

CMA/CWRU Joint Program in Art History & Museum Studies

Ingalls Library Orientation

A Suggested Methodology for Answering your Question

What is the earliest literature to be associated with the bronze *Apollo* attributed to Praxiteles in the collection of the Cleveland Museum of Art?

1. Search the Ingalls Library catalog:

Begin with an exact subject search for **Praxiteles**. It is often useful to consult the subject headings to confirm how the library has cataloged a topic. The search returns four subject headings for the query:

Praxiteles, 4th cent. B.C.

Praxiteles, 4th cent. B.C. Aphrodite of Cnidus

Praxiteles, 4th cent. B.C. – Congresses

Praxiteles, 4th cent. B.C. –Exhibitions

2. Select the title(s) that is/are most relevant.

For this exercise, the 1st & 4th subject headings, indicated above in **bold**, should be consulted. Click through to the first item listed in both the 1st and 4th subject headings. Fill out a call slip for NB102 .C66 2004 and NB102 .P73 2007.

3. Scan the publications for relevant information:

Find the CMA *Apollo* in each publication and search for references to classical writers. Be sure to check the article by the Museum's Curator of Greek & Roman Art, Michael Bennett, in the exhibition catalog, *Praxitèle*.

4. Since the object is owned by the Cleveland Museum of Art, it is useful to search the Ingalls Library CMA Publication Index for references to the *Apollo*. When searching this resource, it is useful to search by accession number.

We find that the bronze has been published in the several issues of the *Members Magazine*. In the text of the article published in the September 2004 issue of the *Members Magazine*, we find a reference to the Roman author, Pliny the Elder, describing the *Apollo* in his *Natural History* (book 34,69ff).

5. Return to the Ingalls Library catalog:

Perform an exact search for **Pliny the Elder** as an author. Select the second entry, **Pliny, the Elder. Naturalis historia. English & Latin**. We find that the Ingalls Library owns a copy of Pliny's *Natural History*, but that it is unavailable. For our purposes, I have borrowed a copy of the work from the Cleveland Institute of Art Library. See the reference to the *Apollo* sculpture on pp. 179-180.

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6. Search JSTOR:

Search for **Praxiteles Sauroktonos**. While several of the citations look promising, select the first, *A Note on Praxiteles "Sauroktonos"* by Jody Maxmin. The first paragraph of the article provides the answer to our question.

Search for **lizards, greek, art**. The first article, by Jeffrey M. Hurwit, *Lizards, Lions and the Uncanny in Early Greek Art* provides some insight into our topic.

7. Consult *Benezit's Dictionary of Artists*:

The entry for Praxiteles provides biographical information on the artist, a short critical essay and bibliography.

8. Consult *Grove's Dictionary of Art*:

Grove's provides information similar to what is found in Benezit .

9. Consult a more specific Dictionary or Encyclopedia.

For general information on Apollo, consult the entries in *The Dictionary of Classical Mythology* REF BL715 .B44 1982, *The Encyclopedia of the Gods* REF BL473 .J67 1992 or the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* REF DE5 .O9 2003.

10. Find a digital image of the sculpture using Ingalls Library Image Catalog:

Search for the accession number, 2004.30, numerous views are available.

11. The Museum's collections database, Apelles also provides information on the sculpture. Ask the reference librarian on duty to search the database, since it is not accessible via the Ingalls Library OPAC.