

***Electra*, No 1, 2011.**

The Atreids

Editorial

Electra is an electronic journal focusing on the study of Ancient Greek and Roman Myth and Religion from a philological, archaeological, historical or anthropological point of view. Its edition is part of the activities envisaged by the “Centre for the Study of Myth and Religion in Greek and Roman Antiquity” (<http://mythreligion.philology.upatras.gr>). The need to host an ongoing academic dialogue responsive to international scientific approaches, emerging research data and continually stimulated by new academic research on ancient Greek and Roman myth and religion led to the “Centre for the Study of Myth and Religion in Greek and Roman Antiquity” which was founded by the Department of Philology of the University of Patras in 2004. The Centre aims to encourage and advance scientific research through basic research, doctoral dissertations, conferences, videoconferences, seminars, lectures, teaching, data bases on specific subjects, printed and electronic publications. It is part of *Electra*’s intentions to become a swift and reliable vehicle supporting this ongoing academic dialogue further on.

In order to decide the journal’s name, we had an intense brainstorming session; eventually we felt that the name *Electra* would be a most apposite one for a journal that was meant to be electronic and as such would fit perfectly the journal’s purposes and form. Furthermore, since the name was to be *Electra*, we decided to suggest a relevant subject for its first issue, and the myth of the Atreids emerged as a wide and always tempting mythical narrative. Nevertheless, to improve continuous dialogue and take advantage of the facilities provided by electronic editions, further contributions on the Atreids theme may be added to this first issue even if a second or a third issue on different topics are announced, forthcoming or even published; in turn, these prospective second or third issues may also be enriched by later contributions on these issues’ topics. By this extension of limits, we hope to encourage and achieve a more vivid and more interactive discussion.

Many thanks are owed to those who made this first issue possible. First of all, I must thank the Library of the University of Patras and its director Mrs Catherine Synelli, for providing the electronic infrastructure that is generously hosting our journal. I deeply thank my colleague Effy Karakantza for her enthusiastic and restless concern. My warm thanks are addressed to my colleague Athina Papachrysostomou for her active, effective and continuous support. My deepest thanks are addressed to Mr Panos Georgiou, also from the Library of the University of Patras, who offered us precious technical assistance and granted *Electra* its present shape and potential. Finally, we thank all our present and future readers and contributors and we are always willing to welcome any serious contribution, comment or suggestion they may address to us.

For the Editorial Board

Menelaos Christopoulos

Professor of Ancient Greek Literature

Department of Philology

University of Patras