

Where Is Epicurus In The "School of Athens"?

Post by "Cassius" of August 5, 2020 at 8:31 PM

Well just to be up front and on the record I am going to have to side with Elli on this one, but it's a multi-layered issue and that's why I asked about the history - it's certainly possible that there is some record that would substantiate the possibility that Raphael intended what you mean.

Back when Elli posted the article there was some additional discussion with one of the other Greek activists on the issue of "Was knowledge of the true face of Epicurus ever really TOTALLY lost, or are we just talking some people in some areas thought it was lost while other areas / other people had access to one or more of the relatively large numbers of busts of Epicurus that apparently survived the ancient world. I tend to think that given the hurdles of communication back in those years it's entirely possible that some people were well aware of what Epicurus looked like and others were not, but I have nothing to back that up other than I don't think it is likely logical that digging up a single bust in Herculaneum was the first time that any living human had an inkling of Epicurus' true face in 500 or 1000 or 1500 years.

Then there are the issues of the people involved in the mural in Italy and who knew what.

I think the details of all that historical debate are as interesting, perhaps more so, than the debate on where we think Epicurus "should" have been placed.

Like I said I side with Elli's interpretation, but I think there's a lot more to be learned from discussing the issue.

Come to think of it I believe this debate all took place before we came into contact with Michelle Pinto. I will see if I can post something somewhere to see if he has an opinion on this.

Note to self: I need to go back to the article and check this - I do not recall Elli suggesting that the figure of Epicurus was hugging the female figure:

[Quote from JJElbert](#)

The main question with that article is whether the man "hugging" Leontion is meant by the illustrator to signify Epicurus. Groping the 'courtesan', and all that.