

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-04112-6 - Euripidean Polemic: The Trojan Women and the Function of Tragedy

N. T. Croally

Frontmatter

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This book sets out to interpret Euripides' *The Trojan Women* in the light of a view of tragedy which sees its function, as it was understood in classical Athens, as being didactic. This function, the author argues, was carried out by an examination of the ideology to which the audience subscribed. *The Trojan Women*, powerfully exploiting the dramatic context of the aftermath of the Trojan War, is a remarkable example of tragic teaching. The play questions a series of mutually reinforcing polarities (man/god; man/woman; Greek/barbarian; free/slave) through which an Athenian citizen defined himself, and also examines the dangers of rhetoric and the value of victory in war. By making the didactic function of tragedy the basis of interpretation, the author is able to offer a coherent view of a number of long-standing problems in Euripidean and tragic criticism, namely the relation of Euripides to the sophists, the pervasive self-reference and anachronism in Euripides, the problem of contemporary reference, and the construction and importance of the tragic scene.

The book, which makes use of recent scholarship both in Classics and in critical theory, should be read by all those interested in Greek tragedy and in the culture of late fifth-century Athens.

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EURIPIDEAN POLEMIC

*The Trojan Women* and the function of tragedy

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N. T. CROALLY

*Dulwich College, London*



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## ABBREVIATIONS

<i>AC</i>	<i>L'Antiquité Classique</i>
<i>AJP</i>	<i>American Journal of Philology</i>
<i>BICS</i>	<i>Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies</i>
<i>CA</i>	<i>Classical Antiquity</i>
<i>CB</i>	<i>The Classical Bulletin</i>
<i>CJ</i>	<i>Classical Journal</i>
<i>C&amp;M</i>	<i>Classica et Mediaevalia</i>
<i>CP</i>	<i>Classical Philology</i>
<i>CQ</i>	<i>Classical Quarterly</i>
<i>CR</i>	<i>Classical Review</i>
<i>CW</i>	<i>Classical World</i>
<i>DK</i>	Diels, H. and Kranz, W. eds. <i>Die Fragmente der Vorsokratiker</i> . 3 vols. Berlin, 1952.
<i>FGH</i>	<i>Fragmente der griechischen Historiker</i>
<i>G&amp;R</i>	<i>Greece &amp; Rome</i>
<i>GRBS</i>	<i>Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies</i>
<i>HSCP</i>	<i>Harvard Studies in Classical Philology</i>
<i>HTR</i>	<i>Harvard Theological Review</i>
<i>ICS</i>	<i>Illinois Classical Studies</i>
<i>IG</i>	<i>Inscriptiones Graecae</i>
<i>JHS</i>	<i>Journal of Hellenic Studies</i>
<i>LEC</i>	<i>Les Etudes Classiques</i>
<i>NLH</i>	<i>New Literary History</i>
<i>PCA</i>	<i>Proceedings of the Classical Association</i>
<i>PCPS</i>	<i>Proceedings of the Cambridge Philological Society</i>
<i>QFC</i>	<i>Quaderni di Filologia Classica</i>
<i>QS</i>	<i>Quaderni di Storia</i>
<i>REG</i>	<i>Revue des Etudes Grecques</i>
<i>RhM</i>	<i>Rheinisches Museum für Philologie</i>
<i>RPh</i>	<i>Revue de Philologie</i>



ABBREVIATIONS

<i>SicGym</i>	<i>Siculorum Gymnasium</i>
<i>TAPA</i>	<i>Transactions of the American Philological Association</i>
<i>YCS</i>	<i>Yale Classical Studies</i>
<i>WHB</i>	<i>Wiener humanistische Blätter</i>
<i>WJ</i>	<i>Würzburger Jahrbücher für die Altertumswissenschaft</i>
<i>WS</i>	<i>Wiener Studien</i>
<i>WZ Halle</i>	<i>Wissenschaftliche Zeitschrift der Martin-Luther-Universität, Halle-Wittenberg</i>
<i>ZPE</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik</i>