Classical Mythology
LLCU/CMLT 316.010/080

Class 10

The Greek Pantheon, cont.:
Aphrodite and Artemis

Readings for Thursday:

Classical Mythology 215-249
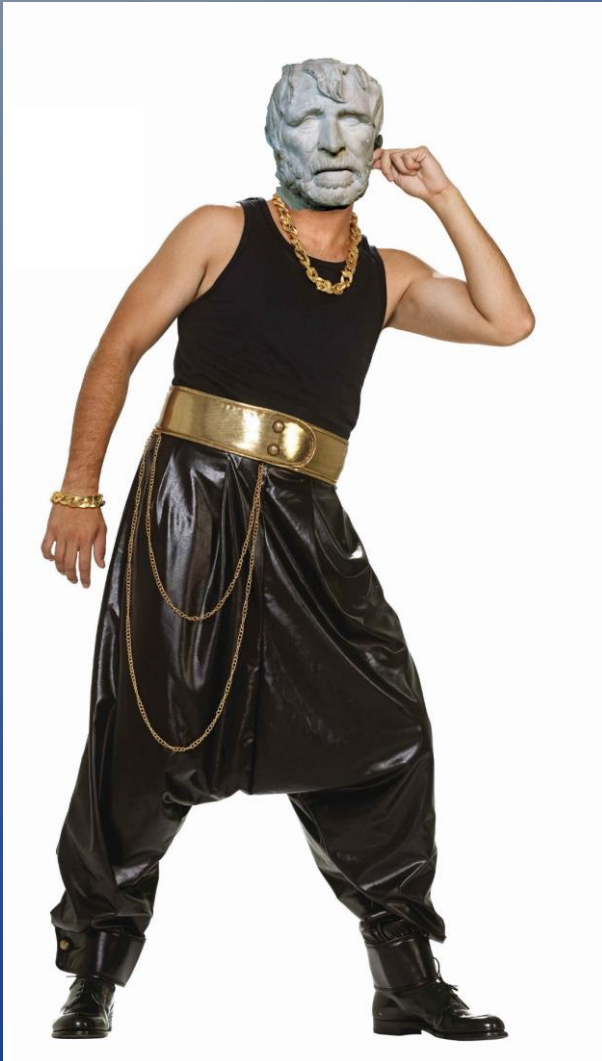
Exam 1 returned at the end of class

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A few notes:

- Section 2.1: Chaos (in Greek) = Chasm (English) -1/2 a mark for inversion

- Section 2.10: (Ixion and punishment) for full marks, had to provide details about punishment (rather than duration)

Exam 1 returned at the end of class

Fact: Hesiod was a sick dancer

-53 marks for incorrect response

Exam 1 returned at the end of class

A few notes:

- Look over exam

- Check the math

- Let me know if you have any questions/concerns

In-class Writing Exercise

Thursday, March 15

"What have you found to be most surprising or unexpected so far from lecture content or readings?"

If possible, please bring a sheet of loose leaf to complete your assignment.

I will bring extra sheets, if students are unable / forget.

Aphrodite and Eros, cont.

Aphrodite (Venus)

Recall: According to Hesiod, born from the testes of Uranus

www.theoi.com

Roman poet Virgil

'Omnia vincit Amor, et nos cedamus Amori.'

'Love conquers all. We too must fall to Love.'

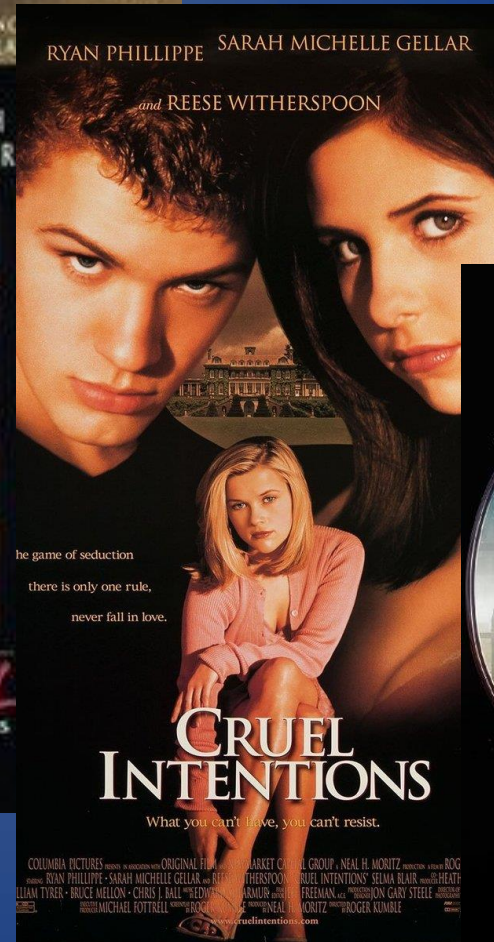*Eclogue* 10

Pygmalion and Galateia

Women of Cyprus don't properly worship Aphrodite - turned into prostitutes

Pygmalion as a result shuns female companionship

Creates a statue of the perfect woman "Galateia" that Aphrodite brings to life

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/84/Ch%C3%A2teau_de_Versailles,_salon_des_nobles,_Pygmalion_priant_V%C3%A9nus_d'animer_sa_statue,_Jean-Baptiste_Regnault.jpg

Pygmalions

Aphrodite and Love in Myth

- Plato's *Symposium*

- Apuleius' *Cupid and Psyche*

Platonic *Eros* (the *Symposium*)

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● Aristophanes and Eros Pandemios
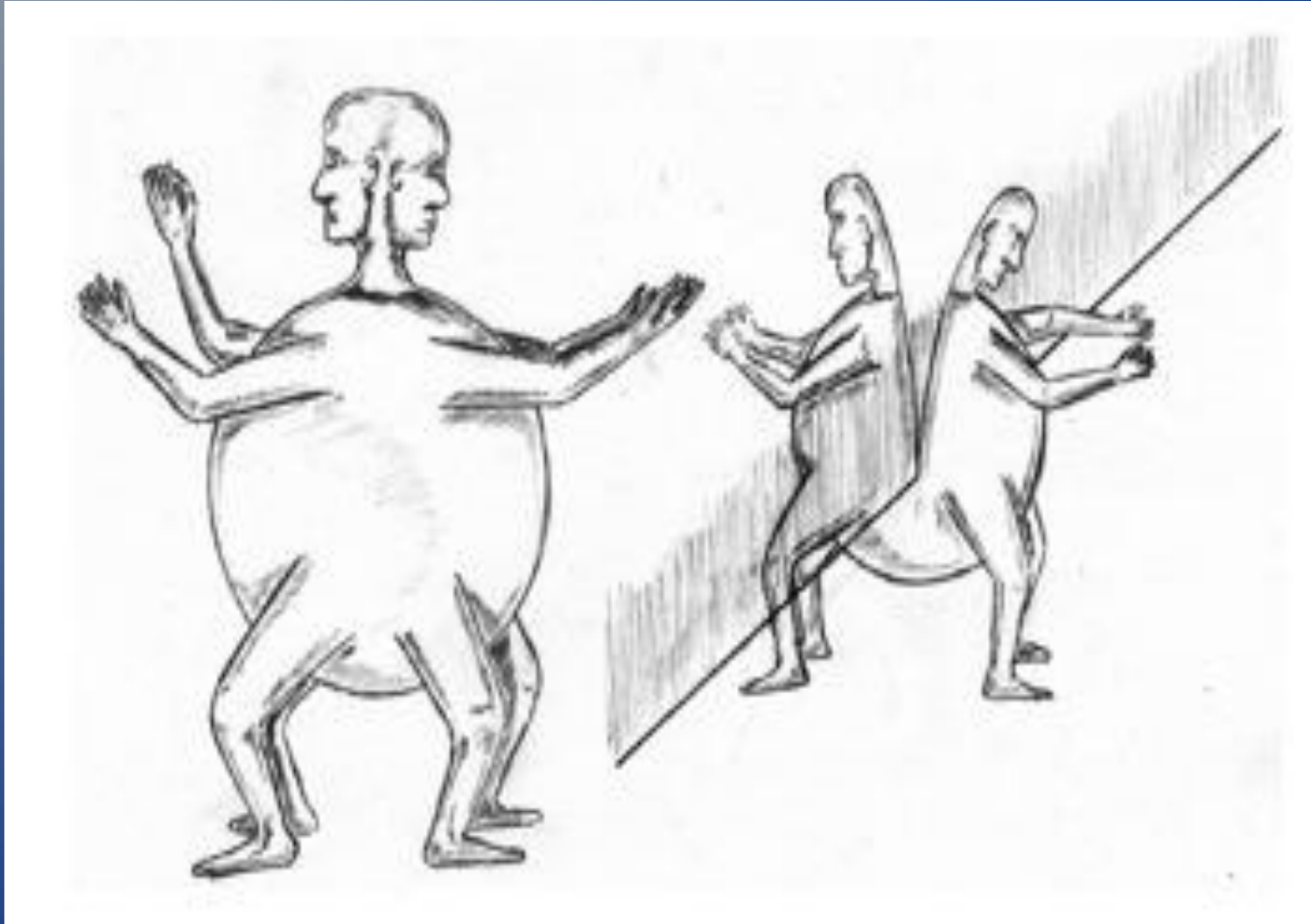
Platonic *Eros* (the *Symposium*)

- Eros mirrors Plato's model of Aphrodite:

- Eros *Pandemios* (love towards physical beauty, beauty of the particulars)

- Eros *Uranios* (love towards ideal beauty, beauty of the universals)

- cf. *Platonic Love* (non-erotic love)

"The Origin of Love"

Platonic *Eros* (the *Symposium*)

Eros mirrors Plato's model of Aphrodite:

- Eros *Pandemios* ("common love": love towards physical beauty, beauty of the particulars)

- Eros *Uranios* ("celestial love": love towards ideal beauty, beauty of the universals)

  - cf. *Platonic Love* (non-erotic love)

Platonic *Eros* (the *Symposium*)

.Socrates and Eros Uranios (Divine Love)

Diotima of Mantinea

Possibly fictional person

• "taught" Socrates what universal love (Eros) is

The Story of Cupid and Psyche (a Fairytale)
- The Roman Author Apuleius

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- A story within a story, the "Golden Ass"

- Ostensibly a love story ("love conquers all" in a positive light)

The Story of Cupid and Psyche (a Fairytale)

Princess who was exposed to a "great monster" because of Aphrodite's jealousy (most beautiful woman)

Rescued by Cupid, who fell in love with her (but kept his identity secret) - "forbidden love"

Jealous sisters encouraged her to look upon Cupid when he slept

Cupid leaves her, and only returns after she completes "impossible tasks"

Psyche (now called *Volupta* or "Pleasure") marries Cupid

http://www.wisdomportal.com/Romance/Gerard-Amor&Psyche.jpg

The Story of Cupid and Psyche (a Fairytale)

Motifs:

- True love (Cupid and Psyche) – almost every fairytale ever

- Hidden identity (Cupid's) – Little Mermaid

- Wicked sisters (Psyche's) – e.g. Cinderella

- Impossible tasks (sorting grains, fetching water from Cocytus, delivering package from underworld) – e.g. Rumpelstiltskin

- 'Happily ever after' (Almost every Disney movie)

Artemis

Artemis (Diana)

- Twin sister of Apollo Zeus and
- Leto)

- Child birth

- Goddess of young girls

- Wild animals

Artemis

- Depicted as a young maiden

- Her token item is a bow

- Virgin goddess (along with Athena)

Artemis: The Experiences of Girls and Women (Usually)

- Artemis and Callisto

- Artemis and Actaeon

- Artemis and Hippolytus

- Artemis and Atalanta

  - Aphrodite and/or her effects always insert themselves into these stories

Artemis and Callisto

Callisto follower of Artemis (shuns sexual contact)

Lured by Zeus (in form of Artemis/Apollo)

Becomes pregnant, and conceals it from Artemis

When Artemis discovers Callisto's pregnancy, she is expelled from Artemis' inner circle

Transformed into a bear (either by Zeus or Hera)

Nearly killed by son Acis (who was a hunter)

http://www.igreekmythology.com/images/artemis-and-callisto.jpg

Artemis and Callisto
Ursus Major (The Great Bear)