

The Early Epicureans v1.0 [video]

Post by “Joshua” of May 3, 2023 at 11:10 AM

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=gGOfvc_bKOo&embeds_euri=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.epicureanfriends.com

My new video on the Early Epicureans is now on YouTube. Thank you [Cassius](#) for doing the legwork on that end!

I tried to keep this one short, and went with captions instead of a voice-over. You can visit the thread on the process [here](#), and @Nate's map of the Epicurean Communities of the Ancient World [here](#).

Thank you all for your early feedback and any criticism is more than welcome! I do want to get better (and faster) at the animating and editing process.

I hope this gives a clearer picture of Epicurus' life, and of the development of the Garden conceptually in the east before it was realized in the west.

Post by “Cassius” of May 3, 2023 at 11:39 AM

Posted at Facebook:

[Epicurean Philosophy | Joshua Elbert has just produced a short but pleasant video focused on the locations involved in the starting of the Epicurean school](#)

Joshua Elbert has just produced a short but pleasant video focused on the locations involved in the starting of the Epicurean school. One thing that stands...

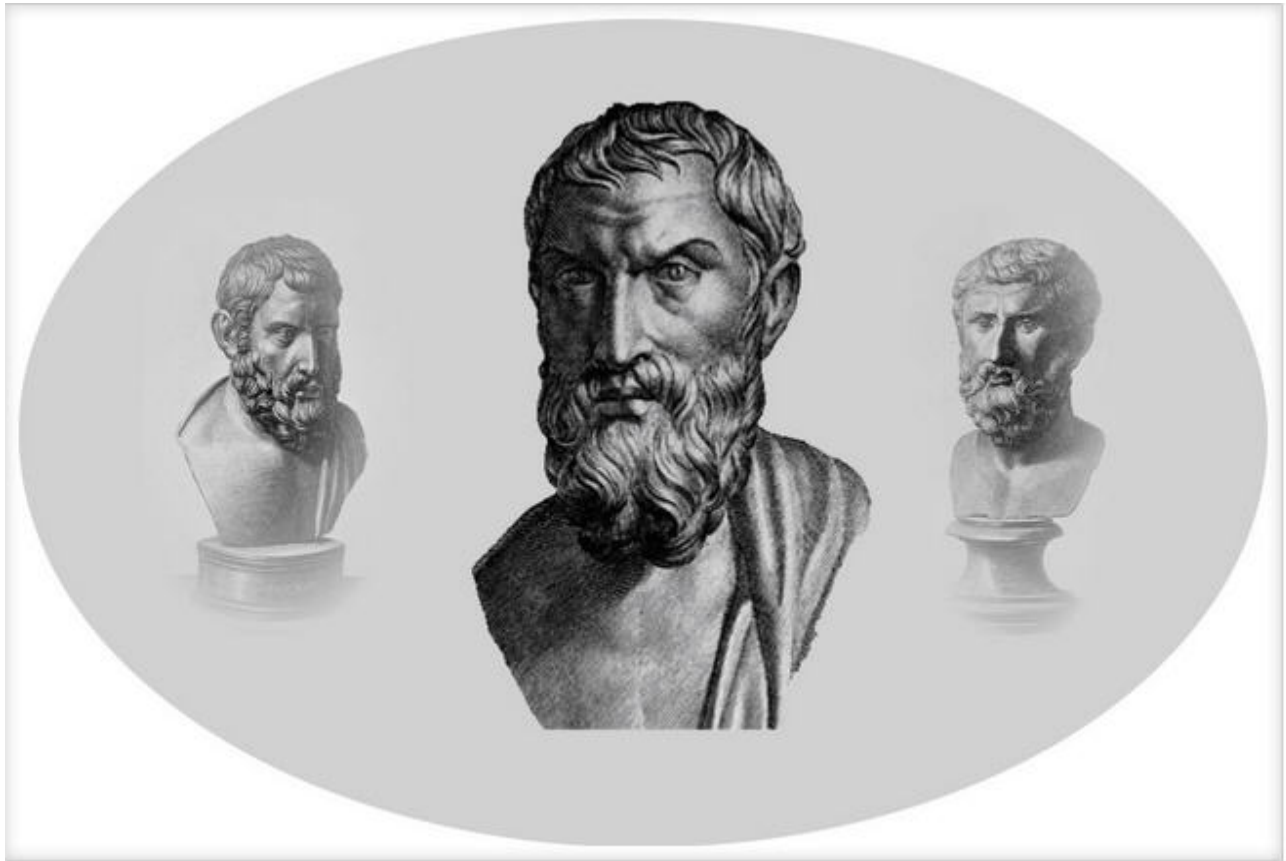
www.facebook.com

Post by “Godfrey” of May 3, 2023 at 11:42 AM

Very well done [Joshua](#) !

Post by “Cassius” of May 3, 2023 at 11:51 AM

Since we are talking about the founders of the school, I have to admit that I have trouble myself identifying between Hermarchus and Metrodorus. Does everyone agree with the labeling here? And in turn do we agree that the book [about which Godfrey recently posted has Hermarchus on the cover](#)?



Hermarchus

Epicurus

Metrodorus

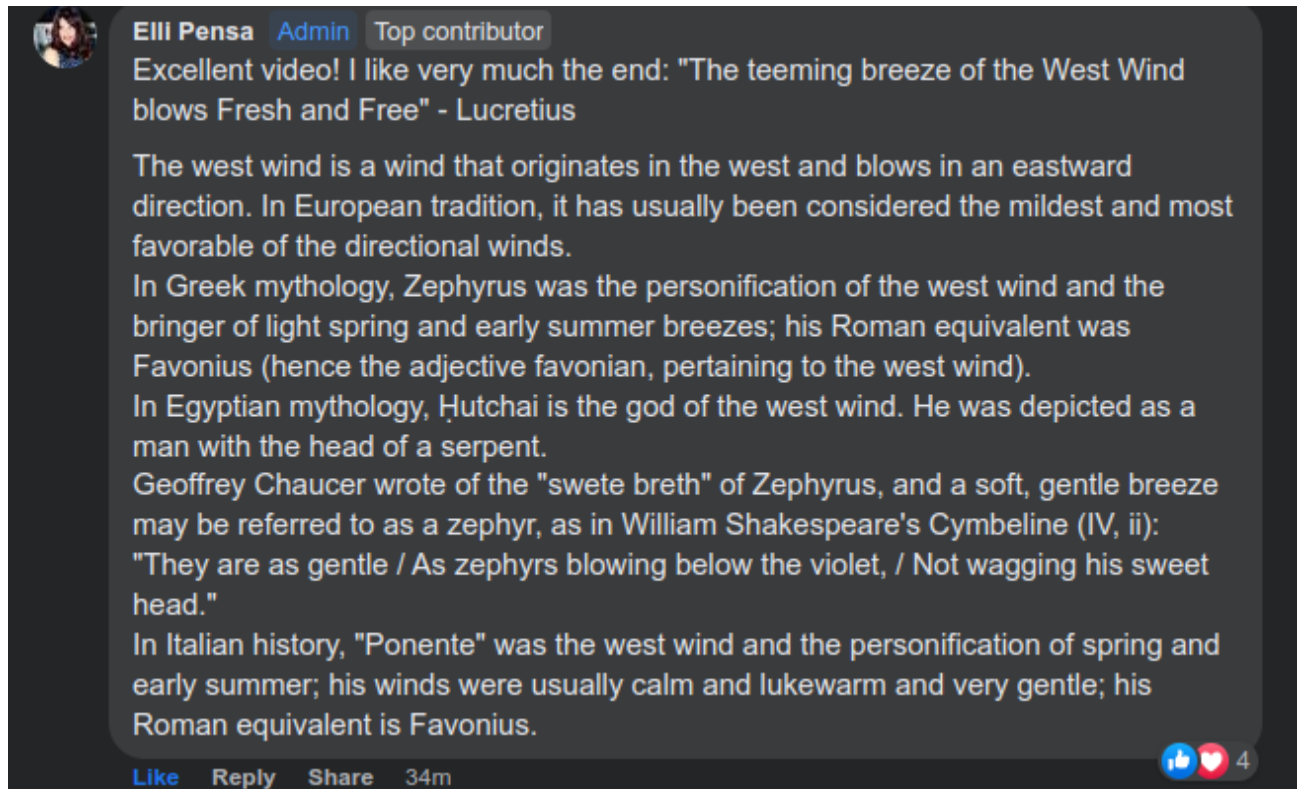
Post by “Godfrey” of May 3, 2023 at 12:17 PM

It's certainly not Epicurus on the cover. Looks more like Hermarchus than Metrodorus; the source photo is probably online somewhere, but I haven't found it.

Post by "Cassius" of May 3, 2023 at 12:49 PM

For some reason I think I can picture Hermarchus in my mind based on the statue and picture how he looked, but there is something about the Metrodorus statue that makes it harder for me to get a grip on his features.

Post by "Cassius" of May 3, 2023 at 2:00 PM



The image is a screenshot of a social media post. At the top left is a circular profile picture of a woman. To its right, the name 'EIII Pensa' is followed by the roles 'Admin' and 'Top contributor'. The main text of the post is a paragraph of text about the West Wind, including references to Lucretius, Greek mythology (Zephyrus), Roman mythology (Favonius), Egyptian mythology (Hutchai), Geoffrey Chaucer, and William Shakespeare. At the bottom of the post, there are icons for 'Like', 'Reply', and 'Share', along with a timestamp '34m' and a small notification icon showing '4'.

EIII Pensa Admin Top contributor
Excellent video! I like very much the end: "The teeming breeze of the West Wind blows Fresh and Free" - Lucretius

The west wind is a wind that originates in the west and blows in an eastward direction. In European tradition, it has usually been considered the mildest and most favorable of the directional winds.

In Greek mythology, Zephyrus was the personification of the west wind and the bringer of light spring and early summer breezes; his Roman equivalent was Favonius (hence the adjective favonian, pertaining to the west wind).

In Egyptian mythology, Hutchai is the god of the west wind. He was depicted as a man with the head of a serpent.

Geoffrey Chaucer wrote of the "swete breth" of Zephyrus, and a soft, gentle breeze may be referred to as a zephyr, as in William Shakespeare's Cymbeline (IV, ii): "They are as gentle / As zephyrs blowing below the violet, / Not wagging his sweet head."

In Italian history, "Ponente" was the west wind and the personification of spring and early summer; his winds were usually calm and lukewarm and very gentle; his Roman equivalent is Favonius.

Like Reply Share 34m 4

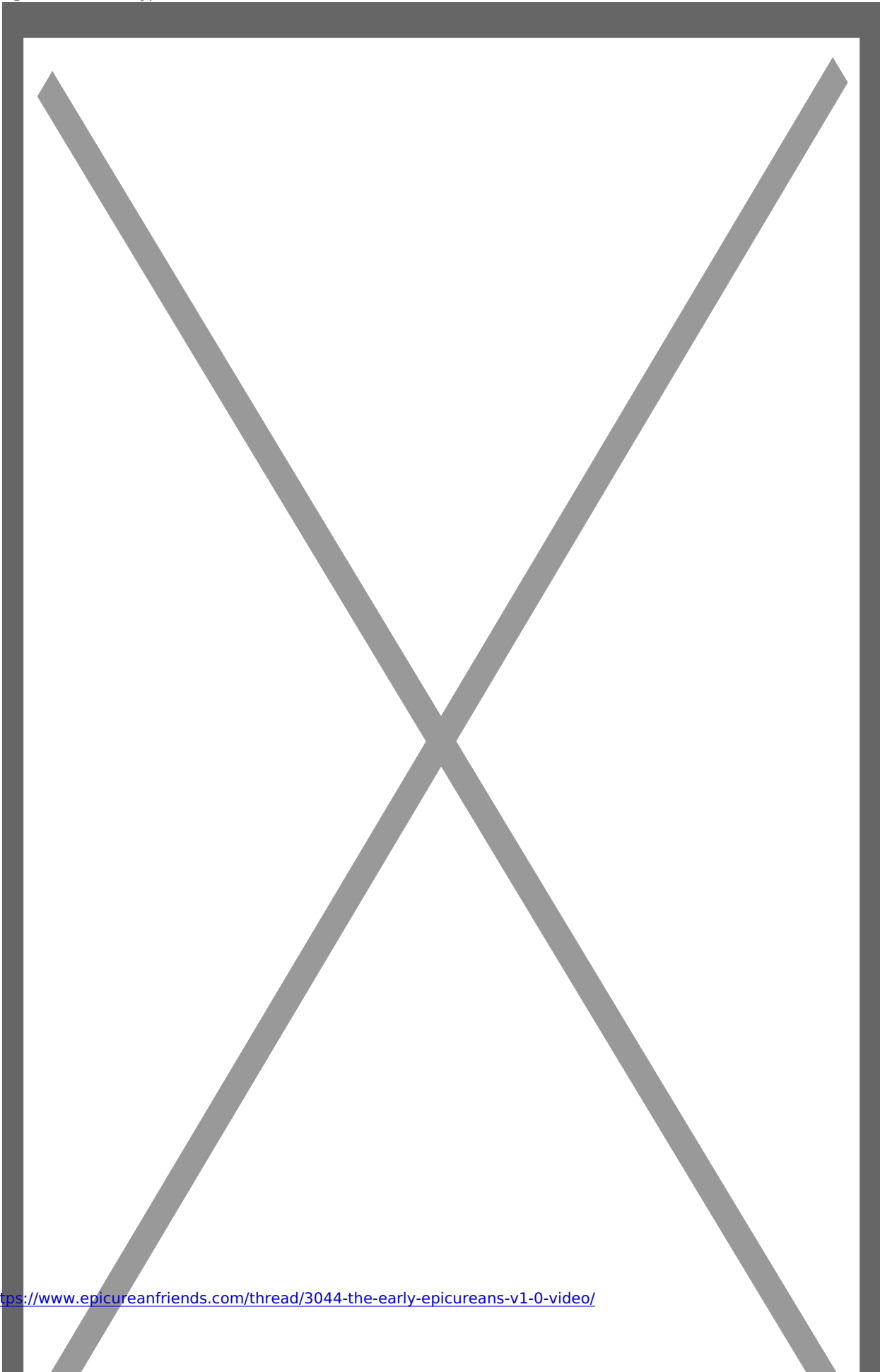
Post by "kochiekoch" of May 3, 2023 at 4:23 PM

I would have labeled them like that. Busts of Hermarchus I've seen show him as a guy with an average head size. Busts of Metrodorus depict him as a man with a larger head and broad face.

Post by “TauPhi” of May 3, 2023 at 5:21 PM

My money in on Hermarchus as well. I found very detailed 3D model of Epicurus and Metrodorus double bust here:

Image not found or type unknown



[Epicurus and Metrodorus - 3D model by Flyover Zone \(@FlyoverZone\)](#)

Name: Epicurus and Metrodorus Material: Cast Format: Double Herm Museum: Abguss-Sammlung Antiker Plastik Museum of original: Capitoline Museums, Rome,...
sketchfab.com

On close inspection, the dude on the cover of the book is clearly not as handsome as Metrodorus. 😊

Jokes aside, check out that 3D model. It's quite impressive.

Post by “Don” of May 3, 2023 at 9:36 PM



The base of this statue reads Ἑρμάρχος Hermarchos and is the image on the book cover to the left.

Post by “Cassius” of May 3, 2023 at 9:38 PM

Don what about Metrodorus? Do you have good images of him and a good fix on his face?

Post by “Onenski” of May 4, 2023 at 1:10 AM

This is from Frischer's Book *The Sculpted Word*, [Cassius](#).

Post by “Don” of May 4, 2023 at 6:54 AM



(M)HTPOΔωPOC

(M)etrodōros

Looks like the stone has been repaired, splitting off the initial M.

Epicurus's beard is typically more forked while it looks like Metrodorus's was more round.

I think I've seen the Hermarchos bust referred to as Epicurus in the past, but the base clearly has Hermarchus's name and also a more rounded beard.

Hermarchus's eyes also seem more "sad" (droopy) while Epicurus seems to have a more intense gaze with his brow furrowed in the center.

Post by “Cassius” of May 4, 2023 at 7:32 AM

[Quote from Don](#)

Hermarchus's eyes also seem more "sad" (droopy) while Epicurus seems to have a more intense gaze with his brow furrowed in the center.

Yes I can see the somewhat droopy eyes as a signature of Hermarchus, but for some reason I can't get a similar fix on something unique about Metrodorus.

Maybe my problem is that the sketch I posted earlier in the thread seems to not be as a close a match to the actual sculpture as is the sketch for Hermarchus and Epicurus (?)

Post by "Don" of May 4, 2023 at 7:50 AM

To my eye, Metrodorus looked younger - more youthful - than either Hermarchus or Epicurus.

Post by "Don" of May 4, 2023 at 8:04 AM

[Quote from Godfrey](#)

Very well done [Joshua](#) !

Very nice work. I kept imagining a David Attenborough voiceover. I can definitely envision the possibilities with this application now. Thanks, [Joshua](#) .

Post by "Cassius" of May 4, 2023 at 8:34 AM

I guess I was aware of it but I have not focused much on the apparent fact that we have busts of Colotes.

Maybe this book page that Onenski has posted above can be worked over with image enhancement and/or adjusting software to make better copies of all of them for future use. I gather there might be one or two other busts available too? Polyaneus maybe?

We probably have not spent nearly as much time as we should fleshing out what we know about the details of each of these. We at least know their book titles to indicate their areas of interest, plus there are other anecdotes, and we know something of Colotes from Plutarch's response to him.

Now that I see more clearly that many of these guys got together and essentially invaded Athens as a team, the "team" seems to me to be more worthy of highlighting.

Which is important to observe - that the Epicurean school was not at all a one-man project, but required teamwork, just as teamwork is required today.

Post by "Cassius" of May 4, 2023 at 8:37 AM

[Quote from Don](#)

To my eye, Metrodorus looked younger - more youthful - than either Hermarchus or Epicurus.

Which is interesting too because Metrodorus died first, if I understand the will correctly.