

# Terence and the Language of Roman Comedy

This book offers a comprehensive examination of the language of Roman comedy in general and that of Terence in particular. The study explores Terence's use of language to differentiate his characters and his language in relation to that of the comic fragments of the *palliata*, the *togata* and the *atellana*. Linguistic categories in the Terentian corpus explored include colloquialisms, archaisms, hellenisms and idiolectal features. Terence is shown to give his old men an old-fashioned and verbose tone, while low characters are represented as using colloquial diction. An examination of *Eunuchus*' language shows it to be closer to the Plautine linguistic tradition. The book also provides a thorough linguistic/stylistic commentary on all the fragments of the *palliata*, the *togata* and the *atellana*. It shows that Terence, except in the case of his *Eunuchus*, consciously distances himself from the linguistic/stylistic tradition of Plautus followed by all other comic poets.

EVANGELOS KARAKASIS is temporary Lecturer of Latin Language and Literature at the University of Ioannina, Greece, and the author of several articles on Roman comedy.



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# TERENCE AND THE LANGUAGE OF ROMAN COMEDY

**EVANGELOS KARAKASIS** 

University of Ioannina





PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge, CB2 2RU, UK
40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011–4211, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain
Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa

http://www.cambridge.org

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First published 2005

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

Typeface Times 11/13 pt. System LATEX 2<sub>E</sub> [TB]

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

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data Karakasis, Evangelos.

Terence and the language of Roman comedy / Evangelos Karakasis.

p. cm. – (Cambridge classical studies)

Expanded and rev. version of author's thesis (Ph.D.) – Cambridge University, 2000. Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN-13 978 0 521 84298 3 ISBN-10 0 521 84298 0

I. Terence – Criticism and interpretation.
 2. Latin drama (Comedy) – History and criticism.
 3. Latin language – Style.
 4. Terence – Language.
 5. Comedy.

I. Title. II. Series.

PA6768.K37 2004

872'.01 – dc22 2004045712

ISBN-13 978 0 521 84298 3 hardback ISBN-10 0 521 84298 0 hardback



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### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This book is an expanded and revised version of my thesis, submitted for the PhD degree in 2000. During my stay in Cambridge, I received financial assistance from several sources, to which I am very much indebted. In particular, I am grateful to the Greek State Scholarship Foundation for a full three-year graduate scholarship, the Lilian Voudouri Foundation for funding the fourth year of my graduate studies, when other emoluments were fading out, and the Cambridge Faculty of Classics for awarding me the Charles Oldham Scholarship for the academic year 1999–2000.

I express my special thanks to my PhD supervisor, Professor R. L. Hunter, who read through several successive drafts of both the thesis and the book version. To his unremitting aid and valuable criticism I owe this book. His stimulating comments and thought-provoking observations have been a constant source of inspiration for me. Many thanks go to my MPhil. supervisor, Professor M. D. Reeve, for having read the manuscript and saved me from many infelicities. I also owe him much for helping me turn the thesis into a book. I am also obliged to my PhD examiners, Dr J. Clackson and P. G. McC. Brown, for their useful feedback.

Very warm thanks go to my teachers in the University of Ioannina. Especially to Professor G. P. Savantidis, D. K. Raios and to the Assistant Professor Maria Papadimitriou for letting me into the fascinating world of Roman literature. What is more, Professor D. K. Raios's inspiring lectures on Roman Comedy introduced me to the charming plays of Plautus and Terence. Special thanks are also due to Professor I. N. Perysinakis for commending me warmly to his British friends and colleagues and for giving me, as the Chairman of the Faculty Board, the opportunity to teach Latin language and literature to the students of Ioannina University.

Dr Mary Mantziou, Assistant Professor of Greek, was a great help to me throughout my graduate studies and beyond. Her

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#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

constant interest both in the progress of my work and in my personal welfare, her keenness to ensure me financial help, when scholarships were petering out, her eagerness to support my application for graduate studies in Cambridge, her joy, when things were good, and her sorrow, when I was coming up against grave difficulties, make her worthy of many special thanks.

Last but not least, I want to thank my friends in Cambridge, Dr I. Manolessou, Dr P. Seranis and Mrs D. Koukouzika for their help and support. Finally, I would like to thank my mother. Without her I would never have finished.



### CONSPECTUS SIGLORUM

# Auctores antiqui

The references to Greek authors follow the abbreviations of Liddell, Scott and Jones, *Greek-English Lexicon*. The references to Latin texts follow the abbreviations of the *Oxford Latin Dictionary (OLD)*. For authors/texts not contained in the *OLD*, the abbreviations of the *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae (ThLL)* are followed instead.

For Latin comic authors, the following abbreviations are used:

Plaut. **Plautus** Amphitruo Amph.Asin. Asinaria Aul. Aulularia Bacch. **Bacchides** Capt. Captivi Cas. Casina Cist. Cistellaria Curc. Curculio Epid. **Epidicus** Menaechni Men. Merc. Mercator Most. Mostellaria Pers. Persa Poen. Poenulus Pseud. Pseudolus Rudens Rud Stich. Stichus Trin. **Trinummus** 



#### CONSPECTUS SIGLORUM

Truc. Truculentus Vid. Vidularia

Ter. Terentius
Ad. Adelphoe
Andr. Andria
Eun. Eunuchus

Heaut. Heautontimoroumenos

Hec. Hecyra Phorm. Phormio

Afran. Afranius Aquil. Aquilius Caec. Caecilius Juvent. Iuventius Naev. Naevius Nov. Novius Pomponius Pompon. **Titinius** Titin. Turpil. **Turpilius** 

atel. Reference to fragments of the atellana, e.g. Nov.

atel 12

com. Reference to fragments of the *palliata*, e.g.

Turpil. com. 40

tog. Reference to fragments of the togata, e.g. Afran.

tog. 32

Scriptt. R R Scriptores Rerum Rusticarum

For Afranius, Aquilius, Atilius, Iuventius, Novius, Pomponius, Trabea the edition of Ribbeck was used; for Caecilius, Ennius (comic fragments), Livius Andronicus (comic fragments), Naevius (comic fragments), that of Warmington; for Titinius and Atta that of Guardì, and for Turpilius that of Ryschlewska. Full references to these editions are to be found in the bibliography. The readings of Ribbeck are sometimes adopted even in cases where his edition is not used; this is indicated by the abbreviation (Ribb.) after the relevant quotation.

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#### CONSPECTUS SIGLORUM

#### **Auctores moderni**

The references to classics periodicals follow the abbreviations of the *Année Philologique*. The references to linguistics periodicals follow the abbreviations in the *Routledge Dictionary of Language and Linguistics*. Other frequent abbreviations:

Austin II	Austin, R. G. (1964) (ed.), P. Vergili
	Maronis Aeneidos Liber secundus
	(Oxford)
CGL	Goetz, G. (1888–1901), <i>Corpus</i>
	Glossariorum Latinorum, vol. V,
	pp. 529–39 (Leipzig)
D-K	Dziatzko, K. and Kauer, R. (1903)
	(eds.), Ausgewählte Komödien des P.
	Terentius Afer, erklärt von K. Dz., II:
	Adelphoe, 2te Auflage, bearbeitet
	von R. K. (Leipzig)
GLK	Keil, H. (1857–70), Grammatici
	Latini (Leipzig)
H-Sz	Hofmann, J. B. and Szantyr, A.
	(1965), Lateinische Syntax und
	Stilistik (Munich)
K-S	Kühner, R. and Stegmann, C.
	(1966), Ausführliche Grammatik der
	lateinischen Sprache, part II, vol. II
	(Hanover)
K-S followed by a digit	Kühner and Stegmann (1966),
	volume indicated by the digit
L-S	Lewis and Short (1879), A Latin
	Dictionary (Oxford)
LSJ	Liddell Scott and Jones (1940),
	Greek-English Lexicon (Oxford)
McGlynn I and II	McGlynn, P. (1963–7), Lexicon
•	Tetentianum, vols I and II (London
	·

and Glasgow)

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#### CONSPECTUS SIGLORUM

N-W
Neue, F. and Wagener, C.
(1892–1905), Formenlehre der
lateinischen Sprache (Leipzig)
OLD
Oxford Latin Dictionary
RD
Ruhnkenii, D. (1825), In Terentii

Comoedias dictata (Bonn)

ThLL Thesaurus Linguae Latinae

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