
Abstract

The papers deals with the alluring mythological creatures known as sirens, sphinxes and gorgons. Their feminine faces belie a ferocity and frightening power, which the ancient Greeks expressed in poetry, sculpture and painting. Sirens lured their prey with seductive songs. Sphinxes posed fatal riddles and snatched away the unsuspecting. Gorgons had faces so hideous that anyone gazing upon them turned instantly to stone. These were the man-killers of Greek antiquity.