



Figure

Date

ca. 1500-400 BCE

Primary Maker

Olmec

Medium

stone, possibly serpentine

Description

A highly polished surface, elongated head, and abstracted rendering of facial features are all elements that identify Olmec stone sculptures as depictions of supernatural characters. This stone figurine has the typical slender shape with elongated limbs and head. Facial features are reduced to basic elements, but special emphasis was given to the mouth. At the ends of both arms, linear incisions indicate fingers and an incised line around the waist serves as a minimalistic suggestion of clothing. The figure lacks any depiction of genitalia, a common trait in Olmec art. Traces of red hematite can be seen on the surface of the dark serpentine stone.

Dimensions

Overall: 4 3/4 x 1 3/4 x 1 1/8 in. (12.1 x 4.4 x 2.9 cm)