

Derveni Crater 4th century

BC

Anonymous artist

Mastery image

- Scene of Bacchanalia, or people caught up in Dionysiac frenzy: maenads, satyrs, panthers, lions, grapes
- Sequence of males and females that goes all around the urn includes also Dionysus himself and Ariadne.
- People are dancing and enjoying the effects of Dionysus.
- Gilt bronze masterpiece was found in a tomb at Derveni outside Thessolniki, Greece in 1864.
- The term crater refers to a vessel holding wine, but this one was probably only used in a ceremonial way.



For multiple photos: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Derveni_crater