

## The stones of Apollo

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In 1964, the French film director and screenwriter Jean-Daniel Pollet filmed the ruins of the temple of Apollo at Bassae (Peloponnese). In nine minutes of slow motion description of the camera, accompanied by the text of the poet Alexandre Astruck, he presents the transition from the geological material to the artistic masterpiece and then back to the earth.



In 1987, the ruins had been covered by a huge tent, in order to limit deterioration. This contribution, based on Pollet's film, tries to make more evident the *value of antiquity*, as in the text of Alois Riegl, connected with Walter Benjamin's *Aura*, as the most substantial values, capable of communicating with contemporary human beings. The chemical, mechanical and biological detriment on the stone surface provoke sensations and values, which describe the dimension of time. Time out of time, as a modern religion, finds in the stone architecture its maximum expressivity.

### Bibliography

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