

# Media Release

**Mr Steve Dimopoulos MP**

Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier  
Parliamentary Secretary for Mental Health



Friday, 18 February 2022

## EXHIBITION BRINGS WONDERS OF ANCIENT GREECE TO MELBOURNE

The Andrews Labor Government is helping Melbourne's Greek community share the wonders of their ancient past in an Australian-first exhibition which brings precious artefacts from Greece exclusively to Melbourne.

Melbourne Museum and Greece's National Archaeological Museum have collaborated and will take visitors back in time, with *Open Horizons: Ancient Greek Journeys* showcasing the ancient world of Greece.

The exhibition explores Greece's rich history through trade, spirituality and art, offering a window into the ideas and culture that have permeated into modern times and continue to influence culture, politics and sport.

Displayed for the first time in Australia – *Open Horizons* will showcase 44 treasures from the Early Bronze age through to the Roman period, introducing a new generation of visitors to the history of Greece.

Highlights include a 2,500-year-old marble sphinx depicting a female head with the body of a winged lion and a collection of artefacts depicting Heracles, the greatest of all Greek heroes

The Open Horizons exhibition was secured by the Labor Government and funded in the 2020-21 State Budget.

*Open Horizons: Ancient Greek Journeys* opens on Saturday, 23 April. Tickets are included with general entry to Melbourne Museum with more information available at [museums.vic.gov.au/open-horizons](https://museums.vic.gov.au/open-horizons).

### Quotes attributable to Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier Steve Dimopoulos

*"From sport through to politics and across art, culture and design, Ancient Greece continues its profound influence on the modern world."*

*"The Andrews Government is proud to bring this exclusive exhibition to Victoria, providing a fantastic opportunity for visitors to learn more about the stories of Victoria's Greek community, while exploring antiquities that are visiting Australia for the very first time."*

### Quotes attributable to Museums Victoria CEO Lynley Crosswell

*"We are excited to be collaborating with the National Archaeological Museum to bring some of the most remarkable artefacts direct from Athens for audiences in Melbourne to enjoy."*

*"This captivating exhibition will invite visitors to explore the cross-cultural connections that contributed to the formation of Ancient Greece."*

### Quote attributable to Minister of Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports Dr Lina Mendoni

*"Since antiquity, the Greeks have always followed the open horizons of the sea, constantly travelling to every corner of the world. Extroversion, broad-mindedness and cosmopolitanism, as well as the ability to embrace and utilise foreign influences in a creative and original way have been integral elements of Hellenic culture."*