

Abstract: Sappho's poetry often presents a process of identification between epic characters and people mentioned in her poems. This process is sometimes activated by explicitly recalling mythic characters, sometimes through allusions which provide the lyric present with an epic aura. Therefore, mythic past is for Sappho not just a repository of literary models, but also a repertoire of paradigmatic figures who reincarnate in the present.

Keywords: Sappho, Homer, Epic cycle, Epic poetry, Lyric poetry.