

Joshua J. Thomas, The Ptolemy Painting? Alexander's "right-hand man" and the origins of the Alexander Mosaic.

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Revisits the origins of the Alexander Mosaic at Pompeii by focusing on the figure standing at Alexander's right hand. The starting point is Andreas Rumpf's suggestion that this "right-hand man" may be the patron of the original painting, who wished to advertise his own role in the represented battle. Ptolemy I is perhaps the strongest candidate on historical grounds, and that interesting connections can be drawn between the mosaic and the historian Kleitarchos, who worked at the Ptolemaic court. Circumstantial support for a Ptolemaic connection is supplied by other finds from the House of the Faun, three of which are briefly re-examined.

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