

# ASCLEPIUS

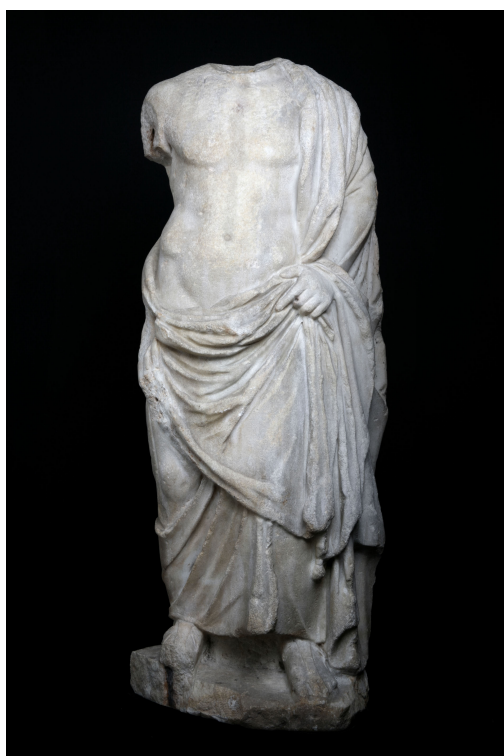
ROMAN, 1<sup>ST</sup> – 2<sup>ND</sup> CENTURY AD.  
MARBLE

HEIGHT: 99 CM.

WIDTH: 39 CM.

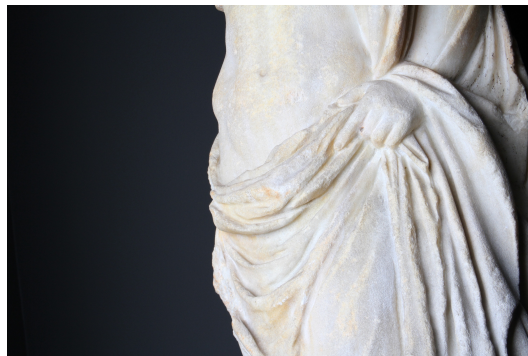
DEPTH: 24 CM.

*PROVENANCE:  
FORMER AMERICAN COLLECTION  
SOLD BY THE GALLERY FORTUNA, NEW  
YORK, IN THE 1990S.*



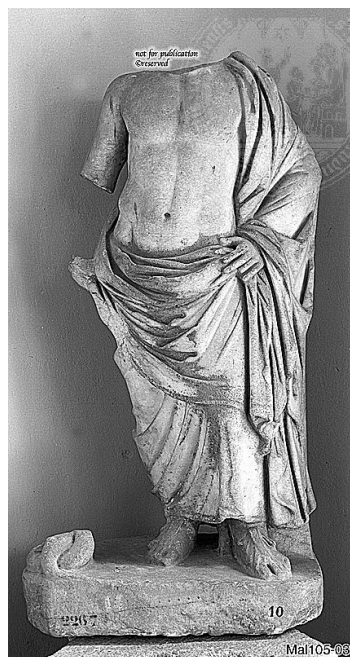
Son of Apollo and Coronis, Asclepius is depicted in his emblematic position, wrapped in his himation, revealing his bare chest. He traditionally leans on a staff entwined with a serpent, symbolizing the healing of the sick. Known models dating from the 4th century BC show Asclepius in this same posture. The dimensions of our example attest to the importance of the deity within Roman society. A torso of similar size and quality is preserved in the Capitoline

Museums.



A benevolent deity and personification of Medicine, Asclepius was particularly venerated from the 5th century BC in Delphi and Athens, especially after the plague of 430-429 BC. During the Hellenistic period, he achieved great success throughout the Mediterranean basin.

Comparatives :



Ill. 1. Esculape, Musei Capitolini, inv. No. 2267.

