



## Picture Worlds: Greek, Maya, and Moche Pottery with Associate Curator David Saunders



**May 24, 2024 • 10 am at the Getty Villa**  
17985 Pacific Coast Highway, Pacific Palisades

Join us for a fascinating and illuminating tour of mighty deities, brave heroes, and fantastic beings who adorn the terracotta vessels of the ancient Greeks in the Mediterranean, the Maya in central America, and the Moche of northern Peru. This exhibition juxtaposes these three distinct ceramic traditions and explores the ways in which painted pottery served as a dynamic means of storytelling and social engagement. The Greeks, Maya, and Moche made, used, and valued their painted pottery in diverse ways, yet in all three cultures these vessels were often central to social activities. From feasts to funerals, decorated ceramics served as containers for food or drink; as gifts, heirlooms, or objects of trade; and as ceremonial offerings to deities, ancestors, or the dead. Each vessel displayed here is a “picture world,” full of expressive possibilities. In many cases, the details of who created the ceramics, or when and where they were handled, are unrecorded. But inscribed names, styles of potting and painting, depictions of vases in use, and documented findspots provide ways for us to encounter the individuals and communities who lived with these vessels.

Sufficient time is available to view the famous garden of the Getty Villa or the other exhibitions along with a delicious Mediterranean-inspired lunch at the Cafe in a room reserved for the EAC and our curator, David Saunders.

**RSVP by Noon, May 21st [HERE](#) • Limited to 40 members!**