

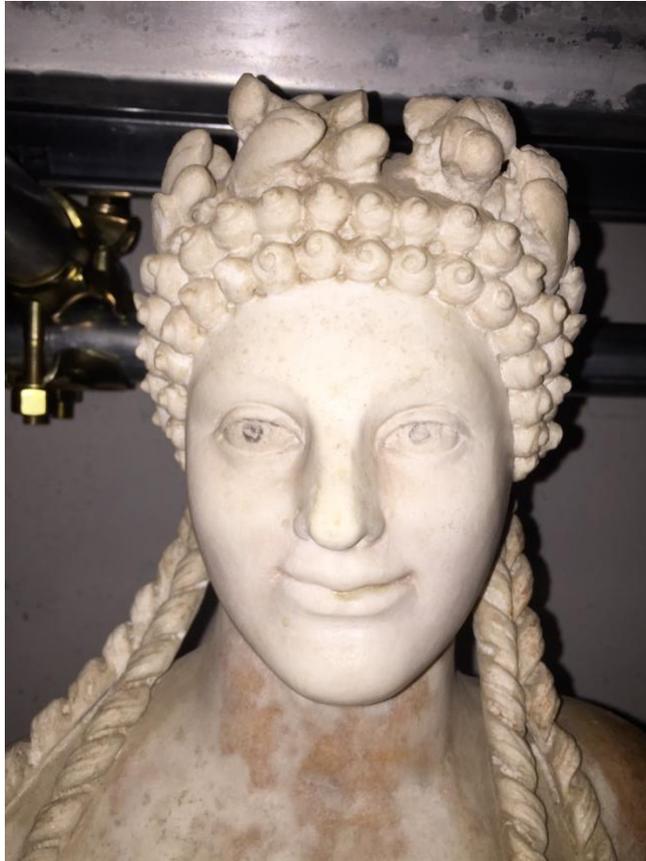
Daniel Healey  
PhD Candidate  
Department of Art and Archaeology  
Princeton University

### Retrospective Styles in Roman Artistic Culture

My research considers the place of outdated, distinctively old-fashioned visual styles in Roman artistic culture. In particular, I am interested in the Roman afterlife of the Greek Archaic style (ca. 650-480 BC), and the distinctively Roman meanings of archaistic statuary and relief in the first centuries BC and AD. As the American Friends of Herculaneum 2019 scholar, I was able to spend two months of the summer of 2019 in Naples, undertaking research in the Naples Archaeological Museum and at the nearby sites of Pompeii, Herculaneum, Baiae, and Stabiae. The opportunity was a boon to my dissertation project, and has transformed my thinking about archaistic art in the private sphere.

At the Naples Archaeological Museum, I focused my attentions on archaistic material recovered from Pompeii and Herculaneum. Among the works I considered were an archaistic statue of Apollo, recovered from Pompeii's House of the Menander (Fig. 1); the statue of Isis from Pompeii's Temple of Isis (Fig. 2); a striding Diana, discovered in Pompeii's House of Diana; and a pair of Priapic herms in pavonazzetto marble, restored as one herm shaft and on display in the museum's "Secret Cabinet" (Fig. 3). I also studied representations of archaistic statuary in Roman pictorial media, including an opus sectile plaque from the House of the Colored Capitals in Pompeii (Fig. 4). Due to a large and ongoing renovation project to the museum's galleries, not all of this material was on display to the public. I gained special permission to visit the museum's storage facilities to see the Apollo from the House of the Menander, and traveled to Rome in order to see the archaistic Diana, which was part of a special exhibition at the Musei Capitolini on artworks confiscated by the carabinieri.

I made numerous visits to Pompeii in order to study the original display contexts of these statues, many of which hailed from domestic gardens. The Apollo from the House of the Menander, for instance, was discovered in that house's garden courtyard, while the Diana was found in a small garden at the back of the House of Diana, where she was displayed in an elaborate and specially built shrine. One major benefit of my AFOH research has been the emergence of a new focus on the Roman garden, both as an important locus of archaistic statuary and as a context that informed its particularly Roman meanings.



**Figure 1.** Detail of the small statue of Apollo (MANN inv. 146103), from the House of the Menander, Pompeii (I.10.4). Traces of ancient pigment visible on eyes.



**Figure 2.** Overview and detail of the archaic Isis (MANN inv. 9976), from the portico of Pompeii's Temple of Isis (VII.7.28).





**Figure 3.** Fragments of two Priapic herms (originally a pair?) in colored marbles, restored as one herm (MANN inv. 34 – s.n.). From an unknown context.



**Figure 4.** Opus sectile plaque (MANN inv. 9979), with a Dionysiac scene that includes a Maenad adorning a small Priapic herm. From the House of the Colored Columns, Pompeii (VII.4.31-51).