Hercules Choice: from ancient Greece to Temple Newsam



Emma Stafford, University of Leeds



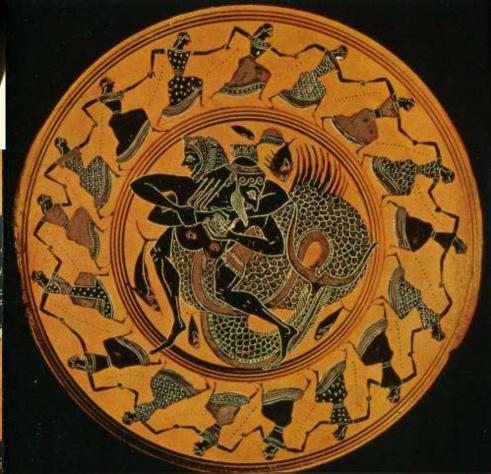
Temple Newsam, Leeds.

⇒The Picture Gallery.





Herakles the monsterslayer in archaic Greek literature and art (c.700-500 BC.





Herakles with Hermes, Athena and two other deities. Attic redfigure krater, painter of Louvre G508, c.400-380 BC (Paris).



↑ Medieval MS of Prudentius' Psychomachia (c.1000), Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

Faith Smites Discord; Virtues Divide Discord; Virtues Build a Judgment Seat

⇒ Humility vanquishes Arrogance.





☆ Cesare Ripa,Iconologia (1593)no. 317: 'Heroic virtue'.

Hercules as type of virtue in 16th-17th century emblem books



☆ Andrea Alciato,
Emblemata (1612 Padua edition) no.138: 'The
Twelve Labours of Hercules'.

□ Geoffrey Whitney,
Choice of Emblems (1586):
no. 40 'The crossroads of virtue and vice'





û Lucas Cranach the Elder, Hercules at the Crossroads (c.1500).

⇒ A Cranach Venus and Cupid





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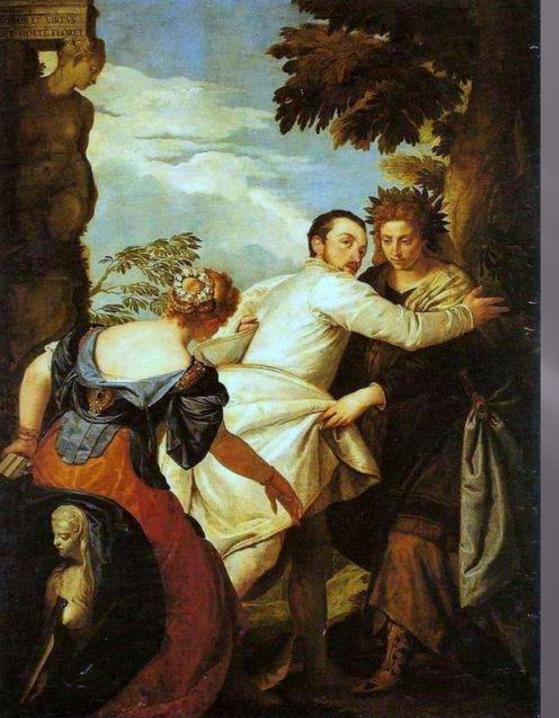


Lucas Cranach the Elder's Hercules:

☆ Hercules and Omphale (1537, Braunschweig)

⇒ Antaeus (c.1530)





Paolo Veronese, Hercules at the Crossroads (c.1580).



Annibale Caracci, Hercules at the Crossroads (1595-7).



Paolo dei Matteis, *Hercules at the Crossroads* (1712), Temple Newsam, Leeds (25 x 30 in).



⇔Pompeo Batoni, Hercules at the Crossroads (1748), Liechtenstein Museum, Vienna.





Joshua Reynolds, *Garrick Between Tragedy and Comedy* (private collection, 1760-1).

Hogarth's season ticket to the Vauxhall Gardens:

VIRTUS VOLUPTAS

FELICES UNA

'Virtue and Pleasure, happy together'?



H E R C U E S



Conference at University of Leeds, 24-6th June 2013.

Includes papers on Hercules' Choice!

See website for details.

Further Reading

- J. Lomax, *Temple Newsam Paintings* (Leeds Museums and Galleries: Leeds 2000)
- E. Panofsky, Hercules am Scheidewege und andere antike Bildstoffe in der neueren Kunst (Studien der Bibliothek Warburg 18), (Leipzig 1930)
- E.J. Stafford, *Herakles* (Routledge Gods and Heroes in the Ancient World series: London 2012)



Head of Hercules: sculpture by John Thomas (c.1858) on Leeds Town Hall.

M. Warner, Monuments and Maidens: the allegory of the female form (2nd ed. London 1996)