



# Erasmus+



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# ERASMUS+

Vila Pouca de Aguiar 2015



Greek presentation



**Erasmus+**



Vila Pouca de Aguiar 2015

**The central presentation of the Greek team presented with PowerPoint and dramatization**

**The 16 participating students, as students of a classroom taught by their “teacher” the meaning of Choros through the centuries.**



**We watch a scene of an old, very well known Greek movie.  
The girls have fun before class.  
When the foreman rings the bell in the movie, the action of our  
presentation starts ...**



Ok class, today we will discuss about the  
**shield of Achilles**



Wasn't that the shield that Hephaestus  
crafted for Achilles?



That's correct! Does anybody know anything about the shield?



I have heard that it also shows  
**young girls and boys dancing together**



Yes but can you tell me  
what kind of **choròs** is this ?



Dancing?





No, Dimitris,  
In Greek **C h o r ó s** has two meanings



The first meaning, as you said, is:

**dancing**  
(body expression)



The second meaning is:

**a group of people  
who aim at the same goal**



However,  
each one of them  
keeps his / her **individuality**



I don't get it, sir!



Here is an example:

Let's say that... we are in a  
**bus stop**



**BUS STOP**



# BUS STOP

Each one of you could be thinking about anything,  
give me **examples**



# I'm hungry!

- I love you!
- I love you too!

Yes, yes, I am coming!

Oh, I am late!  
I am missing my exam!



Each one of you is thinking of something different,  
but when the bus arrives ...

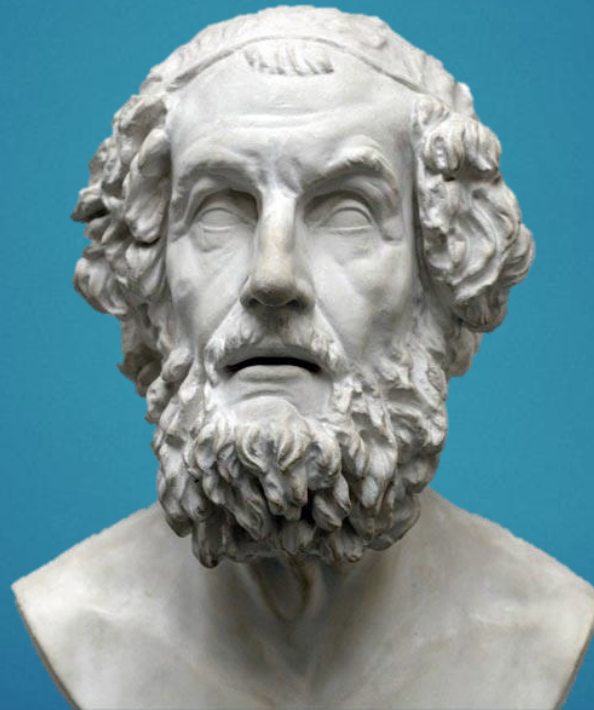
... you all **become one**,  
and follow your **common goal**



That is a **C h o r ó s**



# Homeric Period (8<sup>th</sup> century B.C)





In the **Iliad** of **Homer**,  
in the Rhapsody **S** there is a reference  
to the **shield of Achilles**



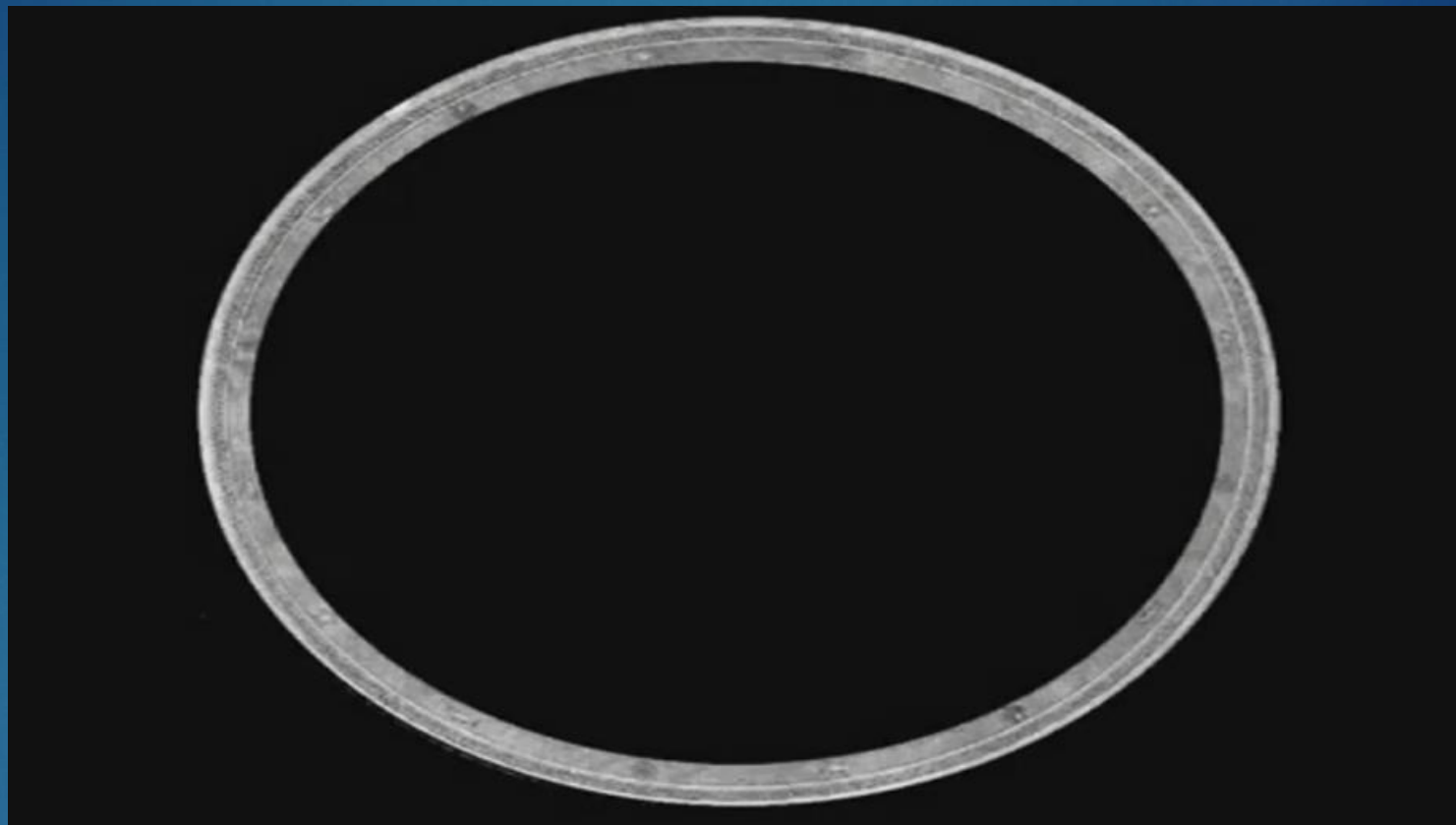
This shield was really special.  
It was forged by the god **Hephaestus**



The shield was decorated with images of the sun, the moon, the stars, the sea and the landscapes of Greece, along with two states, representing two groups of people



And last but not least,  
the wonderful **dance named "Labyrinth"**  
which was danced by the whole village  
in the name of Theseus,  
who escaped the labyrinth of Minoa



**Short film showing details of the shield of Achilles**

# Amphora of Dipylon (760 B.C)





An amphora is a type of container with a characteristic shape and size



In general the amphora shows scenes of **fights** or **funerals** in which the friends and relatives lament their dead



Lamenters, a group of people  
in a funeral is a special choròs  
in every historic period,  
in every culture

*Sappho*  
(7<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> century B.C)





For the first time in history  
people expressed **personal feelings**  
through **poetry**



The ego, **individuality**, **feelings** come to the surface



## **Sappho**

and her close relationship with her students  
is an example of feelings' expression



Please Γογγύλα (the girl's name)  
Appear wearing your beautiful dress!  
In your hemline the desire is wandering  
I can see you dancing and I am delighted  
and thus Aphrodite envies you

Listening to a song with lyrics by Sappho, the girls are acting Sappho with her students...

# The Derveni Krater (330 B.C)

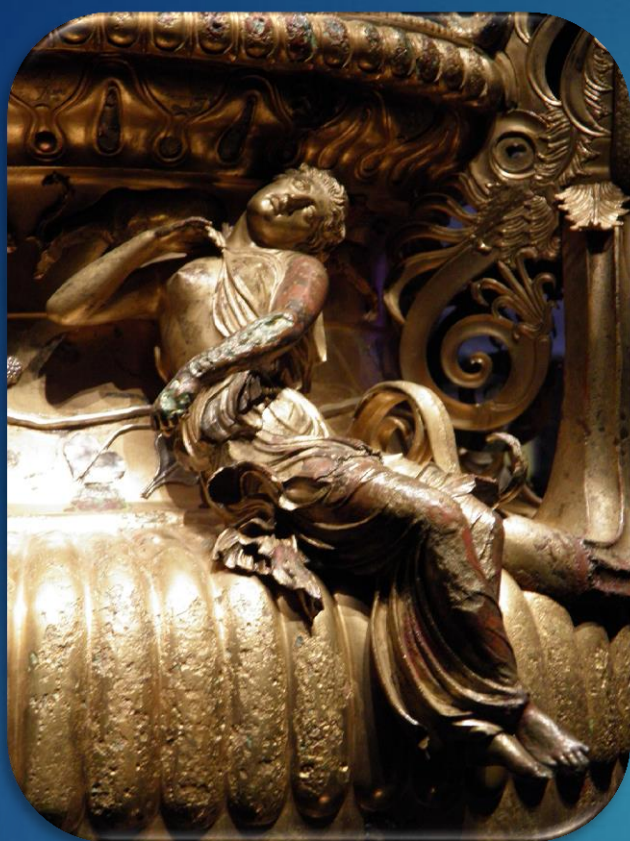




The Derveni Krater was found  
in Macedonia Greece in a tomb



The krater was used as  
an urn and it includes  
ashes of dead people



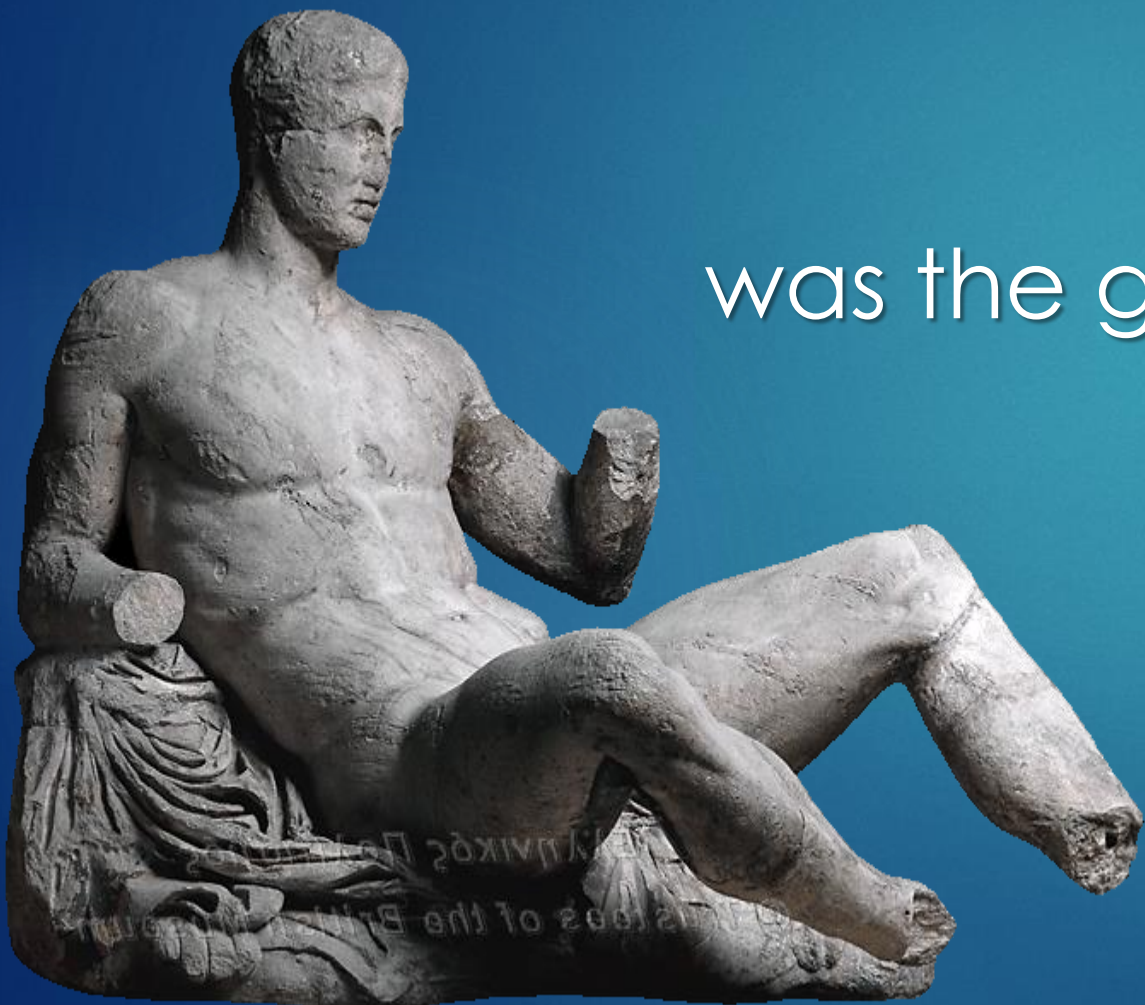
The decoration of the krater represents the sacred **marriage** of god Dionysus and Ariadne



Dionysus  
is followed by **Maenads**, a group of women  
who left their houses and devoted their lives to him



Dionysus  
was the god of **joy** and **euphoria**





# Tragedy (5<sup>th</sup> Century B.C)





Why are you dressed up like this?  
Where are you heading to?



I am rehearsing because  
I am going to play **tragedy**  
at the **theatre** today



Tragedy?





What is tragedy?



Tragedy  
is a form of **drama**,  
where you can the **leading actors**  
**interacting** with the **choròs**



We are at the period of  
**Democracy** at its peak



People have the **right**  
to **express their opinion**, to **vote**



Choròs,

in Tragedy and Comedy,  
represents a **dynamic collectivity**  
**supporting the action of heroes**



Ah, do you want to play all together?



Yes!





Watching a short video of an old performance of ancient Greek drama in our school, the girls are acting and dancing ...

# Age of Byzantium (330-1453 A.C)





The Roman Empire was **divided in two regions**



# The **East** and the **West**

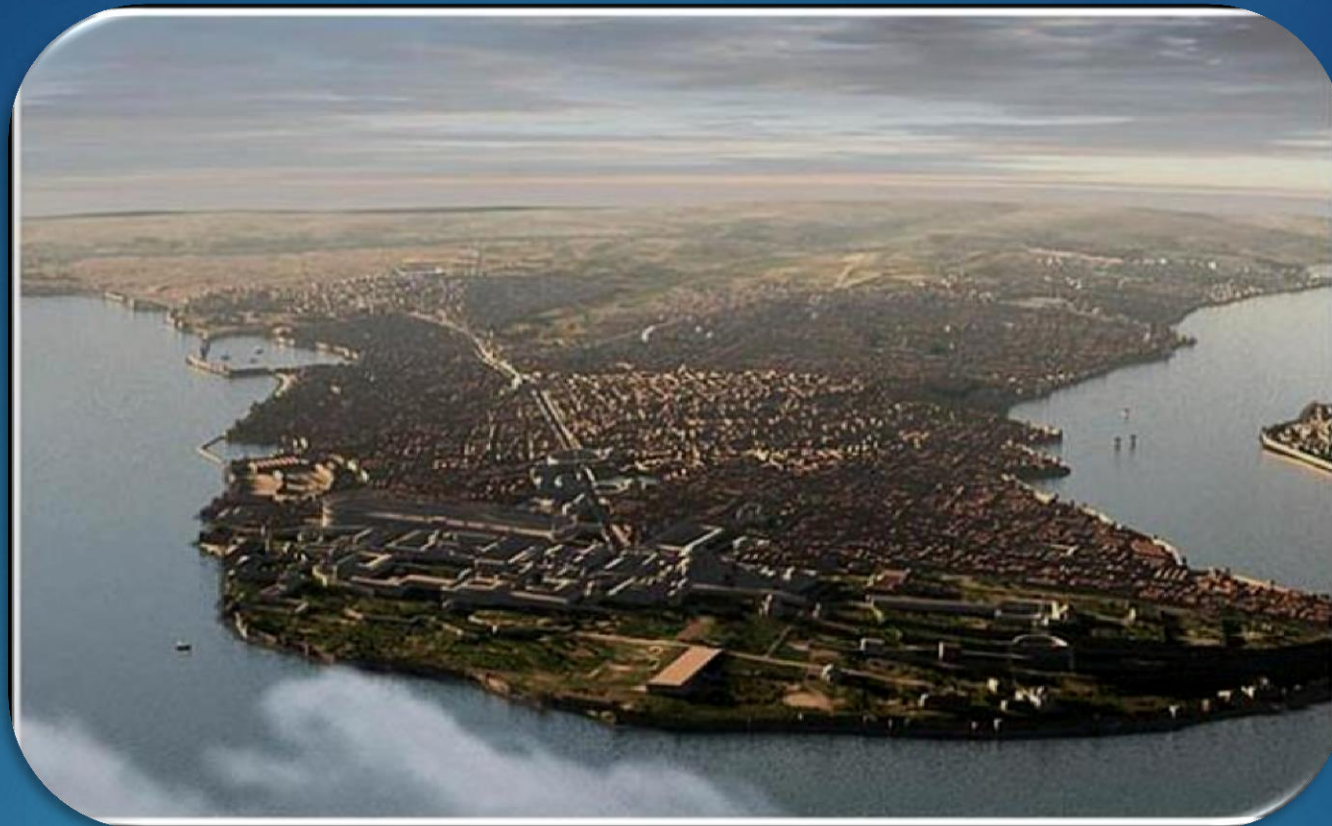




The capital of the West remains **Rome**



While on the East, on 300 A.C  
**Constantine the Great**  
founds a new capital, named  
**Constantinople**  
on the ruins of an ancient village named  
**Byzantium,**  
which used to be an ancient Greek colony



Very soon  
the **greek language** ends to be the formal language  
and **Christianity** the official dogma  
of the Byzantine empire



**Agia Sophia** (Αγία Σοφία)  
becomes the most  
representative **symbol**  
of the Byzantine Empire



**Choròs** even exists in religion



**A group of angels praying  
around Holy Mother is a choròs**



Angels are **supernatural creatures** that are supposed to **guard us**

# Martyrs and Saints





Martyrs are Christians who were **chased** and **killed** because of their **faith**

# Christian monasticism





Another type of choròs is the **groups of monks**  
(men or women)  
who live in Monasteries



Monks  
are dedicated to God,  
praying, working  
and living  
a very simple life

# Mount Athos





## **Mount Athos**

is the centre of orthodox monasticism  
through centuries  
and still remains an extremely attractive  
destination for every religious man



# **Meteora**

another group of Monasteries



**We enjoy now a professional video from internet about Meteora**



The Byzantine Empire ends  
with the **fall of Constantinople**  
by Ottoman Empire  
(29th of May **1453**)



Thus the **Ottoman Empire** begins



The **Greek Revolution**  
which begins in **1821**  
leads to the foundation of  
the **Greek independent State** in **1830**



# Folk songs (9<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century)





Folk songs  
are **written by anonymous** poets  
and are **sung everywhere**  
and **by everyone**



They express every aspect of human life



Now we are ready to **watch**  
a dramatized folk song  
related to  
**two major events of life**



# A wedding and a funeral





**We watch a short film based on a traditional Greek song by a Danish director**



Guys, I remembered another **chorós**



This choròs has been danced till today in villages  
to celebrate **reconciliation**



Would you like me to teach it to you ?



Another video from internet, showing a traditional Greek dance in a village. At the same time, the students are dancing too ...



But there's another choròs  
that is different from the others



**We see now a slide show with pictures about the nowadays tragedy: refugees  
The students give us an action inspired by a sculpture of Giacometti**



But guys... isn't there any **hope**?



There is!





If we all stay together  
like a  
**choròs**



**We finish with another short scene from the film of our presentations' beginning, showing a school excursion**

**Then we see pictures of our activities during these two years of Erasmus+ Project.  
The students are singing and dancing and we all finally have a great time dancing together ...**