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Amphitrite

Definition from Wiktionary, the free dictionary *See also:* **amphitrite**

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Translingual

Etymology

New Latin, from Ancient Greek Ἀμφιτρίτη (*Amphitrítē*, "mother of Poseidon"), also "three times around", perhaps for the coiled forms specimens take.



Amphitrite, unidentified *Amphitrite ornata* species

Proper noun

Amphitrite f

1. A taxonomic genus within the family Terebellidae — spaghetti worms, sea-floor-dwelling polychetes.

Hypernyms

(genus): Animalia - kingdom; Annelida - phylum; Polychaeta - classis; Palpata - subclass; Canalipalpata - order; Terebellida - suborder; Terebellidae - family; Amphitritinae - subfamily

External links

- 🟐 Terebellidae on Wikipedia.
- 🖄 Amphitritinae on Wikispecies.
- Amphitrite (Terebellidae) on Wikimedia Commons.

English

Etymology

From Ancient Greek Ἀμφιτρίτη (Amphitrítē)

Pronunciation

(US) IPA^(key): /₁æm.fi'taa1.ti/

Proper noun

Amphitrite

- 1. (Greek mythology) A nymph, the wife of Poseidon.
- 2. (astronomy) Short for 29 Amphitrite, a main belt asteroid.

Translations

±Greek goddess

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Categories: Translingual terms derived from New Latin | Translingual terms derived from Ancient Greek | Translingual lemmas | Translingual proper nouns | mul:Taxonomic names (genus) | English terms derived from Ancient Greek | English lemmas | English proper nouns | en:Greek deities | en:Astronomy | en:Asteroids

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Amphitrite

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article is about the Ancient Greek Goddess. For other uses, see 29 Amphitrite.

In ancient Greek mythology, **Amphitrite** (/<u>æmfi</u> 'tratti:/; Greek: 'Aµφιτρίτη) was a sea-goddess and wife of Poseidon.^[1] Under the influence of the Olympian pantheon, she became merely the consort of Poseidon, and was further diminished by poets to a symbolic representation of the sea. In Roman mythology, the consort of Neptune, a comparatively minor figure, was Salacia, the goddess of saltwater.^[2]

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- 1 Mythography
- 2 Representation and cult
- 3 Amphitrite legacy
- 4 Notes
- 5 References
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Mythography

Amphitrite was a daughter of Nereus and Doris (and thus a Nereid), according to Hesiod's *Theogony*, but of Oceanus and Tethys (and thus an

Oceanid), according to the *Bibliotheca*, which actually lists her among both the Nereids^[3] and the Oceanids.^[4] Others called her the personification of the sea itself (saltwater). One of Amphitrite's Oceanid sisters is Perse,

(wife of Helios). Amphitrite's offspring included seals^[5] and dolphins.^[6] Poseidon and Amphitrite had a son, Triton who was a merman, and a daughter, Rhode (if this Rhode was not actually fathered by Poseidon on Halia or was not the daughter of Asopus as others claim). *Bibliotheca* (3.15.4) also mentions a daughter of Poseidon and Amphitrite named Benthesikyme.

Amphitrite is not fully personified in the Homeric epics: "out on the open sea, in Amphitrite's breakers" (*Odyssey* iii.101), "moaning Amphitrite" nourishes fishes "in numbers past all counting" (*Odyssey* xii.119). She shares her Homeric epithet *Halosydne* ("sea-nourished")^[7] with Thetis^[8] in some sense the sea-nymphs are doublets.

Representation and cult

Though Amphitrite does not figure in Greek *cultus*, at an archaic stage she was of outstanding importance, for in the Homeric Hymn to Delian Apollo, she appears at the birthing of Apollo among "all the chiefest of the goddesses, Dione and Rhea and Ichnaea and Themis and loud-moaning Amphitrite." Theseus in the submarine



Triumph of Poseidon and Amphitrite showing the couple in procession, detail of a vast mosaic from Cirta, Roman Africa (ca. 315–325 AD, now at the Louvre)



Amphitrite bearing a trident on a *pinax* from Corinth (575–550 BC)

halls of his father Poseidon saw the daughters of Nereus dancing with liquid feet, and "august, ox-eyed Amphitrite", who wreathed him with her wedding wreath, according to a fragment of Bacchylides. Jane Ellen Harrison recognized in the poetic treatment an authentic echo of Amphitrite's early importance: "It would have been much simpler for Poseidon to recognize his own son... the myth belongs to that early stratum of mythology when Poseidon was not yet god of the sea, or, at least, no-wise supreme there—Amphitrite and the Nereids ruled there, with their servants the Tritons. Even so late as the *Iliad* Amphitrite is not yet 'Neptuni uxor'" [Neptune's wife]".^[9]

Amphitrite, "the third one who encircles [the sea]",^[10] was so entirely confined in her authority to the sea and the creatures in it that she was almost never associated with her husband, either for purposes of worship or in works of art, except when he was to be distinctly regarded as the god who controlled the sea. An exception may be the cult image of

Amphitrite that Pausanias saw in the temple of Poseidon at the Isthmus of Corinth (ii.1.7).

Pindar, in his sixth Olympian Ode, recognized Poseidon's role as "great god of the sea, husband of Amphitrite, goddess of the golden spindle." For later poets, Amphitrite became simply a metaphor for the sea: Euripides, in *Cyclops* (702) and Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, (i.14).

Eustathius said that Poseidon first saw her dancing at Naxos among the other Nereids,^[11] and carried her off.^[12] But in another version of the myth, she fled from his advances to Atlas,^[13] at the farthest ends of the sea; there the dolphin of Poseidon sought her through the islands of the sea, and finding her, spoke persuasively on behalf of Poseidon, if we may believe Hyginus^[14] and was rewarded by being placed among the stars as the constellation Delphinus.^[15]

In the arts of vase-painting and mosaic, Amphitrite was distinguishable from the other Nereids only by her queenly attributes. In works of art, both ancient ones and post-Renaissance paintings, Amphitrite is represented either enthroned beside Poseidon or driving with him in a chariot drawn by sea-horses (*hippocamps*) or other fabulous creatures of the deep, and attended by Tritons and Nereids. She is dressed in queenly robes and has nets in her hair. The pincers of a crab are sometimes shown attached to her temples.









Theseus and Amphitrite clasp hands, with Athena looking on (red-figure cup by Euphronios and Onesimos, 500-490 BC)

Neptune and Amphitrite by Jacob de Gheyn II (latter 16th-century)

The Triumph of Neptune by Nicolas Poussin, showing Amphitrite velificans (1634)

Amphitrite with downturned trident, by François Théodore Devaulx (1866)

Amphitrite legacy

- Amphitrite is the name of a genus of the worm family *Terebellidae*.
- In poetry, Amphitrite's name is often used for the sea, as a synonym of Thalassa.
- Seven ships of the Royal Navy were named HMS Amphitrite, including Amphitrite (1804).
- At least one ship of the Royal Netherlands Navy was named HM Amphitrite (corvette, in service 1830s).
- Three ships of the United States Navy were named USS Amphitrite.
- An asteroid, 29 Amphitrite, is named for her.
- In 1936 Australia used an image of Amphitrite on a postage stamp as a classical allusion for the submarine communications cable across Bass Strait from Apollo Bay, Victoria to Stanley, Tasmania.
- The name of the former Greek Royal Yacht.
- Amphitrite Pool, a shallow ceremonial pool on the grounds of the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York contains a statue of Amphitrite. When First Classmen are taking their Third Mate or Third Assistant Engineer License Examinations, it is considered good luck if they bounce a coin off Amphitrite into a seashell at her feet.



Amphitrite on 1936 Australian stamp commemorating completion of submarine telephone cable to Tasmania

- Amphitrite is featured in a puzzle in the PlayStation 2 game God of War as Poseidon's faithful wife, in which a statue of her is pointing towards the solution to the puzzle, the exit of the room.
- Amphitrite appears as a minor character in *The Last Olympian* by Rick Riordan. She is seen in Poseidon's underwater palace. Amphitrite is somewhat cold towards the series' protagonist, Percy Jackson, who is

her stepson.

Notes

- 1. ^ Compare the North Syrian Atargatis.
- 2. ^ *Sel*, "salt"; "...Salacia, the folds of her garment sagging with fish" (Apuleius, *The Golden Ass* 4.31).
- 3. ^ Pseudo-Apollodorus, Bibliotheca i.2.7
- 4. ^ *Bibliotheke* i.2.2 and i.4.6.
- 5. ^ "...A throng of seals, the brood of lovely Halosydne." (Homer, Odyssey iv.404).
- 6. ^ Aelian, *On Animals* (12.45) ascribed to Arion a line"Music-loving dolphins, sea-nurslings of the Nereis maids divine, whom Amphitrite bore."
- 7. * Wilhelm Vollmer, Wörterbuch der Mythologie, 3rd ed. 1874 (http://www.vollmer-mythologie.de /halosydne/):
- 8. ^ Odyssey iv.404 (Amphitrite), and Iliad, xx.207.

References

- [^] Harrison, "Notes Archaeological and Mythological on Bacchylides"*The Classical Review* 12.1 (February 1898, pp. 85–86), p. 86.
 [^] Robert Graves, *The Greek Myths* 1960.
- 11. ^ Eustathius of Thessalonica, *Commentary on Odyssey* 3.91.1458, line 40.
- 12. ^ The *Wedding of Neptune and Ampitrite* provided a subject to Poussin; the painting is at Philadelphia.
- 13. ^ ad Atlante, in Hyginus' words.
- 14. ^ "...qui pervagatus insulas, aliquando ad virginem pervenit, eique persuasit ut nuberet Neptuno..."
 Oppian's Halieutica I.383–92 is a parallel passage.
- 15. ^ *Catasterismi*, 31; Hyginus, *Poetical Astronomy*, ii.17, .132.
- Theoi.com: Amphitrite (http://www.theoi.com/Pontios/Amphitrite.html): a repertory of Greek and Latin quotes, in translation.

 Smith, William; *Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography and Mythology*, London (1873).
 "Amphitri'te" (http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper /text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.04.0104%3Aalphabetic+letter%3DA%3Aentry+group%3D20%3A entry%3Damphitrite-bio-1), and "Halosydne (http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper /text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.04.0104%3Aalphabetic+letter%3DH%3Aentry+group%3D1%3Ae ntry%3Dhalosydne-bio-1).

External links

 Warburg Institute Iconographic Database (http://warburg.sas.ac.uk /vpc/VPC_search/subcats.php?cat_1=5&cat_2=451) (ca 130 images of Amphitrite)



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Greek sea gods

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Amphitrite

See also: amphitrite



Translingual

Etymology

New Latin, from Ancient Greek Άμφιτρίτη (Amphitrítē, "mother of Poseidon"), also "three times around", perhaps for the coiled forms specimens take.





Amphitrite, unidentified

Amphitrite ornata

Proper noun

Amphitrite f

1. A taxonomic genus within the family Terebellidae — spaghetti worms, sea-floordwelling polychetes.

Hypernyms

(genus): Animalia - kingdom; Annelida - phylum; Polychaeta - classis; Palpata - subclass; Canalipalpata - order; Terebellida - suborder; Terebellidae - family;
 Amphitritinae - subfamily

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English

Wikipedia

Wikipedia

Amphitrite

Wikipedia has an article on:



Wikipedia has an article on: 29 Amphitrite



Etymology

Pronunciation

From Ancient Greek Άμφιτρίτη (Amphitrítē)

Amphitrite astronomic al symbol

(US) IPA^(key): / æm.fɪ'tuaɪ.ti/

Proper noun

Amphitrite

- 1. (*Greek mythology*) A nymph, the wife of Poseidon.
- 2. (astronomy) Short for 29 Amphitrite, a main belt asteroid.

Translations

Greek goddess
Portuguese:
Anfitrite f

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