

## The Architectural and Cultural Reception of the Temple of Apollo at Bassai and its Frieze

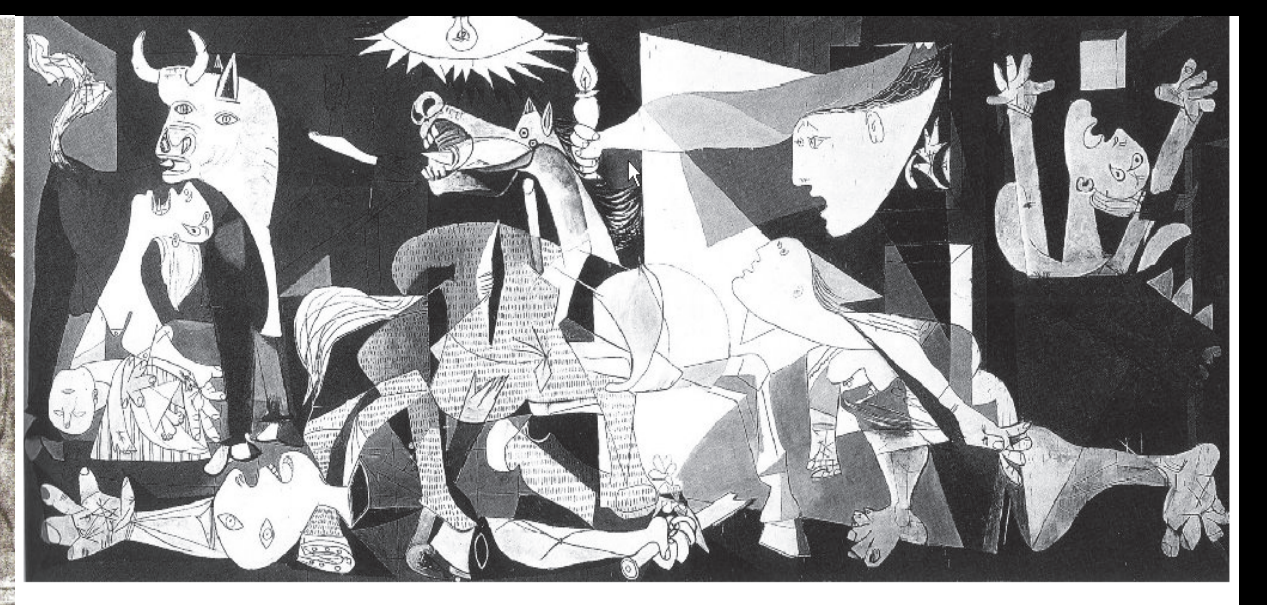
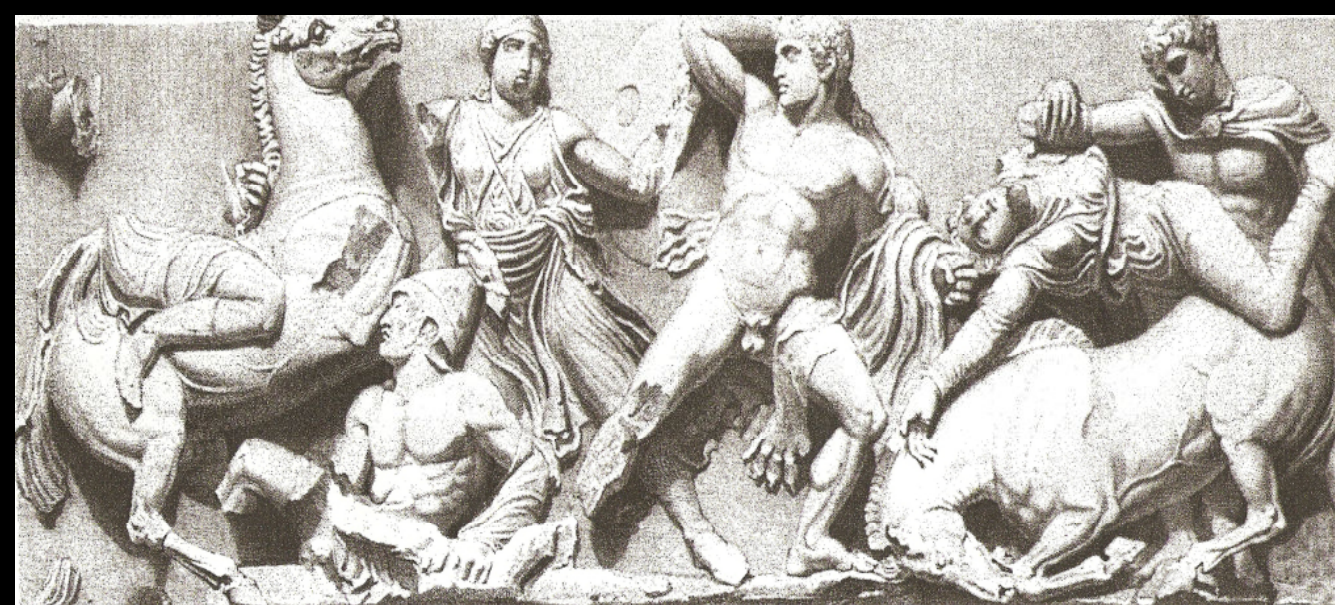


The Temple of Apollo at Bassai (430-400 B.C.)



The Ashmolean Museum, Oxford (1840)

This project is an analysis of how this Classical Greek temple and important UNESCO world heritage site, situated in ancient Arcadia, has impacted on art, architecture and academia, creating new narratives within specific social, political and religious contexts.



The marble frieze that adorned the temple was created in the aftermath of the Peloponnesian War (431-404 B.C.) and is artistically characterised by a continuous rapid display of violence. Its unsettling effect is similar to that of Picasso's *La Guernica* (1937) which was a response to the Spanish Civil War.



Televised pictures from modern wars, showing terrified women fleeing with children, contrasted with the now familiar images of pro-active female combat soldiers, all find parallels in the Bassai frieze in the form of passive violated Greek women and their antithesis, female Amazon warriors.



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