

Oceanus – KMG (Audio Transcription)



Introduction

You are standing at the rear of the Fisheries building on Tanner's Bank in North Shields.

The entire gable end is covered by a striking mural created by KMG, a Scottish artist known for bold, myth-inspired street art.

This piece reimagines Oceanus, the ancient Titan God of rivers and oceans, linking Roman mythology with the heritage of the River Tyne.

Visual Overview

The mural spans the full height of the building and is painted in bold, flat colours with a strong graphic style.

The background is a deep teal green, smooth and solid, creating a dramatic contrast with lighter and darker shapes layered across it.

Main Figure

At the centre is a large, stylized figure shown in profile, facing to the left. The figure has long, flowing, white hair streaming horizontally, as if blown by the wind or water. Two curved horns rise from the head, giving a mythical impression. The skin is painted in pale, mint green and the arm bends forward, gripping a long spear. From the waist down, the figure has the body of a fish, patterned with small pale marks, suggesting scales.

Details of the Spear

The spear runs diagonally from bottom left to top right. Its shaft is a warm orange-brown, and the spearhead is a sharp triangular shape in a darker shade, suggesting strength and readiness.

Creature Elements

Wrapped around the figure is a long, serpent-like creature. Its body coils in sweeping curves, painted in pale lavender with darker spots.

The serpent's head emerges near the figure's torso, facing to the right, with an almond-shaped eye and a pointed snout.

Additional Features

Near the top, the figure's hand is open, fingers spread wide, painted in mint green. Behind the hand, a dark silhouette of a squid-like creature wraps around the spear, adding mystery and depth.

Style and Atmosphere

The mural feels bold and symbolic, with clean lines and flat colours rather than realistic shading. It evokes strength and guardianship, with the figure and serpent intertwined like protectors of the river.

The composition is contemporary yet rooted in ancient myth.

Colour Palette and Texture

Dominant colours include deep teal green, mint green, pale lavender, dark navy, and accents of orange-brown. The hair is stark white, standing out against the darker background.

Sensory Imagination

Picture the sound of rushing water and the hiss of a serpent coiling through the depths. Imagine the cool weight of stone under your fingers, the sleek feel of scales, and the taut tension of the spear like a bowstring ready to release.

Artist Information

KMG has been creating street art for over two decades, drawing inspiration from Celtic folklore to revive overlooked mythologies.

Her work often features large figures and mythical creatures, prompting reflection on cultural identity and contemporary environments.

Instagram: **@KMGyeah**

Website: **www.kmgyeah.com**