Greek literature - Lyric poetry | Britannica

From the Greek word, lyra meaning lyre, lyric poetry, refers to a short song accompanied by a musical instrument, almost always the lyre. Lyric monody names that form of lyric composed for a single performer to either sing or read aloud for the pleasure of another or others including Greek Lyric Poetry on mostly secular occasions such as symposia or private invocations that might be erotically charged.

Monody is particularly associated with Lesbos in B. Choral lyric refers to poems composed to be sung by a chorus, on sacred i. It is Greek Lyric Poetry to note that some of these religious festivals or cults, such Greek Lyric Poetry the Thesmophoria, the Dionysiac Mysteries this is a student
paper the cults of Aphrodite and Adonia, or the Eleusinian mysteries may have reserved special roles for women. It is thought that monodic lyrics can be identified because they were composed in local dialects, whereas choral lyrics were rendered in more "international" language, such as Dorian from Sparta -- but such distinctions do not always hold true.

Indeed, the question of whether the Greek lyrics represent Greek Lyric Poetry new consciousness of the self and the self's desires, a new sense of individuality and private life, or whether they are rather formulaic and conventional means of expressing the needs and practices of a community is at the center of scholarly arguments about their meaning today. The lyric poems can be divided into two groups.

There are those best known for monody, like Sappho and Alcaeus. Homer and others describe different occasions for lyric song which show us the variety of occasions on and audiences for which lyric poems were performed.

From such descriptions we can understand the different genres that the ancients thought specific poems or lyrics belonged to. These genres are named below. Click on the name of the genre for a definition; click on the texts for an example of that genre.

Lyrics were generally Greek Lyric Poetry in one of two meters: the elegiac couplet, based on the Homeric hexameter, or the iambic in a six beat verse, called the trimeter. For the ancient Greeks the concept of poetical meter or rhythm was Greek Lyric Poetry indistinguishable from the musical concept of the modes.

The most common modes were the Dorian martial and ardent, the Phrygian celebrative and joyful, the Lydian gentle and seductive. Greek Lyric Poetry meters and musical rhythms were thought to have a substantial influence on the human psyche. In thinking about what meter signified to a Greek audience, it is essential to remember that both Plato and Greek Lyric Poetry associate specific meters with the ability to create in the listener a specific mood, even a disposition to engage in certain actions.

Kithara: Kithara image Satyrs playing aulos and kithara Lyre Barbitos Phorminx Chelys-lyra Other Greek instruments include the aulos, tympanon, syrinx, seistron, pandoura, trichordon, photires, salpinx, and kymbol.

Greek Lyric Poetry

Goodreads helps you keep track of books you want to read. Want to Read saving… Want to Read Currently Reading Read. Other editions. Enlarge cover. Error rating book. Refresh and try again. Open Preview See a Problem? Details if other :. Thanks for telling us about the problem. Return to Book Page. Preview — Greek Lyric Poetry by M. Greek Lyric Poetry by M. West Translator. The Greek lyric, elegiac and iambic poets of the two centuries from to BCE - Archilochus and Alkm, Sappho and Mimnermus, Anacreon, Simonides, and the rest - produced some of the Greek Lyric Poetry poetry of antiquity, perfect in form, spontaneous in expression, reflecting all the joys and anxieties of their personal lives and of the societies in which they lived.

This new poetic translation seeks to capture the nuances of meaning and Greek Lyric Poetry whole spirit of this poetry. It is not merely a selection but covers all the surviving poems and intelligible fragments, apart from the works of Pindar and Bacchylides, and includes a number of pieces not previously translated. The introduction gives a brief account of the poets, and explanatory notes on the texts can be found at the end.


Jun 27, Steve added it Shelves: greekpoetry. So if you have read one, you have read all three. It is the richest source we have of ancient Greek lyric poetry, Greek Lyric Poetry opposed to their more familiar epics, didactic poetry and poetic dramas.

The Greek Anthology has a very complicated textual history, not the least reason for which is the fact that many of the sentiments expressed by poems in the collection, particularly of a sexual nature, were not of Greek Lyric Poetry sort that soothed Christian spirits. So the text suffered some serious violations at the hands of medieval monks and self-righteous Victorians, among others. An Greek Lyric Poetry complication is that there are dozens and dozens of translations of selections of poems from the Anthology, and that all these translators have very different ideas of how to render the poems into English.

So, one is faced with the problem of deciding which selections and translators one should read. To read the entire anthology would be quite a task, though it is available in English in a five volume bilingual edition by W.

Paton in the Harvard Loeb series and therefore in some of the stiffest English imaginable. After casting about for guidance here and there and then sampling some of the texts, I settled on M. Greek Lyric Poetry books are very different from each Greek Lyric Poetry, nor do they all restrict their selection to the Greek Anthology.

Raffel's Pure Pagan is a slim volume of selections of "less well known poems and poets" from the 7th century BCE to the 1st century CE, and Raffel has chosen to give the poems a modern face. Though he writes that he neither "embroiders" the work nor puts "words into their mouths," his line breaks, stanza shapes and tendency towards linguistic spareness are modern.
Much of this poetry is originally of the highest quality, it is only unfortunate that most of their work has been lost. For me this book is most of all a

expressed their feelings and concerns about everyday issues, like love, hopes, fears, complaints in every setting, public or private.

range of recurring subjects is: Theogony, Greek Lyric Poetry Troyan War and its heroes, mythology, politics, war and battle. Poets also

I wish I could hear the sound of their songs and melodies. It was all social poetry, meant for the present and intended for oral reproduction. The

harp.

Poetry is very divers and can Greek Lyric Poetry, for song and or Greek Lyric Poetry by a lyre, but also by other instruments like oboes aulos or a

classical literature, so this was a step into the unknown for me.

foundations of cultural structures, but via exposure to a different culture rather than by simply being told. I have no background at all in reading

The bizarre and extremely strong sexuality in parts of the book appealed to me; it's books like this that makes one Greek Lyric Poetry question the

of cultural structures, but via exposure to a different culture. A very profound book.

I now wonder if in the Greek different words are used in Sappho's poetry to refer to "crimson" and to "red" and what about "scarlet"? And this is

elements about the ancient Greek culture, such as the social and economic status one would have to have crimson cloth as

fabric itself, including the color, quality, source, production, and cost. These are all very interesting factors that we can read through to find out

interesting to see how the presence of daily activities ie, weaving is reflected in the poetry. Sappho focuses a lot on dress, adornment, and on the

And, well, because I have a project coming up and I just love research. I'm not sure how many other references to weaving the male lyric poets

will have since the whole gender differentiation thing Greek Lyric Poetry very real, but working with Gregory Nagy's theory that there must have

been professor Hello, I'm a classicist, and I like to read ancient Greek lyric poetry on Sunday mornings for fun.

And, finally, a lament common to every time and every place: By Menecrates born c. Old age is a debt We like to be owed, Not one we like to collect. What we have now is a Greek Lyric Poetry together of a number of medieval manuscripts, primary among which are the Planudean Anthology and the Greek Lyric Poetry Anthology. The Planudean text is named after the Greek Lyric Poetry Maximus Planudes, who took serious

Greek Lyric Poetry with the Byzantine manuscript which came into his Greek Lyric Poetry.

The Palatine Anthology is believed to be the only extant, though partial copy of that Byzantine manuscript, compiled around 1, CE by Constantinus

Cephalas. I'm not Greek Lyric Poetry enough to care if a particular poem comes from the Greek Anthology or not Hello, I'm a classicist, and I like to

read ancient Greek lyric poetry on Sunday mornings for fun.

I'm not sure how many other references to weaving the male lyric poets will have since the whole gender differentiation thing was very real, but

working with Gregory Nagy's theory that there must have been professional male weavers, there very well could be.

Although the male poets seem to focus more on formal address of gods and on sexual conquests, but perhaps this is not surprising. It is very

interesting to see how the presence of daily activities ie, weaving is reflected in the poetry. Sappho focuses a lot on dress, adornment, and on the

fabric itself, including the color, quality, source, production, and cost. These are all very interesting factors that we can read through to find out

elements about the ancient Greek culture, such as the social and economic status one would have to have to have crimson cloth as
differentiated from red, since the expensive one is the product of crushed Greek Lyric Poetry and the other is from madder.

I wonder if in the Greek different words are used in Sappho's poetry to refer to "crimson" and to "red" and what about "scarlet"? And this is

how we know I found my calling in life, because I get I'm one of very few people in this world who probably care about the socioeconomic
demographics of fiber arts in Sappho, but hey, this is the most interesting thing I've thought about all week.

A very profound book. The honour of reading these ancient fragments is truly awesome to me. Even when a large proportion of the works here

are difficult to understand in their references and assumptions, I found it exhilarating to try and crack the code of the lyrics that jumped out at me.

The bizarre and extremely strong sexuality in parts of the book appealed to me; it's books like this that makes one really question the foundations

of cultural structures, but via exposure to a different culture. A very profound book.

The bizarre and extremely strong sexuality in parts of the book appealed to me; it's books like this that makes one Greek Lyric Poetry question the

foundations of cultural structures, but via exposure to a different culture rather than by simply being told. I have no background at all in reading

classical literature, so this was a step into the unknown for me.

Archilochus, Anacreon and Sappho are my favourites that I took away from this. A fine collection of simple beauty; much recommended. Lyric

Poetry is very divers and can Greek Lyric Poetry, for song and or Greek Lyric Poetry by a lyre, but also by other instruments like oboes aulos or a

harp.

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range of recurring subjects is: Theogony, Greek Lyric Poetry Troyan War and its heroes, mythology, politics, war and battle. Poets also

expressed their feelings and concerns about everyday issues, like love, hopes, fears, complaints in every setting, public or private.

Much of this poetry is originally of the highest quality, it is only unfortunate that most of their work has been lost. For me this book is most of all a
This translation of Greek lyric poetry down to Greek Lyric Poetry. Published in the "World's Classics" line by Oxford University Press it is a relatively cheap paperback edition which allows early lyric poetry to be widely available, translated by a prestigious and talented scholar, if not by a poet.

But there are several decisions with which I am not certain that I agree: West includes a number of incomplete fragments which are barely legible, and hundreds of one-line fragments, which I don't see being of great interest to the general reader.

On the other hand, so little context is provided for many of these fragments that for the scholar of antiquity particularly archaeologists, such as myself, without the skill in ancient Greek to read everything regardless of its relevance to my research the usefulness of the book is limited.

Greek Lyric Poetry by M.L. West

Written by Greek Boston. One of the things that we know and enjoy today about Greek Lyric Poetry Ancient Greeks are their various works of poetry and literature that have survived through the centuries. The pursuit of these disciplines was so important to the Ancient Greeks, in fact, that they had several muses to represent them.

Kaliope was the muse of epic poetry, Erato was the Greek Lyric Poetry of love poetry, and Euterpe was the muse of lyric poetry. Because the Greek lyric has its own muse, it is clear that this poetic form had a special Greek Lyric Poetry in the culture. If no specific subject is named, we usually assume that the speaker of the poem is the poet. Think of the lyre not as a type of guitar, but as a small, hand-held harp. It is thought to have had 4, 7, or even 10 strings, which were either plucked or strummed with a bow.

The Ancient Greeks had a tendency to write lyric poems concerning certain topics. Rather, they reserved this type of poem for certain events. These included: Besides being written about the Greek Lyric Poetry topics, they often had various other topics, such as about politics, war, sports, money, drinking, youth, death, heroes, and the past.
