Praxiteles Encyclopedia Article

Praxiteles

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Praxiteles

375-340 B.C.

Greek sculptor who is famous for his marble carvings of mythological gods and goddesses. What made him unique as a sculptor is the way he positioned the bodies of his figures. Rather than posing them in traditional rigid, face-forward, arms at the side, symmetrical positions, his statues are bent, inclined, or slightly twisted to appear more naturalistic. His best known works are *Hermes Carrying the Infant Dionysus, Apollo Sauroctonus,* and *Aphrodite of Cnidus.*