

Homeric Hymn 9: to Artemis

William S. Annis

Aoidoi.org¹

August 2006

Ἄρτεμιν ὕμνει, Μοῦσα, κασιγνήτην Ἐκάτοιο,
παρθένον ἰοχέαιραν, ὀμότροφον Ἀπόλλωνος,
ἧ θ' ἵππους ἄρσασα βαθύσχοινοιο Μέλητος
ρίμφα διὰ Σμύρνης παγχρύσειον ἄρμα διώκει
5 ἐς Κλάρον ἀμπελόεσσαν, ὅθ' ἀργυρότοξος Ἀπόλλων
ἦσται μιμνάζων ἐκατηβόλον ἰοχέαιραν.
καὶ σὺ μὲν οὕτω χαίρει θεαί θ' ἅμα πᾶσαι ἀοιδῆ·
αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ σε πρῶτα καὶ ἐκ σέθεν ἄρχομ' ἀείδειν,
σεῦ δ' ἐγὼ ἀρξάμενος μεταβήσομαι ἄλλον ἐς ὕμνον.

¹This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.5/>.

¹Ἄρτεμις -ιδος Artemis; acc. in either -ιν or -ιδα. ὕμνέω 2sg.imper. *sing, praise.* κασιγνήτη ἢ sister. Ἐκάτος ὁ the far-shooter, an epithet of Apollo.

²παρθένος ἢ maiden, virgin. ἰοχέαιρα (ῥ) arrow-shedder, epithet of Artemis. ὀμότροφος *on reared (with) + gen.* Ἀπόλλων -ωνος Apollo.

³ἄρδω aor.act.part. nom.sg.f. *to water, give water (to).* βαθύσχοινος *on with deep rushes.* Μέλητος the Meles river, near Smyrna; the partitive genitive is used with verbs of eating and drinking (Smyth §1355), “watered from the Meles...”

⁴ρίμφα *swiftly, lightly.* Σμύρνα Smyrna, in Ionia (Turkey). παγχρύσειος *on (ῥ) all-golden.* ἄρμα ματος τό chariot. διώκω *pursue, chase, hunt; drive.*

⁵Κλάρος Claros, site of a temple of Apollo. ἀμπελόεις εσσα εν *rich in vines.* ὅθ' = ὅθι *where.* ἀργυρότοξος *on having a silver bow,* another epithet of Apollo.

⁶ἦμαι pres.mid.3sg. *sit.* μιμνάζω *stay, wait (for).* ἐκατηβόλος *on far-shooting,* an epithet of Apollo, but here feminine, of Artemis.

⁷οὕτω *thus.* χαίρω *rejoice at, take pleasure in + dat.* ἅμα *together, at the same time.* πᾶς πᾶσα πᾶν *all, every.* ἀοιδῆ ἢ *song, singing.*

⁸αὐτὰρ *however, but,* topic switch. πρῶτα adv. *first.* σέθεν = σοῦ, gen.sg. of σύ. ἄρχομαι *begin.* ἀείδω *sing.* “I begin to sing of you (σε) first and from you (ἐκ σέθεν).” Think of ἄρχομ' ἀείδειν repeated before καί.

⁹σεῦ = σοῦ, gen.sg. of σύ. μετα-βαίνω fut.mid.indic. *pass over; pass on to a new subject,* with ἐς. ὕμνος ὁ *hymn, ode, song.*