Masks, Transformation, and Paradox

A. DAVID NAPIER



University of California Press Berkeley Los Angeles London

Contents

List of Illustrations	ix
Foreword	xv
Preface	xxiii
1 • Masks, Transformation, and Paradox	1
Paradox	1
Christianity and Polytheism: The Problem of Prima	
Facie Evidence	4
Interpreting Transformations	10
Ambiguity and Saltation	15
Revivification and Reincarnation: Supernatural and	
Social Order	20
Numen Inest: Pantheons and Presuppositions	23
2 • Masks and the Beginnings of Greek Drama	30
Ritual as Entertainment; Entertainment as Ritual	30
Tragedy and the Evolution of Drama	32
Aristotle's Testimony	36
Ritual Drama and Tragic Sentiment	40
3 • Satyr, Centaur, Theriomorphic Healer	45
Types of Preclassical Greek Masks	45
The Satyr: Its Character and Iconography	53
Indo-European Elements in the Satyrs and Centaurs	
of Ancient Greece	63
Centaurs and Heracles	7 1
Centaurs, Ambivalence, and Curing	79

viii Contents

Bibliography Index

4 • Perseus and the Gorgon Head	83
The Medusa's Story	83
Iconographical Considerations	91
The Gorgon as a Leonine Creature	108
The Gorgon Reconsidered	125
5 • The Third Eye	135
Iconological Considerations	135
Leonine Manifestations of the Eye	139
Foreheads	145
Soma and Madhu: Aphrodisiacs and Apotropaism	155
Signs of the Mistress	167
6 • Balinese Faces and Indian Prototypes	188
Hinduism and Bali: Problems in Interpretation	188
Indonesia and the Sources of Monstrous Icons	193
The Senses Manifested as an Apotropaic System	199
Rangda and Barong: Displaying Archetypes	206
Epilogue	221
Notes	225

243 269