

I Sing of Warfare

I declare.

Fratto.

Corinna

Hear me!
Airy words I begin.

Ai-eh-te mu!
Eri-on eh-pe-on arkhomai at.
anonymous ancient Greek

I have a right to boast, and I shall not deny it!

Kompos parestih kuk aparnumai to me.
Sophocles, *Ajax*

I do not sing the ancient songs,
for my new ones are better.
Let the ancient Muse depart!

Uk a-edo ta palai-a,
kaina gar ama kresso.
Apito Musa Palai-a.
Timotheus

I sing of warfare and a man at war.

Arma virumque cano.
Virgil, *The Aeneid*

War.
Armor-bearer.
Warrior.

Bellum.
Armiger.
Bellator.
Latin

Warlike.

Bellicoso.
Italian

Mighty and of high renown, among mortals and in heaven alike, I am called [Theseus]. Of all who dwell between the Euxine Sea and the Pillars of Atlas and look on the light of the sun, I honor those who reverence my power, but I lay low all those whose thoughts toward me are proud. For in the gods as well one finds this trait: they enjoy receiving honor from mortals.

Polle men en brotoisi kuk anonumos
anaks keklemai Theseus uranu t'eso.
Hosoi teh pontu termonon t'Atlantik
nai-u-sin eso, fos horontes heli-on,
tus men seh-bontas tama presbeh-o krate,
sfallo d'osoi fronusin es hemas mena.
Enesti gar de kan the-on gene todeh:
timomeh-noi khairusin anthropon hupo.
Euripides, *Hippolytus*

Nothing without Theseus.

Nulla senza Teseo.
modern Italian

I am Theseus.
Me.

Theseus emi.
Meh.
ancient Greek

The vowels and consonants in the transliterated Greek should be sung as in Italian. In some places in the piece, each part may sing one syllable of a word, with entries staggered so that the entire word is sung. I have used hyphens and punctuation to indicate these "orphan" syllables (i.e. for the phrase "Nulla senza Teseo.", "Nul-", is the first syllable; "-la," is the second; "sen-", is the third; "-za," is the fourth; "Te-", is the fifth and "-seo." is the sixth). In some cases, the final consonant of a syllable is dropped so that it doesn't intrude into the sound.

All translations are by Mary Jane Leach.