

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2800 Year-Old European Pottery Comes to CSUSB

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. – Ever wonder what the developing western world was like during the pivotal time of Homer, Plato and Socrates? Patrons can get a glimpse into their world when the Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art features ancient European pottery in an exhibit that opens this fall.

The exhibition, “Greeks in the Boot: Greek Influences in the Italian Peninsula as Reflected in the Pottery of Various Regions, ca. 800-200 B.C.,” is funded in part by a generous grant from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation.

In antiquity, pottery made from fired clay was the most common art form. It was collected, treasured and used for everything from storage, cooking, serving, eating, transporting goods for trade and funerary rituals. Today, it “speaks” to us about the people of the ancient societies, giving us a glimpse into their lifestyle, diet and beliefs, as well as organization and development of their world. It also tells stories about the craftsmen who made them and artists who decorated them.

Part one of RAFFMA’s two-part exhibition is titled “Greeks: A Survey of Ancient Greek Vases from the J. Paul Getty Museum’s Collection.” It showcases 17 ancient Greek ceramics from the Bronze age through the first millennium B.C. and sets the stage for part two, “Greeks in the Boot: A Survey of Ancient Pottery in Italy from RAFFMA’s Permanent Collection.” Part two includes a selection of 28 clay objects from RAFFMA’s own unique collection of ancient pottery from the Italian peninsula.

This exciting exhibition duo tells the story of the period from about 800 B.C. during the legendary founding of Rome through approximately 200 B.C. at the peak of the Roman Republic and the Hellenistic culture. At this time, multiple cultures existing in the region traded agricultural products and other goods. Greek visual culture affected and transformed the many indigenous cultures of the region, which can be seen in the pottery.

“Greeks in the Boot: Greek Influences in the Italian Peninsula as Reflected in the Pottery of Various Regions, ca. 800-200 B.C.” will run from Oct. 14, 2013, through May 10, 2014. An opening reception will be held on Saturday, Oct. 12 at 5 p.m., with a special preview for the Friends of RAFFMA membership group at 4:30 p.m.

About RAFFMA

The Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art is a nationally recognized museum accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, a Washington D.C. based organization whose members must meet the highest standards in securing accreditation. It is the only accredited art museum in San Bernardino.

Over its 16-year history, RAFFMA has accumulated a permanent collection of nearly 1,200 objects focusing on Egyptian antiquities, ceramics and contemporary art. The museum houses the largest permanent and public display of Egyptian art in Southern California.

General admission to the museum is free. Suggested donation is \$5. Parking at Cal State San Bernardino is \$5 per vehicle.

The museum is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and is closed Friday and Sunday. For more information, call (909) 537-7373 or visit the [RAFFMA website](http://raffma.csusb.edu) at <http://raffma.csusb.edu>.