15. Federica Mancuso

<u>Female and male voices at the wedding of Peleus and Thetis: a comparison between Pind. *Nem.* 5.22-42 and Eur. *IA* 1036-1079</u>

The aim of this contribution is to analyse the complex interplay of superimposed and embedded feminine and masculine voices that characterizes the evocation of the wedding song of Peleus and Thetis in Pindar's *Nemean* 5 (l. 22-31) and in the third *stasimon* of Euripides' *Iphigenia at Aulis* (l. 1036-1079). While these passages have been studied individually (1), a comparative analysis has not, as far as we know, been attempted. Yet, it is an interesting way of showing how the intertwin

of feminine and masculine voices can be significant both in terms of mythical interpretation and performance.

After reminding the context and structure of the two passages, we will see how enunciative devices (vocabulary of performance, personal pronouns, types of embedded discourse) and literary genres may have a role in the articulation of female and male voices within each text. In *Nemean* 5, Pindar blends the poetic "I" with the song of the Muses, while inserting other secondary voices in the narrative (Hippolyta, Zeus). In *Iphigenia at Aulis'* third *stasimon*, the chorus of Chalcidian women performs a *hymenaios* where the nuptial song of the Muses includes the prophetic voice of Chiron reported by the Centaurs. These different articulations of gendered songs and voices have an important influence on the narrative focus, as well as on the possibilities of the performance.

Such an analysis will try to show how, despite their differences, the passages of *Nem.* 5 and *IA* can shed light on each other in several cases. Ultimately, such a survey can also lead to a better awareness of the effects of interference between female and male voices in the transition from choral lyrics to tragic *stasimon*.

(1)   For Pind. *Nem.* 5.22-31, see Cannatà Fera 2000; Pfeijffer 2004, 228-230. For Eur. *IA* 1036-1081, see *e.g.* Walsh 1974; Foley 1985, 81-84; Baltieri 2011, 214-215; Weiss 2018, 211-224.

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