

Exam 2 Review Sheet – Classic Mythology – Elizabeth Richey - FSU

Authors and Texts

Homeric Hymn to Aphrodite

Homeric Hymn to Hermes

Callimachus, *Hymn to Artemis*

Homeric Hymn to Apollo

Homeric Hymn to Pythian Apollo

Euripides, *Bacchae*

Homeric Hymn to Demeter

Lucian, *Dialogues of the Dead* (selections)

Myths

Birth of Aphrodite- two variant myths about her birth. 1) PLATO/ HESIOD: she is born from Ouranos' castration.. His penis lands on the sea foam and she rises- she is born from the gods genitals, thus she represents sex 2) HOMER: Aphrodite was a child of Zeus and Dione- and as their child she is an olympian not a titan.

Aphrodite and Ares- Aphrodite is married to Hephaestus (who is ugly and his feet/legs are weird, he has a limp). Aphrodite has an affair with Ares (god of war). Hephaestus finds out and constructs a magical golden fin net and puts it above their bed and traps Aphrodite and Ares. Hephaestus gathers the gods to come and see and point and laugh, but the plan backfires and the gods find her so beautiful that they say its worth being trapped in the net with her.

Aphrodite and Anchises- Zeus decides to make her fall in love with a mortal Anchises (the last time a god ever fell in love with a mortal)- bc she always mocked and made fun of the other gods- Anchises is good looking, like a god. In this myth, Aphrodite disguises herself as a normal person, she tells Anchises a story that she is a princess participating in a festival, when Hermes captured her and dropped her off on the Mt with him, and that he is meant to be married to Aphrodite. Anchises desires her and suspects she is not human, but she swears she's not. So he tests her and they have sex, in the morning she wakes him and says "behold me"- in her large godlike form- he is scared and says "please don't hurt me." Aphrodite tells him the story of Aoses love for a mortal and how bad that turned out. She tries to talk herself out of the idea of loving him, she promises she will not hurt him and that she will bare their son, Aeneas, but she will give him to the nymphs to raise and then when he is grown he will be given back to Anchises.

Hermes Steals Apollo's Cattle- Hermes gets a job from Apollo- to be in charge of the herds. He steals the cattle of Apollo and steals them from a sandy place- he is afraid the footprints will give them away- so he leads the cattle backwards and wears these sandals. He puts them in a stall for the night and cooks some food (he stole the cattle to eat he invents the kabob) BUT he doesn't eat it- gods eat ambrosia NOT food and meat. Apollo figures out his cattle are gone and who took them because of a witness from the vineyard nearby. Apollo takes Hermes who plays the baby card but is not amused. He takes the baby to be judged by Zeus @ Olympus. Zeus says they need to work it out and be friends. Apollo gets his cattle back but is still mad and wants to handcuff Hermes with cuffs made of branches. BUT Hermes throws down the branches and creates a basket over the cattle. Then Hermes plays the lyre, and apollo is no longer mad because of the music and gets the lyre from Hermes.

Hermaphroditus- crossing of gender lines. Exceptionally beautiful young man, went to a spring and a nymph in the spring falls in love with him. Nymph seizes young man, and he struggles to get away, she grabs him so closely that they meld together into one person with both male and female sexual organs. Binary gender.

Mercury and Larunda- Roman myth. Laruns is a nymph whom mercury has to escort to the underworld. On the way down he falls in love with her. They have sex and she gives birth to the Lares in the underworld.

Artemis Gets Her Attributes- Asks Zeus for gifts:

1) virginity: to keep forever. Refer back to hymn to aphrodite- never have sex with men and will never marry. She will often be called artemis the maiden/virgin. Artemis associated with period of a woman's life before she gets married. Protector of her own virginity and other women.

2) titles/epithets: all gods have different epithets representing the different spheres of influence and wants to have as many as her bro Apollo

3) arrows and bow: oh wait no never mind bc im gonna go to the cyclopes and have them make my arrows.

Goddess of the hunt. Mistress of Animals- goddess holding two wild animals and has wings. Protector of wild animals but also their hunter

4) Bringer of Light- the moon. .. Other moon goddess Celine(binatural moon goddess and actually is the moon).

5) nymphs-wants 9 year old nymphs and to be her attendants. Most closely associated with nymphs. She is also like a nymph. Daughters of Okeanos.

6) mountains/wilderness: Doesn't need to be a patron of any cities. She plans on staying in the wilderness and

having fun

7) childbirth: will occasionally go into cities to help women

8) cities: Zeus says im going to give you some city.. A ton of cities.. And you'll be the patron god of all of them.

Terms

Aphrodite- Plato: one naturee that is Ourania- a more universal love- a more sexual love. Born from castration of Ouranos- and represents sex considering she was born from his genitals and the sea foam.

Hesiod: says she gets her name from aphros-sea foam- but that is false entimology. She is terrifying in Hesiod's view bc she can make force love between humans and mortals. She rules over anything that can have sex.

Cytherea- Aphrodite was washed ashore on this island. She is also known as this name or Cyprian.

Eros- Aphrodite is depicted on a shell in the sea with cupid (who is the Roman counter part of Eros). Aphrodite is depicted as holding a tiny Eros (winged) with Zeus in his thrown. And also in a similar way but Eros is older. Eros is duplicated- driving a chariot by 2 Eroes (cupid is similarly duplicated). In Greek life Eros is imagined as a young man, in Roman ar cupid is a baby.

cestus/kestos- It is a garment that has the power to entice men, make them desire her- sometimes translated as the girdle of Aphrodite or as a golden belt, in later depictions as a body chain.

Atalanta- a Greek heroine- depicted wrestling or killing a bore. In one version of the myth she agrees to marry anyone who can beat her in a race, but she is so fast and o man beats her. But then Aphrodite throws golden apples at her during the race and distracts her into losing.

Lemnos- Aphrodite can prevent anyone from having sex again, she makes the women of Hephaistos very smelly....?

Anchises- the man who Aphrodite falls in love with, she has his baby

Aeneas- the baby of Anchises and Aphrodite. He was raised by nymphs. To the Romans- after he left Troy he founded Rome.

Venus- Aphrodite's Roman counterpart

Venus Genetrix- Julius Caesar made a temple for her called Venus Genetrix bc she was important to the Roman national identity bc of Aeneas. She is the divine ancestor of war. Venus Genetrix is a mother figure depicted as showing one breast. She is also known as the victor- Venus Victrix- this idea is closely associated with her relationship with Mars. They worked together as a symbol of peace (he is depicted without his armor with her)

Hermes- son of Zeus and nymph Maia. He was born in a cave. He is associated with the country side, music, food, fire. Hermes is the ultimate trickster god. But also an inventor and culture hero. He invented the lyre, syrinx (panpipe), invents sandals, invents the kabob, invents fire-sticks (the technique of rubbing sticks together to make fire). He is a messenger god/ guide of the souls to the underworld

Maia- nymph mother of Hermes

Lyre- Hermes finds a tortis, kills it, hollows it out, and makes the instrument. With 7 strings.. This one is particularly called a Chelys(harp-like). A similar lyre, developed later, Kithara (larger, more difficult)

Apollo- Hermes steals Apollo's cattle.. Look @ myth

Caduceus- Hermes staff with a curving top, likes like an open 8, made of snakes. It's like a staff - the staff was from a god associated with medicine and snaked

Petanus- because Hermes travels a lot, he must wear his broad rimmed hat.. And a cloak

Talaria- bc he travels a lot he must wear his shoe/sandals, that look like boots- theyre winged(commonly seen in Roman cp- Mercury)

Psychopomp- Hermes is a guide of souls- he escorts the souls of the living to the underworld

Herm- a stone pillar that is vaguely sculpted to look like a human with face add fallice. Set up @ boundary lines of cities. Sacred to hermes. He originated as a god of piles of stone who guarded the boundaries

c) "He from the Stone-Heap"- when people would cross boundaries they would drop a stone and people thought a god lived from them protecting the boundary and crossing

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Mercury- Roman counterpart to Hermes. More associated with trade, finance, and business dealings

Larunda- A nymph who Mercury escorts to the underworld (nymphs can be mortal), on the way he falls in love with her, they have sex, has birth in the underworld to Lares

Lares- somewhat mystery household gods. Thought to be the ancestors of each family. Protective spirits to help you be prosperous. Set up shrine to the Lares. Another theory: they originated as agricultural gods, perhaps at one point each orman family would have their own farms dwelling inside of them protective spirits. Association with the underworld. Lares- plural.. One of them is a Lar. Lar holding cornicopia- representing prosperity for family.

Artemis- Daughter of Zeus, twin sister of Apollo. Associated with hunting and wild animals, depicted with leopards and bows and arrows

Leto- mother of artemis with Zeus

Cyclopes- Artemis goes to the cyclopes so they can make her the bows and arrows since she is the goddess of the hunt

Apollo- artemis's twin. Son of Leto and Zeus. Earth/underworld

Delos- the floating islands, the birthplace of Apollo. Delos agrees to let Apollo be born on it because it doesn't have a better option, known to have bad soil and not produce anything. Leto offers to make it one big sanctuary to Apollo, where people will come to worship and sacrifice things- this is how it will get things on the island since it cant grow anything. Delos is not attached to the Earth under the sea, its hard to find. It also agrees if Apollo decides to root the island in the ocean to make is a real island (not floating)

Eileithyia- the goddess of child birth

Iris- another messenger god, associated with a rainbow... Connects people to god world, she holds a Kadukeus- messenger staff like Hermes. She gets Eileithyia from Hera to help Leto give birth to Apollo

Hera- Zeus' wife. She'd upset bc Zeus had an affair with Leto. So to get back at him she tried to stop Leto from giving birth. She tries to make it impossible for her to find a place to give birth, but she couldn't find Delos since it wasn't attached to the Earth. When Leto is finally able to give birth, she distracts Eileithyia from hearing Leto's calls for help to have the baby.

Telphusa- Apollo wants to put his oracle here on Mt. Telphusa. The nymph of Mt. Telphusa tries to talk him out of building his oracle here (she wants the power of worship all to herself). She says horses will come all the time and it will be annoying to Apollo moves on. But he goes back and defeats her like the she dragon and makes a mountain block the spring

Mt. Pamassus- the 3rd place Apollo goes. Home of the muses. Apollo thinks it will be a good place for his oracle, but there is someone else already there. The she-dragon and Typhaon (son of Gaia and raised by the she dragon), who is preventing Apollo from living there, he fights and kills her and will set. She is evil and steals human livestock

Pytho- Apollo's oracle.. Alternate name of the rotting she dragin, this shows defeat of this monster

Apollo Delphinus- Apollo of the dolphin, Apollo disguises himself as a giant dolphin that leaps onboard the Cretan ship. They can't control it, and the sailors are brought to Pytho.

Pythia- she is at Delphi and sits on a tripod, hols a coldona nd can cook over fire. Sometimes they were made of gold, and dedicated to the gods. She holds loral leaves. Delivers a message from Apollo (Themis was he first Pythia). They improvised poems of what you should do.

Delphi- The delphic oracle turns into his normal form, and he offers the sailors work, and to watch his oracle, and that they will be famous and profit from the people and sacrifices given. Pytho is then called DELPHI.