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Translation (English)

Extract of a scientific text

(aus dem Italienischen ins Englische übertragen; für einen Privatkunden)

(translated from Italian into English, for a private client)

This study is devoted to a particular type of clay vessel, which is composed by a ring-shaped base, generally hollow inside, exceptionally also massive. On this base are fixed plastic fixtures, most of all containers of small dimensions, often floral-shaped, animal-shaped or anthropomorphic elements. Generally the fixtures communicate with the circular base by means of small holes at the bottom. The vessel may be painted with geometric, floral or figurative motives which make of it a complex and at the same time very vivid product.

Scholars used to call this vessel *kernos*, unfortunately an unfounded denomination, for this ancient *terminus* means a different cult vessel, used in the Eleusinian mysteries and in Attica. This kind of vessel has in common with ours only a vague formal analogy, whereas its different parts do not communicate one with another.

Caption (extract) for an object on exhibition in a museum

(aus dem Deutschen ins Englische übersetzt; für das Antikenmuseum Basel und Sammlung Ludwig)

(translated from German into English; for the Basel Museum of Ancient Art and Ludwig Collection)

Apulian amphora by the Baltimore Painter.

Inv. BS xx

The principal frieze depicts an episode of the conquest of Troy by the Greeks. Two women urgently menaced ask for help by desperately embracing the white-shining cult statue of Athena: on the left side Helena who must fear the revenge of her husband Menelaos, and on the right side Cassandra trying to escape from Aias. The destiny of the two women is very different: Helena being of proverbial beauty is going to be saved from any fury whereas Cassandra will be put to shame and reduced to slavery by the conquering Greeks. The goddess Aphrodite herself brings help to Helena by holding back the furious Menelaos. She is even succoured by a little Eros grasping one of his legs.