



Female Figure

Date

ca. 300 BCE-300 CE

Primary Maker

Jalisco

Medium

pottery and slip paint

Description

Figurines from Jalisco in the Ameca Gray style such as this one are characterized by remarkable cranial elongation. This female figure sits in a casual pose with her arm resting upon a raised knee. Her other arm surrounds one of her breasts, which are well defined with appliqué nipples. In most female figures in the Jalisco style, the breasts are large and tattooed with spiral designs. The long nose and large, staring eyes are also characteristic of the Ameca style. Jalisco figurines have recurring themes, and this piece exemplifies the Thinker figures, which are usually female with asymmetrical leg positions and serene facial expressions. Most female representations in Mesoamerican art show women engaged in traditional female activities such as childcare or food preparation.

However, a large number of female figurines from Jalisco are depicted in actions that depart from this traditionally gendered focus.

Dimensions

Overall: 9 3/4 x 5 7/8 x 7 1/2 in. (24.8 x 14.9 x 19.1 cm)