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# קרונונוס

מתוך ויקיפדיה, האנציקלופדיה החופשית



תיאור דמותו של קרונונוס מ"עמוד יורד היסירות" שהתגללה בפריז שבצרפת.



קרונונוס בתגליף מואל קמוניקה

**קרונונוס או קרונוס (Cernunnos או Cernunnos)** – ("בעל הקרוניים") הוא אל פריוון מהמיתולוגיה הקלטית שפולחנו היה נפוץ במערב אירופה. קרונונוס מתואר כאל בעל קרוניים (לרוב קרני אייל).

קרונונוס מוזכר בכתובות שהתגלו בצרפת וברטניה. "עמוד יורד היסירות" (Pillier des nautes) שהתגללה בפריז ומציג כיום במוזיאון הלאומי של ימי הביניים (муזיאון קלוני) בפריז. העמוד הוקם בראשית המאה הראשונה, ככל הנראה בשנת 14 לספירה, עם עלייתו לשלטון של הקיסר הרומי טיבריוס. העמוד, שהתגללה בשנת 1710, מתאר את קרונונוס ואלים קלטיים נוספים, לצד אלים מהמיתולוגיה הרומית כגון יופיטר, ולוקן, קסטור ופולוקס.

כתובות נוספות המזכירות את קרונונוס התגלו בולוקסמבורג. כתובות אלה מוקדשות "לאל קרונינוקס".

מלבד כתובות אלה, התגלו מספר תגליפים המתארים את דמותו של האל מבלי לציין את שמו. הקדום שבהם התגלה בוואל קמוניקה שבאלטיליה, והוא מתוארך למאה הרביעית לפנה"ס. דוגמה נוספת היא קדרות יונדסטראוף מioteland מהמאה הראשונה לפנה"ס.

קרונונוס מתואר לרוב כאדם מבוגר ומוזקן לו שער ארוך וקרניים. לרוב הוא עונד לצווארו טורק – שרשרת קלטית המסמלת אצולה. קרונונוס אוחז בידו לרוב ארנק מלא מטבעות או שרשראות. לרוב הוא מתואר כשהצדו בעלי חיים (בדרך כלל איילים) – ובכך מגולם תפקיido כלפי הטבע ובעלי החיים<sup>[1]</sup>. כמו כן קרונונוס נחשב כאל הצד (אף שב"עמוד יורד היסירות" הוא מתואר כלפי המשך והעושר, וכך גם הימאים).

לעתים מתואר קרונונוס כנחש לו קרני אייל<sup>[2]</sup> (אף כי יתכן ומדובר באל קלטי אחר).

## ראו גם

- הרן הציד

## הערות שוליים

1.

Green, Miranda, *Animals in Celtic Life and Myth*, 1992

2. דמותו של קרונונוס כנחש בעל קרניים.

(<http://www.pretanicworld.com/Animals.html>)

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# Cernunnos



The “Cernunnos” type antlered figure on the Gundestrup Cauldron.



Cernunnos on the Pillar of the Boatmen

**Cernunnos** is the conventional name given in Celtic studies to depictions of the "horned god" of Celtic polytheism. The name itself is only attested once, on the 1st-century **Pillar of the Boatmen**, but depictions of a horned or antlered figure, often seated cross-legged and often associated with animals and holding or wearing **torcs**, are known from other instances.

Nothing is known about the god from literary sources, and details about his name, his cult or his significance in Celtic religion are unknown. Speculative interpretations identify him as a god of nature or fertility.<sup>[1]</sup>

## 1 Name

The theonym *[C]ernunnos* appears on the **Pillar of the Boatmen**, a Gallo-Roman monument dating to the early 1st century CE, to label a god depicted with stag's antlers in their early stage of annual growth.<sup>[2]</sup> Both antlers have torcs hanging from them.<sup>[3]</sup>

The name has been compared to a divine epithet *Carnonos* in a Celtic inscription written in Greek characters at Montagnac, Hérault (as καρνονοῦ, *karnonou*, in the dative case).<sup>[4]</sup> A Gallo-Latin adjective *carnuātus*, “horned,” is also found.<sup>[5]</sup>

The Proto-Celtic form of the theonym is reconstructed as either *\*Cerno-on-os* or *\*Carno-on-os*. The augmentative *-on-* is characteristic of theonyms, as in *Maponos*, *Epona*, *Matronae*, and *Sirona*.<sup>[6]</sup> Maier (2010) states that the etymology of *Cernunnos* is unknown, as the Celtic word for “horn” has an *a* (as in *Carnonos*).<sup>[3]</sup>

Gaulish *karnon* “horn” is cognate with Latin *cornu* and Germanic *\*hurnaz*, English *horn*, ultimately from Proto-Indo-European *\*ḱrn̥o-*.<sup>[7]</sup> The etymon *karn-* “horn” appears in both Gaulish and Galatian branches of Continental Celtic. Hesychius of Alexandria glosses the Galatian word *karnon* (κάρνον) as “Gallic trumpet”, that is, the Celtic military horn listed as the *carnyx* (κάρυξ) by Eustathius of Thessalonica, who notes the instrument’s animal-shaped bell.<sup>[8]</sup> The root also appears in the names of Celtic polities, most prominent among them the Carnutes, meaning something like “the Horned Ones,”<sup>[9]</sup> and in several personal names found in inscriptions.<sup>[10]</sup>

## 2 Epigraphic evidence

The name *Cernunnos* occurs only on the “Pillar of the Boatmen” (*Pilier des nautes*),<sup>[11]</sup> now displayed in the Musée National du Moyen Age in Paris. Constructed by Gaulish sailors probably in 14 CE,<sup>[12]</sup> it was discovered in 1710 within the foundations of the cathedral of Notre-Dame de Paris, site of ancient Lutetia, the *civitas* capital of the Celtic Parisii. The distinctive stone pillar is an important monument of Gallo-Roman religion. Its low reliefs depict and label by name several Roman deities such as Jupiter, Vulcan, and Castor and Pollux, along with Gallic deities such as Esus, Smertrios, and Tarvos Trigaranus. The name *Cernunnos* can be read clearly on 18th century drawings of the inscriptions, but the initial letter has been

obscured since, so that today only a reading *[C]ernunnos* can be verified<sup>[13]</sup>

Additional evidence is given by one inscription on a metal plaque from Steinsel-Rëalent in Luxembourg, in the territory of the Celtic Treveri. This inscription<sup>[14]</sup> read *Deo Ceruninco*, “to the God Cerunincos”, assumed to be the same deity. The Gaulish inscription from Montagnac<sup>[15]</sup> reads αλλειος καρνονου αλισοντεας (*alleteiuos karnonou alisonteas*), with the last word possibly a place name based on *alisia*, “service-tree” or “rock” (compare Alesia, Gaulish *Alisia*).<sup>[16]</sup>

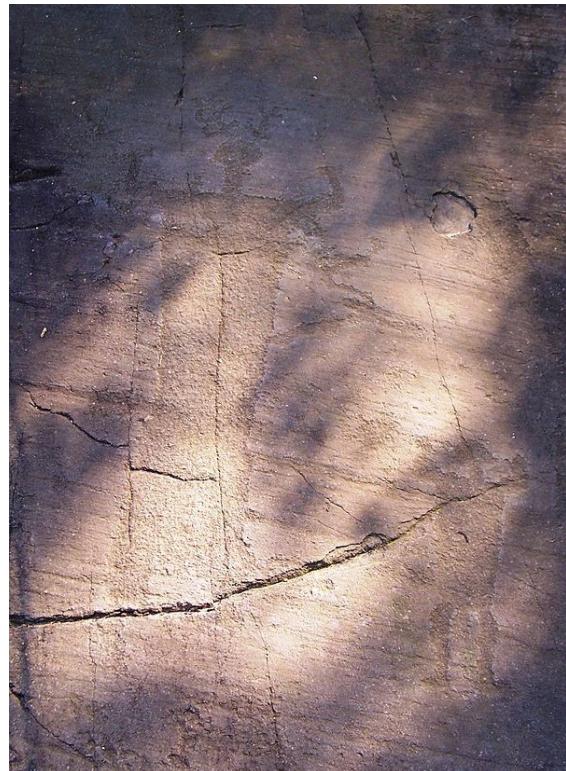
### 3 Iconography



*God of Etang-sur-Arroux, a possible depiction of Cernunnos. He wears a torc at the neck and on the chest. Two snakes with ram heads encircle him at the waist. Two cavities at the top of his head are probably designed to receive deer antlers. Two small human faces at the back of his head indicate that he is tricephalic. Musée d'Archéologie Nationale.*

The god labelled *[C]ernunnos* on the Pillar of the Boatmen is depicted with stag's antlers in their early stage of annual growth.<sup>[2]</sup> Both antlers have torcs hanging from them. The lower part of the relief is lost, but the dimensions suggest that the god was sitting cross-legged, providing a direct parallel to the antlered figure on the Gundestrup cauldron.

In spite of the name *Cernunnos* being attested nowhere else, it is commonly used in Celto-logical literature as



*Rock carving of an antlered figure in the National park of Naquane, Italy.<sup>[17]</sup>*

describing all comparable depictions of horned/antlered deities.

This “Cernunnos” type in Celtic iconography is often portrayed with animals, in particular the stag, and also frequently associated with the ram-horned serpent, and less frequently bulls (at Rheims), dogs and rats. Because of his frequent association with creatures, scholars often describe Cernunnos as the “Lord of the Animals” or the “Lord of Wild Things”, and Miranda Green describes him as a “peaceful god of nature and fruitfulness”.<sup>[18]</sup>

The *Pilier des nautes* links him with sailors and with commerce, suggesting that he was also associated with material wealth as does the coin pouch from the Cernunnos of Rheims (Marne, Champagne, France)—in antiquity, Durocortorum, the *civitas* capital of the Remi tribe—and the stag vomiting coins from Niedercorn-Turbelslach (Luxembourg) in the lands of the Treveri. The god may have symbolised the fecundity of the stag-inhabited forest.

Other examples of “Cernunnos” images include a petroglyph in Val Camonica in Cisalpine Gaul. The antlered human figure has been dated as early as the 7th century BCE or as late as the 4th.<sup>[19]</sup> An antlered child appears on a relief from Vendevres, flanked by serpents and holding a purse and a torc.<sup>[20]</sup> The best known image appears on the Gundestrup cauldron found on Jutland, dating to the 1st century BC, thought to depict Celtic subject matter though usually regarded as of Thracian work-

manship.

Among the Celtiberians, horned or antlered figures of the Cernunnos type include a "Janus-like" god from Candelario (Salamanca) with two faces and two small horns; a horned god from the hills of Ríotinto (Huelva); and a possible representation of the deity Vestius Aloniecus near his altars in Lourizán (Pontevedra). The horns are taken to represent "aggressive power, genetic vigor and fecundity."<sup>[21]</sup>

Divine representations of the Cernunnos type are exceptions to the often-expressed view that the Celts only began to picture their gods in human form after the Roman conquest of Gaul.<sup>[22]</sup> The Celtic "horned god", while well attested in iconography, cannot be identified in description of Celtic religion in Roman ethnography and does not appear to have been given any *interpretatio romana*, perhaps due to being too distinctive to be translatable into the Roman pantheon.<sup>[23]</sup> While Cernunnos was never assimilated, scholars have sometimes compared him functionally to Greek and Roman divine figures such as Mercury,<sup>[24]</sup> Actaeon, specialized forms of Jupiter, and Dis Pater, the latter of whom Julius Caesar said was considered the ancestor of the Gauls.<sup>[25]</sup>

## 4 Possible reflexes in Insular Celtic

There have been attempts to find the *cern* root in the name of Conall Cernach, the foster brother of the Irish hero Cuchulainn<sup>[26]</sup> in the Ulster Cycle. In this line of interpretation, *Cernach* is taken as an epithet with a wide semantic field — "angular; victorious; bearing a prominent growth" — and Conall is seen as "the same figure" as the ancient Cernunnos.<sup>[27]</sup>

## 5 Possible connection to Saint Ciarán

Some see the qualities of Cernunnos subsumed into the life of Saint Ciarán of Saighir, one of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland. When he was building his first tiny cell, as his hagiograph goes, his first disciple and monk was a boar that had been rendered gentle by God. This was followed by a fox, a badger, a wolf and a stag.<sup>[28]</sup>

## 6 Neopaganism

In Wicca and other forms of Neopaganism a Horned God is revered; this divinity syncretises a number of horned or antlered gods from various cultures, including Cernunnos. The Horned God reflects the seasons of the year in an annual cycle of life, death and rebirth.<sup>[29]</sup>

In the tradition of Gardnerian Wicca, the Horned God

is sometimes specifically referred to as Cernunnos, or sometimes also as Kernunno.<sup>[30]</sup>

## 7 See also

- Celtic polytheism
- Celtic Reconstructionist Paganism
- Horned God
- Herne the Hunter
- Frey
- Green Man
- Wicca

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## 9 Notes

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- [2] A. Kingsley Porter, "A Sculpture at Tandragee," *Burlington Magazine* 65 (1934), p. 227, pointing out the relative maturation of the antlers.
- [3] Bernard Maier, *Dictionary of Celtic Religion and Culture* (Alfred Kröner, 1994; Boydell, 2000), p. 69 online.
- [4] Xavier Delamarre, *Dictionnaire de la langue gauloise* (Éditions Errance, 2003), pp. 106–107.
- [5] Equivalent to Latin *cornutus*, "horned"; Delamarre, citing J. Vendryes, *Revue Celtique* 42 (1925) 221–222.
- [6] Delamarre, citing M. Lejeune, *Lepontica* (Paris 1971), p. 325.
- [7] Pokorny (1959) "ker-, kera-, krā-, kerei-, kereu"

- [8] Delamarre; Greek text and English translation of the passage from Eustathius' Homeric commentaries given by Edward Wigan, "Account of a Collection of Roman Gold Coins," *Numismatic Chronicle* 5 (1865), p. 11 online.
- [9] Also *Carni* and *Carnonacae*.
- [10] Such as *Carnarus*, *Carnatus*, *Carneolus*, *Carnius* and *Canicus*; Altay Coşkun with Jürgen Zeidler, "Cover Names" and Nomenclature in Late Roman Gaul: The Evidence of the Bordelaise Poet Ausonius" (2003), p. 33.
- [11] Koch, *Celtic Culture*, p. 396 online.
- [12] Based on the inscription (*CIL* XIII. 03026), on the accession of the emperor Tiberius.
- [13] Phyllis Fray Bober, *Cernunnos: Origin and Transformation of a Celtic Divinity*, American Journal of Archaeology, Vol. 55, No. 1 (Jan., 1951), pp. 13-51 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/501179>
- [14] AE 1987, 0772 = AE 1989, 00542.
- [15] RIG 1, number G-224.
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- [17] Umberto Sansoni-Silvana Gavaldo, *L'arte rupestre del Più d'Ort: la vicenda di un santuario preistorico alpino*, p. 156; "Ausilio Priuli, *Piancogno* su "Itinera"" (in Italian). Retrieved 02-04-2009. Check date values in: laccessdate= (help).
- [18] Green, Miranda (1992) *Animals in Celtic Life and Myth*, p. 228.
- [19] Webster, "Creolizing the Roman Provinces," p. 221, especially note 103.
- [20] Anne Ross, "Chain Symbolism in Pagan Celtic Religion," *Speculum* 34 (1959), p. 42.
- [21] Francisco Marco Simón, "Religion and Religious Practices of the Ancient Celts of the Iberian Peninsula," *e-Keltoi: Journal of Interdisciplinary Celtic Studies* 6 (2005), p. 310.
- [22] Webster, "Creolizing the Roman Provinces," p. 221.
- [23] Jane Webster, "Creolizing the Roman Provinces," *American Journal of Archaeology* 105 (2001), p. 222; distinctiveness of Cernunnos also in William Van Andringa, "Religions and the Integration of Cities in the Empire in the Second Century AD: The Creation of a Common Religious Language," in *A Companion to Roman Religion* (Blackwell, 2007), pp. 87–88.
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- [27] John Koch, entry on "Cernunnos," *Celtic Culture: A Historical Encyclopedia* (ABC-Clio, 2006), p. 396.
- [28] Mac Cana, Proinsias (1973) [1970]. *Celtic Mythology*. London: The Hamlyn Publishing Group Limited. pp. 47–8. ISBN 0-600-00647-6.
- [29] Farrar, Stewart & Janet, *Eight Sabbats for Witches*
- [30] *The Rebirth of Witchcraft*, Doreen Valiente, page 52-53

## 10 External links

- Gundestrup Cauldron

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