

RELATIVE CHRONOLOGY IN EARLY GREEK EPIC POETRY

This book sets out to disentangle the complex chronology of early Greek epic poetry, which includes Homer, Hesiod, hymns and catalogues. The preserved corpus of these texts is characterized by a rather uniform language and many recurring themes, thus making the establishment of chronological priorities a difficult task. The editors have brought together scholars working on these texts from both a linguistic and a literary perspective to address the problem. Some contributions offer statistical analysis of the linguistic material or linguistic analysis of subgenres within epic, others use a neoanalytical approach to the history of epic themes or otherwise seek to track the development and interrelationship of epic contents. All the contributors focus on the implications of their study for the dating of early epic poems relative to each other. Thus the book offers an overview of the current state of discussion.

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EDITED BY

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Preface

The present volume on relative chronology in early Greek epic poetry originates from a conference under the same heading which was organized at the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters in Oslo in the summer of 2006, with generous financial support from the Academy and from the Ludvig Holberg Memorial Fund and with a contribution from the Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas at the University of Oslo. At the conference, a dozen of invited and a score of other papers were given, on both literary and linguistic aspects of the problem, leading to much fruitful discussion. The editors are pleased to present this selection of essays to a wider audience.

The editors wish to express their sincere thanks to their co-organizer of the conference, Anastasia Maravela, who also contributed substantially to the early stages of the work on the present volume. They also wish to thank Pål Rykkja Gilbert for valuable assistance in the final stages of the work.

Abbreviations

AO	R. Develin (1989) <i>Athenian Officials 684–321 B.C.</i> Cambridge
Bernabé	A. Bernabé (ed.) (1987–2004) <i>Poetarum Epicorum Graecorum Testimonia et Fragmenta</i> (2 vols.). Berlin, Munich and Stuttgart
Davies	M. Davies (ed.) (1988) <i>Epicorum Graecorum Fragmenta</i> . Göttingen
Drachmann	A. B. Drachmann (ed.) (1903–27) <i>Scholia Vetera in Pindari Carmina</i> (3 vols). Leipzig
CEG	P. A. Hansen (ed.) (1983–9) <i>Carmina Epigraphica Graeca</i> (2 vols.). Berlin
FGrH	F. Jacoby (ed.) (1923–) <i>Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker</i> . Berlin and Leiden
H	M. Hirschberger (2004) <i>Gynaikōn Katalogos und Megalai Ehoiai</i> . Munich and Leipzig
IEG	M. L. West (ed.) (1989–92) <i>Iambi et Elegi Graeci ante Alexandrum Cantati</i> (2 vols.), 2nd edn. Oxford
LGS	D. L. Page (ed.) (1968) <i>Lyrice Graeca Selecta</i> . Oxford
LIMC	(1981–) <i>Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae</i> . Zurich
L–P	E. Lobel and D. L. Page (eds.) (1955) <i>Poetarum Lesbiorum Fragmenta</i> . Oxford
LSJ	H. G. Liddell, R. Scott and H. Stuart Jones (1968) <i>Greek–English Lexicon</i> , 9th edn, Suppl. by E. A. Barber et al. Oxford
M–W	R. Merkelbach and M. L. West (eds.) (1967) <i>Fragmenta Hesiodica</i> . Oxford
PMG	D. L. Page (ed.) (1962) <i>Poetae Melici Graeci</i> . Oxford
PMGF	M. Davies (ed.) (1991) <i>Poetarum Melicorum Graecorum Fragmenta</i> , vol. I. Oxford

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Rose	V. Rose (ed.) (1886) <i>Aristotelis Qui Ferebantur Librorum Fragmenta</i> . Stuttgart
SLG	D. L. Page (ed.) (1974) <i>Supplementum Lyricis Graecis</i> . Oxford
TGF	B. Snell, R. Kannicht and S. L. Radt (eds.) (1971–2004) <i>Tragicorum Graecorum Fragmenta</i> (5 vols.). Göttingen
Voigt	E.-M. Voigt (ed.) (1971) <i>Sappho et Alcaeus: Fragmenta</i> . Amsterdam
West	M. L. West (ed.) (2003) <i>Greek Epic Fragments</i> . Cambridge, Mass. and London