



OBJECT ID	2008.37.93
OBJECT NAME	Block, Printing
OBJECT COLLECTION	Greek Art Printing Company Artifact Collection (is part of)
MATERIAL	Lead; Wood
OBJECT ENTITIES	Damianos, John (is related to) Damianos, Aristotle (is related to)
ACCESS POINTS	Greek Art Printing Company Ilia Association logo praxiteles printing block Seal Stamp statue wood block

OBJECT DESCRIPTION

Square, wood printing block of a seal. the seal has a bordering ring of text around portrait of a youth in profile. The Greek words along the top of the ring identify the seal as representing the Ilia Association and on the bottom, in English, it locates the group in Chicago, Ill. In the center of the seal is a close up portrait of a curly haired youth in profile. Tiny words written in English across his chest identify the image as that of the "Hermes of Praxiteles." The stump of his raised arm is visible to the right side of the seal.

ORIGIN

Donated by John Damianos. The printing block was used in a linotype printing machine. Linotype presses allowed for the casting of entire lines to be printed at a time. Linotype printing was eventually succeeded by lithograph printing and computer typesetting during the 1960's and 1970's. This printing block was used by the Chicago-based, Greek Art Printing Company that was owned and operated by Aristotle Damianos. The Greek Art Printing Company was responsible for the printing of a wide range of materials, including wedding invitations, invoices, flyers, programs, letterhead, etc., for Greek businesses, organizations, institutions, and individuals in the Chicago area, and elsewhere.

Ilia or Elis refers to the western part of the Peloponnese. The Ilia association may have been a cultural group of immigrants from this region. The Hermes of Praxiteles was discovered in the 19th century in the ruins of a temple to Hera at Olympia. It is a 4th century statue depicting Hermes carrying an infant Dionysus to safety.

CITATION

Block, Printing, Greek Art Printing Company Artifact Collection, *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 09/12/26.