

APOLLONIAN

DIONYSIAN

Phoebus Apollo, son of Zeus and Leto, brother of Artemis; the god of medicine, music, archery, prophecy, light, and youth; sometimes identified with the sun. Apollo seized Delphi for his abode and slew the dragon Python which personified the dark powers of the underworld. He was regarded as a kind of moral excellence and his worship led to purification and penance for crime and put an end to revenge-rivalries -- it was Apollo who defended Orestes against the Furies who wanted vengeance against him for his matricide. He is a god of healing and of oracles.

Dionysos, son of Zeus and Semele; Zeus had appeared to Semele as lightning and she was consumed by the intercourse, but Zeus rescued the unborn son Dionysos and placed him in his thigh, from which he was eventually born. As a young god he was denied divinity in some places (cf Euripedes: BACCHAE) but soon extended his reign over Asia. He has a retinue of male and female Satyrs, Sileni, Maenads who dance around him and tear animals to pieces, are drunk or possessed. He is not an Olympian, Homer hardly recognizes him, but appears from the soil, a god of vegetation, a suffering god who dies and comes to life again. God of tragedy, corn, wine, ecstasy, mysticism, goats. Sometimes equated with Egyptian god Osiris, Roman god Bacchus.

proportion and harmony

iconoclastic, break through restrain

logic

passion

sculpture
Doric architectonics

music
dance Bacchic choruses

dreams

drunkenness

principium individuatonis

primordial unity

ego, selfhood

self-forgetting, annihilate veil
of maya

culture and civilization

reunion with nature

Homeric naivete, appearances

frenzy, reality

golden mean

excess

Wm. Burkhardt