

Evolution of Aphrodite: Goddess to Pop Music Icon

This paper explores the lasting influence of Aphrodite, the goddess of love and beauty in Greek mythology, against the backdrop of the Christianisation of Greece. Nevertheless, a small number of modern adherents still worship Aphrodite in Greece and other parts of the world, making her devotion still popular today. This paper investigates how sexism and feminism have morphed Aphrodite into a popular music symbol. I examine recent depictions of Aphrodite in popular music, noting how faithful they are to her conventional identity as the goddess of love and beauty while also developing her character. It is noteworthy that Aphrodite continues to hold a prominent place in Western societies that are predominately Christian. This is largely due to the way she has been incorporated into pop music, where her representation of sexual emancipation is praised rather than condemned. Aphrodite is known as Venus to the Romans and through the aesthetic interpretations and style of contemporary celebrities like Lady Gaga, Bananarama, Beyoncé, Jennifer Lopez, Kylie Minogue, and others, Aphrodite or Venus has been given new life. I aim to show how Aphrodite, a symbol of sexism and feminism, deftly negotiates the complex terrain of gender discourse, which is especially prevalent in the field of music. It also suggests that some elements of her mythos have naturally aided in her smooth integration into the diverse field of pop music. In the end, this paper makes an argument for Aphrodite's continuous relevance, which refutes accepted wisdom regarding how ancient myth and modern ideals may coexist. An analysis of the ensuing questions helps to further this exploration: How has the present gender discourse's complexity been navigated by Aphrodite's transition into a symbol of sex positivity and feminism? What aspects of her mythology have made it possible for her to symbiotically fit into the wide-ranging pop music landscape? What presumptions about

the compatibility of ancient myth and modern ideals are being challenged by Aphrodite's
continued?