

Names Applied to the Epicureans by Themselves Or Others

Post by "Cassius" of October 25, 2019 at 12:38 PM

I am trying to come up with a list of names which were applied to the Epicureans either by themselves or others. So far I have:

1. The Garden
2. The Twentiers (or some variation referring to the 20th
3. Hogs In Epicurus' herd (from Horace)
4. ..."The joyous choir" (on the funeral inscription, noted below
5. Epicurus himself was referred to as "The Garghettian" by Cicero so maybe they also applied that to the group.

Are you aware of any others?

Cites:

20ers -

In the same year would have fallen a celebration of the greater Panathenaic festival, a gorgeous pageant limited to one year in five. Epicurus, as a cadet, must have marched in the procession. He may have enjoyed more the regular Dionysiac festivals, because his tastes were musical. It may have been that the Eleusinian mysteries impressed him deeply, especially those of the early autumn. At any rate, in the dispositions made long afterward in his will for the perpetuation of his own memory, the date was fixed, not for the anniversary day of his birth, which fell on

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the seventh, but at the **twentieth**,⁸⁷ the day that marked the final initiations at Eleusis. The twentieth was also sacred to Apollo, which gave it an additional sanctity.⁸⁸ Such notoriety eventually attached itself to these monthly memorial gatherings that Epicureans were dubbed "Twentiers" by way of derision.

Joyous Choir

<https://newepicurean.com/keeping-watch-...alive-with-joy/>

Hog in the Epicurean Herd -- Horace letter to Tibulus

Post by “Joshua” of October 25, 2019 at 2:23 PM

Related but not quite the same; in the Rabbinic literature of the time "Apikoros (אִסוּרוֹקִיפָא)" was the word for heretic or infidel.

St. Augustine; "fit only for swine".

Post by “Todd” of October 25, 2019 at 3:02 PM

I'm thinking of an Epicurean heavy metal band:

The Heretics

Debut album: "Fit Only For Swine"



(Apparently there is already a band called the Heretics. No surprise there.)

Post by “Cassius” of October 25, 2019 at 4:52 PM

I need to check back in DeWitt to see how he documents the "Twentiers" comment, and whether that is more Cicero or from another source.

Horace's "herd" and the funeral inscription "choic" are both clearly by Epicureans, but could perhaps be "tongue in cheek."

I am not sure that I am aware of Lucretius or anyone who was clearly an Epicurean using the term "Garden" and I wonder if that is also a term applied by outsiders, perhaps just because it is somewhat parallel to place names like Stoa and Peripatetic and Academy.

So as part of this discussion it would be interesting to see if we could clearly document a name that the Epicureans called themselves. I need to check Lucian...

Post by “Joshua” of October 25, 2019 at 6:25 PM

Quote

Horace's "herd" and the funeral inscription "choic" are both clearly by Epicureans, but could perhaps be "tongue in cheek."

"Epicuri De Grege Porcum" is a lovely Latin self-description 😊

As for Garden;

"[...] they shall place the garden and all that pertain to it at the disposal of Hermarchus [...]" - Last Will, via Diogenes Laertius