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978-0-521-76044-7 - Polis and Revolution: Responding to Oligarchy in Classical Athens

Julia L. Shear

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## POLIS AND REVOLUTION

During the turbulent last years of the fifth century BC, Athens twice suffered the overthrow of democracy and the subsequent establishment of oligarchic regimes. In an in-depth treatment of both political revolutions, Julia Shear examines how the Athenians responded to these events, at the level both of the individual and of the corporate group. Interdisciplinary in approach, this account brings epigraphical and archaeological evidence to bear on a discussion which until now has largely been based on texts. Dr Shear particularly focuses on the recreation of democracy and the city, both ritually and physically, in the aftermath of the coups and demonstrates that, whilst reconciliation after civil strife is difficult and contentious, it is also crucial for rebuilding a united society. Theories of remembering and forgetting are applied and offer a new way of understanding the dynamics in Athens at this time.

JULIA L. SHEAR is a Senior Associate Member at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.

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# POLIS AND REVOLUTION

*Responding to Oligarchy in Classical Athens*

JULIA L. SHEAR

*American School of Classical Studies at Athens*



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*For  
Robin and Simon  
and  
Ian and Chloe*

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## *Preface*

In years to come, the question of how society (re-)constructs itself as democratic after civil discord may come to be seen as a particular preoccupation of the early twenty-first century and this book very much reflects those contemporary concerns. It is not only a product of its time, but also of place: without the AHRB Anatomy of Cultural Revolution Project at the Faculty of Classics, University of Cambridge, this book would never have been written. I owe the deepest debt of gratitude to the members of this project: Robin Osborne, the director of the project, Simon Goldhill, the project's other senior member, Liz Irwin, my fellow post-doctoral researcher, and Ben Akrigg, Claire Taylor and Rob Tordoff, the project's three doctoral students. For four years while the project was underway, they all lived with and responded to my preoccupations with Athens, democracy and revolution as ideas in this book were tried out in the project's fortnightly seminars, in conversations and in drafts of conference papers. Robin and Simon, in particular, continued to engage with my project after I had left Cambridge. Without the engagement, help and support of the project's members, this volume would not exist. Unlike the Athenian *demos*, I cannot award them gold crowns to be announced in the theatre at the City Dionysia for their *eunoia* and *philotimia*, but, like Athenian benefactors, they are worthy of such honours for all their help and contributions. The project's fortnightly seminars drew a group of regular participants beyond the immediate team and their responses have also been invaluable in helping to shape my thinking.

In addition, I have incurred debts beyond Cambridge. Many of the ideas in this book were tried out on the honours students at the University of Glasgow who took my option Revolution and Democracy at Athens in 2007–8. Their questions and seminar discussions forced me to rethink various aspects and their second essays in particular helped to clarify where Sokrates and the trials after the Thirty fitted into this monograph. It is my pleasure now to thank them for their patience and their willingness to

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engage with my ideas. For their help and advice, thanks are also due to: Stephen Lambert, Polly Low, Margie Miles, Josh Ober, Anne Rogerson, Ian Ruffell, Michael Scott, T. Leslie Shear, Jr, Chloe Stewart, Ron Stroud, Stephen Todd, Steve Tracy and James Watson. For discussing unpublished material with me, I am indebted to: Kevin Clinton, Laura Gawlinski, Angelos Matthaïou, T. Leslie Shear, Jr and Peter Wilson. Some of the material in this book was presented, often in rather different form, at the annual meetings of the American Philological Association in 2004, 2005, 2007 and 2009; at the annual conferences of the Classical Association in 2004, 2006 and 2007; and at seminars at the universities of Cambridge, Warwick and Manchester. To all the participants at these various occasions, I extend my warmest thanks. I am also indebted to Susan Ashworth and Michael Given for their help and support during the very difficult period of September to November 2009. For their help with the illustrations, I would like to thank: John Camp, Michael Given, Annie Hooten, Daria Lanzuolo, Fred Ley, Nikos Manias, Craig Mauzy, Ron Stroud, Rhys Townsend and Natalia Vogeikoff-Brogan.

Several institutions have also made this book possible. For permission to study material in their care, I would like to thank Mrs Jan Jordan, the secretary of the Agora Excavations and the staff at the Stoa of Attalos; at the Kerameikos Excavations, Dr Jutta Stroszeck and her assistant Jan-Marc Henke; at the Epigraphical Museum, the emeritus director Dr Charalambos Kritzas and his assistant Dr Chara Karapa-Molisani, the current director Dr Maria Lagogianni and the staff at the museum. For her help in getting the necessary permissions, I am most grateful to Mrs Maria Pilali at the American School of Classical Studies. My four-year post-doctoral position at Cambridge was funded by the then Arts and Humanities Research Board. At Cambridge, the Faculty of Classics and King's College together provided the perfect place in which to begin this project and it is my great pleasure to thank the Faculty Board of Classics and the Provost and Fellows of King's College. Much of this book was written or rewritten in a carrel in the Davis Wing of the library of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. For providing such a congenial setting, I would like to extend my warmest thanks to Professor Jack Davis, the current director, to Professor Steve Tracy, his predecessor, and to the staff of the School in Athens. Finally, at Cambridge University Press, Michael Sharp never ceased to believe that he would one day receive a manuscript and both he and his colleagues Elizabeth Hanlon and Laura Morris have graciously answered endless e-mails with queries. For their support and patience, I am most grateful. Tom O'Reilly, Linda Woodward and the rest of the production

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team skilfully turned an author's electronic files into a printed monograph and I would like to thank them for all their care and hard work. Thanks are also due to the two anonymous readers for the press whose comments and questions aided me in clarifying my own thoughts and ideas.

All of these individuals have in their own ways improved this book and the remaining imperfections are certainly no reflection on any of them. Without four of them, however, this book would never have been written and, for that reason, it is dedicated to them.

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## Abbreviations

Abbreviations of journal titles follow the scheme used in *L'Année philologique*. Abbreviations of the names and works of classical authors follow the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*, 3rd edition. The following abbreviations are also used.

<i>Agora</i>	<i>The Athenian Agora: Results of Excavations Conducted by the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.</i>
<i>Agora</i> XVI	Woodhead, A. G., <i>Agora XVI: Inscriptions: The Decrees</i> . Princeton, NJ, 1997.
<i>Agora</i> XIX	Lalonde, G. V., Langdon, M. K., and Walbank, M. B., <i>Agora XIX: Inscriptions: Horoi, Poletai Records, Leases of Public Lands</i> . Princeton, NJ, 1991.
Bekker	Bekker, I., ed., <i>Anecdota Graeca</i> 1. Berlin, 1814.
Carey	Carey, C., ed., <i>Lysias: Orationes cum Fragmentis</i> . Oxford, 2007.
DK <sup>6</sup>	Diels, H., and Kranz, W., <i>Die Fragmente der Vorsokratiker</i> . 6th edn, Berlin, 1952.
<i>FGrHist</i>	Jacoby, F., <i>Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker</i> . Berlin and Leiden, 1923–.
<i>FHG</i>	Müller, C., <i>Fragmenta Historicorum Graecorum</i> . Paris, 1841–70.
<i>I.Eleusis</i>	Clinton, K., <i>Eleusis: The Inscriptions on Stone: Documents of the Sanctuary of the Two Goddesses and Public Documents of the Deme</i> . Athens, 2005.
<i>IG</i>	<i>Inscriptiones Graecae</i> .
LSJ <sup>9</sup>	Liddell, H. G., Scott, R., rev. Jones, H. S., <i>A Greek–English Lexicon</i> . 9th edn, Oxford, 1940.
OCT	Oxford Classical Text.

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- PMG* Page, D. L., ed., *Poetae Melici Graeci: Alcmanis, Stesichori, Ibyci, Anacreontis, Simonidis, Corinnae, poetarum minorum reliquias, carmina popularia et convivialia quaeque adespota feruntur*. Oxford, 1962.
- RO* Rhodes, P. J., and Osborne, R., *Greek Historical Inscriptions, 404–323 BC*. Oxford, 2003.
- SEG* *Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum*.
- Thalheim Thalheim, T., and Blass, F., eds., *Antiphontis Orationes et Fragmenta*. Stuttgart, 1966.
- Theodoridis Theodoridis, C., ed., *Photii Patriarchae Lexicon*. Berlin, 1982–.
- Walbank, *Proxenies* Walbank, M. B., *Athenian Proxenies of the Fifth Century BC*. Toronto, 1987.