

MOSAIC WITH A GORGONEION

According to Greek mythology, a Gorgon was any of three monstrous sisters having live snakes for hair, who, with just one glance, could turn their beholder to stone. This intricate mosaic features a multi-colored Gorgoneion (a mask meant to resemble the head of Gorgon) and decorated the center of a floor in one of the bedrooms of the lavish House of the Centenary. Created between the end of the first century B.C and the beginning of the first century A.D, the polychromatic central design is contrasted by two small landscape scenes created in black and white tile. The mosaic can be seen on display from Oct 22 until March 26, 2006 as part of The Field Museum's exhibition, *Pompeii: Stories from an Eruption*. For more information, call (312) 922-9410.

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