Vulci, dated to the second half of the 9th century and the one found in the Grotta del Carmelo in Ozieri are well known.

From an iconographic point of view, the boxer is reproduced in most of the Nuragic statues in stone from Mont'e Prama di Cabras (fig. 3).



Fig. 3 - Boxer from Mont'e Prama di Cabras (from Moravetti, Alba, Foddai 2014, p. 182).

■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Emanuela Atzeni

■ Bibliography

CANINO G., *Pugilatore-scheda 21*, in Moravetti A., Alba E., Foddai L. (a cura di), *La Sardegna Nuragica. Storia e materiali*, Sassari 2014, p. 369.

MORAVETTI A., ALBA E., FODDAI L. (a cura di), *La Sardegna Nuragica. Storia e materiali*, Sassari 2014, pp. 111-120.





UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



UNIONE EUROPEA

Progetto cofinanziato dall'Unione Europea
Programma Operativo FESR 2007-2013

FESR - Fondo Europeo di Sviluppo Regionale - Asse I, Linea di Attività 1.2.3.a