

LATE HELLENISTIC GREEK LITERATURE IN DIALOGUE

Late Hellenistic Greek literature, both prose and poetry, stands out for its richness and diversity. Recent work has tended to take an author-by-author approach that underestimates the interconnectedness of the literary culture of the period. The chapters assembled here set out to change that by offering new readings of a wide range of late Hellenistic texts and genres, including historiography, geography, rhetoric and philosophy, together with many verse texts and inscriptions. In the process, they offer new insights into the various ways in which late Hellenistic literature engaged with its social, cultural and political contexts, while interrogating and revising some of the standard narratives of the relationship between late Hellenistic and imperial Greek literary culture, which are too often studied in isolation from each other. As a whole the book prompts us to rethink the place of late Hellenistic literature within the wider landscape of Greek and Roman literary history.

JASON KÖNIG is Professor of Classics at the University of St Andrews. He has published widely on the Greek literature and culture of the Roman Empire. His books include *Athletics and Literature in the Roman Empire* (Cambridge, 2005) and *Saints and Symposiasts: The Literature of Food and the Symposium in Greco-Roman and Early Christian Culture* (Cambridge, 2012).

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6.1 Marble relief showing the *apotheosis* of Homer, Archelaos of Priene; *c.* 200 BCE; from Bovillae; height 1.15 m. London, British Museum. © The Trustees of the British Museum.

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2018), and *The Struggle for Identity: Greeks and Their Past in the First Century BCE*, co-edited with Thomas A. Schmitz (Franz Steiner Verlag, 2011). His current projects include a commentary on Polybius, *Histories III* for Oxford University Press and a monograph on the debate about Hannibal's march from Polybius to the twenty-first century (funded by The Leverhulme Trust).

Preface

Many of the chapters in this volume were delivered in preliminary form at a conference entitled ‘Rethinking Late Hellenistic Literature and the Second Sophistic’, at the School of Classics, University of St Andrews. We are grateful to the British Academy and the Leverhulme Trust for their generous funding of that event, via the BA/Leverhulme Small Research Grants scheme. Thanks also to Michael Sharp, the series editors, and the anonymous readers for Cambridge University Press; to Jenny Messenger at Atomic Typo for indexing; and to Peter Bing, Matthew Fox, Regina Höschle, Katarzyna Jazdzewska, Emily Kneebone and Karen ní Mheallaigh for important contributions at various stages in the project.

Abbreviations

Journal abbreviations are from *Année philologique*. All other abbreviations are from the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*, fourth edition; or in the case of abbreviations not included there, from Liddell-Scott-Jones, *A Greek–English Lexicon* or from the *Oxford Latin Dictionary*. Abbreviations not included in those works are listed below.

- Billerbeck = Billerbeck, M. (ed.) 2006. *Stephani Byzantii Ethnica Volumen I: A–Γ*. Berlin.
- Boissonade = Boissonade, J. F. (ed.) 1851. *Tzetzae Allegoriae Iliadis*. Paris.
- Edelstein-Kidd = Edelstein, L. and Kidd, I. (eds) 1989. *Posidonius. Volume 1, The Fragments* (second edition; first published in 1972). Cambridge.
- K (Galen) = Kühn, K. G. (ed.) 1821–33. *Opera omnia Claudii Galeni* (22 volumes). Leipzig.
- Or. Sib.* = Sibylline Oracles
- R³ = Ribbeck, O. (ed.) 1897–8. *Scaenicae Romanorum poesis fragmenta* (third edition). Leipzig.
- Tzetz. *Alleg.* = John Tzetzes, *Allegories of the Iliad*.