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978-0-521-76955-6 - Landscape and the Spaces of Metaphor in Ancient Literary Theory and Criticism

Nancy Worman

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Landscape and the Spaces of Metaphor in Ancient Literary Theory and Criticism

This study explores a previously uncharted area of ancient literary theory and criticism: the ancient landscapes (e.g., the Ilissus river in Athens, Mount Helicon) that generate metaphors for distinguishing styles, which dovetail with ancient conceptions of metaphor as itself spatial and mobile. Ancient writers most often coordinate stylistic features with country settings, where authoritative performers such as Muses, poets, and eventually critics or theorists view, appropriate, and emulate their bounties (e.g., springs, flowers, rivers, paths). These spaces of metaphor and their elaborations provide poets and critics with a vivid means of distinguishing among styles and an influential vocabulary. Together these figurative terrains shape critical and theoretical discussions in Greece and beyond. Since this discourse has a remarkably wide reach, the book is broad in scope, ranging from archaic Greek poetry through Roman oratory and “Longinus” to the reception of critical imagery in Proust and Derrida.

NANCY WORMAN is Professor of Classics at Barnard College, Columbia University. She is the author of articles and books on style, performance, and the body in Greek literature and culture, such as *Abusive Mouths in Classical Athens* (Cambridge, 2008). Most recently she has published articles on the aesthetics of tragic embodiment and co-edited *Space, Place, and Landscape in Ancient Greek Literature and Culture* (with Kate Gilhuly, Cambridge, 2014).

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University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521769556

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First published 2015

Printed in the United Kingdom by Clays, St Ives plc

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

Worman, Nancy, 1963–

Landscape and the spaces of metaphor in ancient literary theory and criticism / Nancy Worman.

pages cm

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-0-521-76955-6 (hardback)

1. Literature, Ancient – History and criticism – Theory, etc. 2. Metaphor in literature.

3. Landscapes in literature. 4. Place (Philosophy) in literature. I. Title.

PN621.W67 2015

809'.01–dc23

2015012201

ISBN 978-0-521-76955-6 Hardback

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*For my garden-loving mother
Eugenia Cuyler Worman*

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*When I saw
the flowers*

*I was
thunderstruck!*

*You should not
have been –*

*Tulips, she said
and smiled.*

William Carlos Williams, from “Paterson”

*Then dream of gardens, of bluish horizons,
Of jets of water weeping in alabaster basins,
Of kisses, of birds singing at dawn and at nightfall . . .*

John Ashbery, “Landscape (After Baudelaire)”

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Acknowledgments

This book has been a long time in the making. During an early phase of its development I was on a Loeb Fellowship and visiting at Harvard University (2007–2008), and I am grateful for the support of that institution as well as helpful colleagues in the Department of Classics, especially Christopher Krebs, Betsey Robinson, and Richard Thomas. While there I also met Katherine Deutsch, whose interest in discursive metaphors intersects in many places with my own and whose dissertation sparked many fruitful conversations. During this same time Kate Gilhuly and I started formulating ideas for a workshop on place, space, and landscape, applying for and receiving a Mellon SIRT Grant that, together with additional funding from a Barnard College Mini-Grant, paid for participants' attendance at the workshop hosted at Wellesley College. We developed the papers from the workshop into an edited volume that was published in 2014 (*Space, Place, and Landscape in Ancient Greek Literature and Culture*, Cambridge). I learned a lot from working with Kate, and I am supremely grateful to her for her wit and determination in seeing the volume through to its completion.

I want to thank Barnard College for research and travel support in the form of further Mini-Grants during the years of work on the book that followed. I also thank my Barnard colleagues who have been such kind supporters and friends over the years, especially Elizabeth Castelli, Pam Cobrin, Rachel Eisendrath, Helene Foley, Janet Jakobsen, Monica Miller, and Kristina Milnor. I am grateful to my Columbia colleagues Francesco De Angelis, Marcus Folch, Elizabeth Scharffenberger, Deborah Steiner, Katharina Volk, Gareth Williams, and James Zetzel for fruitful conversations. Special thanks are due to the students in my graduate seminars at Columbia and Harvard on ancient literary criticism and ancient aesthetics, for their many contributions to my thinking on these topics. In addition I am grateful to colleagues at the following institutions for inviting me to deliver papers on topics related to the book: The Center for Hellenic Studies, Columbia University, Cornell University, Harvard University, The Institute of Classical Studies (University College London), Princeton University, Rutgers University, Stanford University,

University of Cambridge, University of Chicago, University of St Andrews, University of Toronto, and Yale University. Many colleagues at these institutions and at conferences hosted by them were very helpful in formal and informal discussions: Egbert Bakker, Victor Bers, Joshua Billings, Anna Bonifazi, Charles Brittain, Carol Dougherty, Chris Eckerman, Lowell Edmunds, Andrew Ford, Milette Gaifman, Simon Goldhill, Emily Greenwood, Jon Hesk, Brooke Holmes, Richard Hunter, Brad Inwood, Lucy Jackson, Lynn Kozak, Chris Kraus, Leslie Kurke, Miriam Leonard, Pauline LeVen, Michèle Lowrie, Richard Martin, Gregory Nagy, Sarah Nooter, Anastasia-Erasmia Peponi, Irene Peirano, Hayden Pellicia, Verity Platt, Tim Power, Alex Purves, Pietro Pucci, Tim Rood, Seth Schein, Daniel Selden, Gisela Striker, Phiroze Vasunia, Nicolas Wiater, and Jennifer Whiting. Among these I single out Simon Goldhill, Sarah Nooter, Alex Purves, and Phiroze Vasunia for their intellectual companionship and many kindnesses. I also thank Thorsten Fögen and Mirelle Lee for inviting me to contribute to their volume, *Bodies and Boundaries in Graeco-Roman Antiquity* (De Gruyter, 2009), a piece that represents some of my earliest thinking around the topics discussed here ("Bodies and Topographies in Ancient Stylistic Theory"). I thank as well Pierre Destrée, for inviting me to contribute to the volume he is editing with Penelope Murray, *A Companion to Ancient Aesthetics* (Blackwell, forthcoming), a chapter entitled "The Aesthetics of Ancient Landscapes," which represents in condensed form a more recent formulation of the general parameters of this book.

I owe a special debt to Victoria Wohl, dear friend and favorite interlocutor, whose intellectual generosity and humor are invaluable to me. My thanks as well to other friends with wise and kind ears, especially Alastair Blanshard, Joy Connolly, Jonathan Massey, Diane Moroff, Marc Norman, Jocelyn Saidenberg, Anthony Schneider, Andrea Schulz, and Michael Strevens.

I thank Michael Sharp, the classics and history editor at Cambridge University Press, for his careful adjudication of the revision process, as well as the anonymous readers, for their attention to both the presentation of the whole and the painstaking details. The book has been vastly improved due to their hard work. I thank also the classics editor Elizabeth Hanlon and production editor Bronte Rawlings, for their attentive shepherding of the publication process in its later stages; and Simone Oppen, who composed an impressive Index Locorum. Thanks as well to Nigel Hope, whose well-paced copy-editing made the process more orderly and streamlined than I have ever experienced.

I am grateful to my mother, to whom this book is dedicated, for her abiding love of gardening – an inspiration for getting your hands dirty in the right way.

Finally, I thank Iakovos Vasiliou, always and for everything.

The chapter in the edited volume mentioned above (*A Companion to Ancient Aesthetics*) covers in very condensed form material that overlaps somewhat with discussions in the Introduction as well as in Chapters 2, 4, and 7. Chapter 3 of my book is an expanded and revised version of the chapter that I contributed to the volume mentioned above that I edited with Kate Gilhuly. Some material from another volume chapter, “Euripides, Aristophanes, and Sophistic Style,” in *The Blackwell Companion to Euripides* edited by Robin Mitchell-Boyask (forthcoming), also contributed to the development of this same chapter.

Abbreviations

AJA	<i>American Journal of Archeology</i>
AJP	<i>American Journal of Philology</i>
AP	<i>Anthologia Palatina</i>
BICS	<i>Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies</i>
CA	<i>Classical Antiquity</i>
CCJ	<i>Cambridge Classical Journal</i>
CJ	<i>Classical Journal</i>
CP	<i>Classical Philology</i>
CQ	<i>Classical Quarterly</i>
CR	<i>Classical Review</i>
CW	<i>Classical World</i>
D–K	H. Diels and W. Kranz, eds. <i>Die Fragmente der Vorsokratiker</i> , 12th ed. Berlin, 1966–67
EG	D. L. Page, ed. <i>Epigrammata Graeca</i> . Oxford, 1975
Gow	A. S. F. Gow, ed. and comm. <i>Theocritus</i> , 2 vols. Cambridge, 1965
G–P	A. S. F. Gow and D. L. Page, eds. and comm. <i>The Greek Anthology: Hellenistic Epigrams</i> , 2 vols. Cambridge, 1965
G&R	<i>Greece & Rome</i>
GRBS	<i>Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies</i>
HSCP	<i>Harvard Studies in Classical Philology</i>
JHS	<i>Journal of Hellenic Studies</i>
K–A	R. Kassel and C. Austin, eds. <i>Poetae Comici Graeci</i> , vols. i–ix. Berlin, 1983–
LIMC	<i>Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae</i> . Zurich, 1981–
L–P	E. Lobel and D. L. Page, eds. <i>Poetarum Lesbiorum Fragmenta</i> . Oxford, 1955
MH	<i>Museum Helveticum</i>
OSAP	<i>Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy</i>
PCPS	<i>Proceedings of the Cambridge Philological Society</i>
Pf.	R. Pfeiffer, ed. and comm. <i>Callimachus</i> , vols. 1–2. Oxford, 1949–53
PMG	<i>Poetae Melici Graeci</i> , ed. D. L. Page. Oxford, 1962
PMLA	<i>Proceedings of the Modern Language Association</i>
QUCC	<i>Quaderni urbinati di cultura classica</i>
REA	<i>Revue des études anciennes</i>
RhM	<i>Rheinisches Museum für Philologie</i>

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SCO	<i>Studi classici e orientali</i>
SEG	J. J. E. Hondius, ed. <i>Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum</i> . Leiden, 1923–
SO	<i>Symbolai Osloenses</i>
TAPA	<i>Transactions of the American Philological Association</i>
TrGF	B. Snell, R. Kannicht, and S. Radt, eds. <i>Tragicorum Graecorum Fragmenta</i> . Göttingen, 1971–2004
W ²	M. L. West, ed. <i>Iambi et Elegi Graeci</i> , 2nd ed. Oxford, 1989–92
YCS	<i>Yale Classical Studies</i>
ZPE	<i>Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik</i>