ATHLETES AND ARTISTS IN THE ROMAN EMPIRE

This is the first comprehensive study of the associations of athletes and artists in the Roman empire. The xystic synod of athletes and the thymelic synod of artists were the only ancient associations that operated on a pan-Mediterranean scale. They were active from southern Gaul to Syria and Egypt and were therefore styled ‘ecumenical synods’. They played a key role in Greek festival culture during the imperial period: not only did they defend the professional interests of their members, but they also contributed to the organisation of competitions and the maintenance of the festival network. Due to their cultural activities, their connections with the imperial court and their ramified social networks, they left a distinctive stamp on Greco-Roman elite culture during the Principate. Drawing on all available documentation, this book offers new insights into the history and workings of these remarkable associations.

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ATHLETES AND ARTISTS IN THE ROMAN EMPIRE

The History and Organisation of the Ecumenical Synods

BRAM FAUCONNIER
To Sharyne, Jasmien and Nina
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Note on Abbreviations

For epigraphic editions I have used the abbreviations of the *Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum* (SEG), available online at https://scholarlyeditions.brill.com/sego/abbreviations/.

Abbreviations of papyrological editions are based on the *Checklist of Editions of Greek, Latin, Demotic and Coptic Papyri, Ostraca and Tablets*, accessible online at https://library.duke.edu/papyrus/texts/clist_papyri.html.

For literary sources I used the abbreviations of the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* (OCD), accessible online at https://oxfordre.com/classics/page/3993.

Journal abbreviations in the bibliography are those of the *Année Philologique*, accessible online at https://about.brepolis.net/aph-abreviations/.