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Título: Greek Architecture And Its Sculpture

Autor: Jenkins Ian

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This overview aimed at the general reader is dense but fast-moving, despite its occasional detours into musty scholarly controversies. Jenkins focuses almost exclusively on temples and tombs whose artifacts can be seen at the British Museum, where he is senior curator in the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities. This arbitrary framework turns out to be as good as any for a long view of ancient Greek buildings and sculpture, given the breadth of the museum's holdings. Jenkins's accounts of the Parthenon, the Temple of Artemis at Ephesos and half a dozen other sites are wrapped in deft capsule histories of the political situations that gave rise to them. Hundreds of mostly color photos and diagrams, smartly laid out for easy reference to the corresponding text, usually make the most obscure of his points comprehensible_his theory of how the drainage from the roof of the Artemision Temple worked, for example. A few times Jenkins discusses, in somewhat excruciating detail, questions unlikely to excite the nonspecialist (e.g., the apparently passionate debate among scholars about exactly how many columns were in that same Artemision Temple). But for the most part, the smart design and the author's obvious enthusiasm for his subject make this an accessible and lively survey.