

OBJECT ID	2016.4.9
OBJECT NAME	Photograph
MEDIUM	Photo Paper
OBJECT ENTITIES	Meletzis, Spyros (created by)

OBJECT DESCRIPTION

This is a black and white photo of The Charioteer of Delphi. The figure is of a very young man, as is shown by his soft side-curls. The Charioteer wears the customary long tunic, (the xystin), reaching down to his ankles. A wide belt tightens the tunic high above the waist, while two other bands pass as suspenders over the shoulders, under the arms and crisscross in the back. The deep vertical pleats in the lower part of the tunic emphasize the Charioteer's solid posture, resembling also the fluting of an Ionic column. On the upper part of the body, however, the pleats are wavy, diagonal or curved. This contrast in the garment representation is also followed by the body's contrapuntal posture, so that the statue does not show any rigidity, but looks perfectly mobile and almost real. The entire statue is as if it is animated by a gradual shift to the right starting from the solid stance of the feet and progressing sequentially through the body passing the hips, chest and head to end up at its gaze. The hands are spread out holding the reins, with the long and thin fingers tightening – together with the reins – a cylindrical object, the riding crop. His right arm is missing.
On the back is typed "Bronze Charioteer of Delphi. Spyros Meletzis 24, Kaisarias Street Athens".

ORIGIN

The Charioteer of Delphi is one of the best-known statues surviving from Ancient Greece, and is considered one of the finest examples of ancient bronze statues. The life-size (1.8m) statue of a chariot driver was found in 1896 at the Sanctuary of Apollo in Delphi. It is now in the Delphi Archaeological Museum.

CITATION

Photograph, *National Hellenic Museum*, https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/. Accessed 11/11/26.