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978-0-521-76895-5 - Form and Function in Roman Oratory

Edited by D. H. Berry and Andrew Erskine

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FORM AND FUNCTION IN ROMAN ORATORY

In this book Roman oratory is explored from the perspective of form and function. Leading scholars in the field of Latin prose consider not only the speeches of Cicero, Pliny, Apuleius and the later panegyrists, but also those found in Roman philosophical writing, and in the histories of Caesar, Sallust, Livy and Tacitus. In each case, analysis of the interplay of form and function takes us to the heart of the process by which the author's aims are realised. The book also considers the functions of texts within speeches, the functions of not speaking and the representation of oratorical 'form' in Roman sculpture. An original and wide-ranging study, *Form and Function in Roman Oratory* will appeal to scholars and students with interests in Roman oratory, historiography, philosophy and art.

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(1977, 1983) and (with R. H. Martin) on Tacitus, *Annals* 3 and 4 (1996, 1989), of *Rhetoric in Classical Historiography* (1988), *Latin Historians* (1997, with C. S. Kraus), *Tacitus Reviewed* (1998), and also of *Tacitus: The Annals* (2004, rev. 2008) and *Sallust: Catiline's War, The Jugurthine War, Histories* (2007) (annotated translations); co-editor of *Quality and Pleasure in Latin Poetry* (1974), *Creative Imitation and Latin Literature* (1979), *Poetry and Politics in the Age of Augustus* (1984), *Past Perspectives: Studies in Greek and Roman Historical Writing* (1986), *Author and Audience in Latin Literature* (1992), *Tacitus and the Tacitean Tradition* (1993) and *Traditions and Contexts in the Poetry of Horace* (2002).

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Preface

The papers in this volume were all specially commissioned from leading scholars in the field of Latin prose and, in one case, of Roman art. In selecting contributors and determining the subjects of the chapters, we aimed at a broad conception of Roman oratory: we saw it as consisting not just of 'free-standing' speeches, i.e. speeches written as complete works of literature in themselves, but also of speeches embedded within works in other genres, specifically historiography and philosophy. As for the concepts of 'form' and 'function', we saw these as central to any speech, but encouraged our contributors to interpret them imaginatively with reference to the works and topics on which they had been commissioned to write.

Early drafts of sixteen of the papers were presented at a conference held at the University of Edinburgh on 9–11 March 2007. The conference was generously supported by the British Academy, to which we express our thanks. After the conference, a further paper, that of Professor William W. Batstone, was commissioned to fill a gap in the coverage; an early draft of this paper too was delivered at the University of Edinburgh, at a research seminar on 26 March 2008. While the drafts were being turned into the papers published here, they were made available on a secure website so that each contributor could read the entire book in draft. By means of the conference and the website, we have aimed to avoid the common fault of multi-authored volumes, the disjointedness that can arise when each chapter is written in ignorance of the other ones.

The translations of quoted passages are the contributors' own. They have no pretensions to literary merit, but aim in each case merely to elucidate the point being made.

We would like to express our profound thanks to the Press's copy-editor, Dr Iveta Adams, whose meticulous and scholarly work on the volume has resulted in many improvements, of content as well as presentation.

D. H. BERRY
ANDREW ERSKINE

Abbreviations

Abbreviations of ancient authors and their works follow the conventions of *OLD* for Roman and *OCD* for Greek authors.

<i>BM Coins, Rom. Emp.</i>	H. Mattingly <i>et al.</i> , <i>Coins of the Roman Empire in the British Museum</i> , London, 1923–.
<i>CIL</i>	<i>Corpus inscriptionum Latinarum</i> , Berlin, 1863–.
<i>HRR</i>	<i>Historicorum Romanorum reliquiae</i> , ed. H. Peter, Leipzig, 1906 (vol. II), 1914 (vol. I, 2nd edn).
<i>ILS</i>	<i>Inscriptiones Latinae selectae</i> (3 vols.), ed. H. Dessau, Berlin, 1892–1916.
<i>MRR</i>	T. R. S. Broughton, <i>The Magistrates of the Roman Republic</i> (3 vols.), New York and Atlanta, 1951–86.
<i>OCD</i>	<i>Oxford Classical Dictionary</i> , 3rd edn, ed. S. Hornblower and A. Spawforth, Oxford, 1996.
<i>OCT</i>	Oxford Classical Text(s).
<i>OLD</i>	<i>Oxford Latin Dictionary</i> , ed. P. G. W. Glare, Oxford, 1982.
<i>ORF</i>	<i>Oratorum Romanorum fragmenta liberae rei publicae</i> , ed. E. Malcovati, vol. I, 4th edn, Turin, 1976.
<i>PHI</i>	<i>Database of Latin Authors to AD 200: CD ROM 5.3</i> Produced by Packard Humanities Institute, Palo Alto, Calif.
<i>PL</i>	<i>Patrologia Latina (Patrologiae cursus completus, series Latina)</i> , ed. J.-P. Migne, Paris, 1844–.
<i>RE</i>	<i>Paulys Real-Encyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft</i> , ed. G. Wissowa <i>et al.</i> , Stuttgart and Munich, 1893–1978.
<i>TLL</i>	<i>Thesaurus linguae Latinae</i> , Leipzig, 1900–.