Welcome

The RD Milns Antiquities Museum is the largest collection of Greek, Roman and Egyptian antiquities on public display in Queensland.

At the Museum, we are dedicated to connecting our audiences with this rich past through an exciting range of exhibitions and events. In the first half of 2017, we will continue to explore the fascinating complexities of ancient luxury through the exhibition *Useless Beauty: Luxury and Rome*. In June, we invite you to contemplate another intriguing set of questions, this time about ancient status and citizenship. Our new exhibition, *Why Citizenship? Stories from Athens and Rome*, will bring to light personal experiences of individuals from Athens and the Roman Empire. The exhibition program will be accompanied by our usual range of public lectures, evening events, master classes and school programs.

Monday to Friday 9.30am – 4.30pm
Level 2, Building 9 (Michie), University of Queensland, St Lucia


RD Milns Antiquities Museum: Preserving, Connecting and Inspiring

*Medicine-Box*
15.001 b
Bronze, Medicines
Roman, AD 1-200
Purchased from Charles Ede Ltd with funds from Dr Glenda Powell AM in Memory of Dr Owen Powell OAM, 2015.
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Dr Owen Powell OAM Memorial Medical Collection

In 2015, the Museum acquired a rare and significant Roman medical collection. It comprises a medicine-box decorated with the figure of Asclepius (right) and a full set of medical instruments including probes, scalpels, forceps, and a rare bone-lever.

The acquisition of this world-class medical collection was made possible through a generous donation in memory of Dr Owen Powell OAM. The Museum is honoured to present the collection for permanent display.

Ongoing Permanent Exhibition

_Detail from Medicine-Box_
15.001 a
Bronze, Silver, Sp. Neillo, Copper
Rome, AD 1-200
Purchased from Charles Ede Ltd with funds from Dr Glenda Powell AM in Memory of Dr Owen Powell OAM, 2015.
The Fr Leo Hayes Collection of Ancient Coins

In 1967, the University of Queensland acquired the remarkable and wide ranging collection of Fr Leo Hayes, parish priest of St Monica’s Church in Oakey, Queensland. The collection comprised over 50,000 books and manuscripts, along with historical and ethnographic artefacts and a significant collection of ancient coins. By 1979 this collection had found its way to the Antiquities Museum, forming the basis of its Late Antique coin collection. To commemorate the 50th anniversary of Fr Hayes’ donation, the Museum presents a selection of the Fr Leo Hayes collection for public display in 2017.

Until February 2018

Dupondius of Hadrian
C.093
Bronze
Rome, Italy, AD 119-121
Gift of Fr L Hayes, Brisbane, 1979.
Useless Beauty: Luxury and Rome

*Luxuria* (extravagance, luxury, excess) was a problematic concept for the Romans; it undermined traditional ancestral customs. Proper Roman behaviour was supposed to be dictated, not by foreign imports and extravagant lifestyles, but by one’s *virtus* (moral excellence), *gravitas* (seriousness conveying dignity), *continentia* (self-control) and *frugalitas* (frugality). From the third century BC the Romans attempted to legislate against its corrupting effects, often in vain.

*Useless Beauty* examines a stunning range of artefacts including Roman jewellery, perfume vases and table wares, in conjunction with contemporary comment from Roman moralists and poets. It explores how and why the desire for luxury goods, and love of the foreign and exotic, quickly became a part of Roman elite culture.

“What will a woman do with no fear for safeguard, when there is Rome to teach its luxury?”

Propertius, Elegies 3.12

Until May 2017

*Finger-Ring with Aphrodite*

01.017
Iron, Cornelian
Roman, AD 1-200
On loan from Mr G Slater, Brisbane, before 2001.
Why Citizenship? Stories from Athens and Rome

While it might appear that citizenship in the ancient world was a simple and straightforward concept, not everyone thought about citizenship in the same way. In Classical Athens entry into the citizen body was closely controlled, determined by gender, birth and ancestry, while in Rome, people of both free and freed status came to enjoy at least basic citizen rights over time.

*Why Citizenship?* explores the stories of ancient people from a wide variety of backgrounds and asks why citizenship mattered to them. It also invites visitors to consider concepts of citizenship, and to reflect upon issues of gender, sexuality, politics, race and social status in the modern day.

June 2017 – May 2018

*Loutrophoros*
86.0097
Marble
Athens, Greece, 400-375 BC
Purchased from Sotheby and Co. with funds from the University of Queensland Alumni Association donated by Mrs Betty Fletcher on the occasion of the University of Queensland’s 75th Anniversary, 1986.
Event details produced here are intended as a guide only and are subject to change. Please check the Museum website uq.edu.au/antiquities for up to date information or follow the Antiquities Museum on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

February

Sunday 5 February, 2pm

Friends of Antiquity Sunday Series

The Heyworth Smith Memorial Lecture, presented by Dr Paul Roche (Sydney) on the topic of “Ovid’s Metamorphoses in Contemporary Art and Literature”.

Where: Room E302, Forgan Smith Building

Cost: $10 Donation suggested

Friday 24 February, 10am

Museum Supporters Morning Tea (by invitation only – contact Dr Janette McWilliam for information on how to support the Museum)

Including a tour of the exhibitions Useless Beauty: Luxury and Rome and Saturnalia: How the Romans Give, and a presentation on the annual RD Milns Antiquities Museum internship program.

Where: RD Milns Antiquities Museum

Cost: Free
March

**Sunday 5 March, 2pm**

*Friends of Antiquity Sunday Series*

“Headless in Corinth: Creating, Displaying and Destroying Portrait Statues of Imperial Officials in Late Roman Greece” presented by Dr Amelia Brown (Queensland).

**Where:** Room E302, Forgan Smith Building

**Cost:** $10 Donation suggested

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**Monday 25 March, 8am – 4pm**

*Friends of Antiquity Ancient History Day*

A day of entertaining and engaging talks on the topic of “Art in the Ancient Mediterranean World.” Not to be missed.

Check the Friends of Antiquity website ([friendsofantiquity.org.au](http://friendsofantiquity.org.au)) for more information on ticket prices and venue closer to the event date.
Daily, Tuesday 28 March – Thursday 30 March, 1pm – 3pm

Antiquities Master Class - Greek Vases

A collection master class on the identification, dating and iconography of ancient Greek vase types for undergraduate students. Presented by Mr James Donaldson, Senior Museum Officer.

Where: RD Milns Antiquities Museum

Cost: Free

April

Sunday 2 April, 2pm

Friends of Antiquity Sunday Series

Presentation by Dr Jessie Burkett-Rees (Monash).

Where: Room E302, Forgan Smith Building

Cost: $10 Donation suggested
May

Tuesday 2 May, 6pm

*Useless Beauty Up Late*

Join local Brisbane artisans in conversation with the curators of the Museum’s latest exhibition, Useless Beauty, for an intimate evening of Roman and modern luxury.

**Where:** RD Milns Antiquities Museum

**Cost:** $35 per person, limited to 20 tickets only

Sunday 7 May, 2pm

*Friends of Antiquity Sunday Series*

“Half an Ounce of Gold: Studying Greek and Roman Precious Metal Jewellery in the RD Milns Antiquities Museum” presented by Mr James Donaldson (Queensland).

**Where:** Room E302, Forgan Smith Building

**Cost:** $10 Donation suggested
June

Sunday 4 June, 2.30pm

*Friends of Antiquity Sunday Series*

“Hobnails and Hexameters: A Quick Run Through Roman Poetry” presented by Mr Denis Brosnan (Queensland).

**Where:** Room E302, Forgan Smith Building  
**Cost:** $10 Donation suggested

Friday 9 June, 6pm

*Why Citizenship? Stories from Athens and Rome Exhibition Opening*

Join the Antiquities Museum for the opening of its latest exhibition, exploring what citizenship meant to people in the ancient world.

**Where:** RD Milns Antiquities Museum  
**Cost:** Free
By Car: Parking at the University of Queensland is limited and fees apply. For more information visit: pf.uq.edu.au/parking

Buses: Two bus stations service the University of Queensland - Chancellor’s Place bus station and UQ lakes bus station. Bus routes stopping at the University are: 412, 411, 109, 402, 428, 427, 432, 414, 209, 169, 139.

CityCat Ferry: The campus CityCat terminal is located near the corner of Sir William MacGreggor Drive and Blair Drive.

By Train: Train stations located at Toowong (Ipswich Line) or over the river at Dutton Park (Beenleigh Line) offer convenient bus transfers to the University.

For more information visit: translink.com.au

By Bicycle: The St Lucia campus is easily accessed by bicycle, with a safe riverside bicycle path connecting the campus to the city as well as via the Eleanor Schonell bridge.
Lekythos
95.014
Terracotta
Athens, Greece, 500-450 BC
Purchased from the Toussaint Collection with funds from the Castlehow Bequest, 1995.