

Music, Politics and Society in Ancient Rome

Music was everywhere in ancient Rome. Wherever one went in the sprawling city, the sound of singing and piping, drumming and strumming was never far out of earshot. This book examines the role of music in Roman politics and society, focusing on the period from the Roman conquest of Greece in the second century BCE to the end of the reign of Nero in 68 CE. Drawing on a wide range of literary texts, inscriptions and material artefacts, Harry Morgan uncovers the tensions between elite and popular attitudes towards music, and shows how music was exploited as a tool by political leaders and emperors. Far from being a marginal aspect of daily life, music was fundamental to Roman political culture and social relations, shaping debates about class, gender and ethnicity. The book will be of interest to students and scholars of ancient music and Roman history.

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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-009-23233-3 — Music, Politics and Society in Ancient Rome
Harry Morgan
Frontmatter
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Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
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103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.

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www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009232333
DOI: 10.1017/9781009232326

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First published 2023

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Morgan, Harry (Historian) author.

Title: Music, politics and society in ancient Rome / Harry Morgan.

Description: [1.] | New York, NY : Cambridge University Press, 2022. | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2022036811 (print) | LCCN 2022036812 (ebook) | ISBN 9781009232333 (hardback) |

ISBN 9781009232319 (paperback) | ISBN 9781009232326 (epub)

Subjects: LCSH: Music, Greek and Roman—History and criticism. | Music—Political aspects—Rome—History—To 476. |

Music—Social aspects—Rome—History—To 476.

Classification: LCC ML169 .M87 2022 (print) | LCC ML169 (ebook) | DDC 780.937—dc23/eng/20220802

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2022036811>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2022036812>

ISBN 978-1-009-23233-3 Hardback

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Acknowledgements

This book has its origins in a conversation with Jerry Toner, my then Director of Studies at Churchill College, Cambridge, back in 2014. I was taking a final-year undergraduate course on ‘Popular Culture in the Ancient Roman World’, co-taught by Jerry and Mary Beard, and approached Jerry about writing a research paper on the topic of music and the non-elite. We both initially had doubts about the feasibility of such a project: after all, how much do we really *know* about Roman music? As I started to gather evidence for the paper, however, it became clear that what we know about Roman music cannot be summarised adequately in just a few pages. What began as a tentative foray into unknown territory blossomed into an eight-year voyage of discovery; from the undergraduate essay was spawned a doctoral thesis, and from the doctoral thesis a monograph. I am grateful to Jerry for setting me on this path of exploration – and for opening my eyes to the wonderful world of the Roman *plebs*. I am also indebted to Nicholas Purcell, my doctoral supervisor at Oxford, who inspired me to ask more probing questions of Roman culture than I had ever thought possible. This book would not have come to fruition without their guidance.

Many colleagues and friends lent their support to the project along the way. Anna Clark, Matthew Leigh, Leah Lazar and Andrew Stiles helped to shape my research in its formative stages, while Katherine Clarke and Catharine Edwards offered generous and insightful feedback on the finished thesis. Kathleen Coleman, Tim Moore, Lauren Curtis and Sinclair Bell read drafts of the book and provided valuable critique. My work has benefited immensely from their expertise.

The two anonymous readers for Cambridge University Press offered many helpful suggestions. Michael Sharp was a pleasure to work with throughout the production of the book. Andrew Gu provided exemplary assistance with the editing and proof-reading of the manuscript.

I would like to thank my parents for nurturing my two great passions in life – ancient history and jazz music – both of which have left their mark on this book.

My wife, Melissa, has been by my side since the inception of the project. Mastering the arcane ways of the ancient historian is no mean feat for an immunologist, and yet she has more than risen to the challenge! Her thirst for knowledge remains a constant source of inspiration.

This book is dedicated to my grandparents, who instilled in me a fascination with the past and its music.

Abbreviations

Abbreviations of ancient authors follow the conventions of the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* (4th ed., 2012). All texts are taken from the Loeb Classical Library volumes, published by Harvard University Press. Translations are my own, unless otherwise noted. I use the following abbreviations:

<i>AE</i>	<i>L'Année Epigraphique</i> (1888–).
<i>BMCRE</i>	H. Mattingly, <i>Coins of the Roman Empire in the British Museum</i> (1923–).
<i>BMCRR</i>	H. A. Grueber, <i>Coins of the Roman Republic in the British Museum</i> (1910).
<i>BNP</i>	H. Cancik, C. Salazar <i>et al.</i> (eds.), <i>Brill's New Pauly</i> (Leiden, 2002–2010).
<i>CIL</i>	<i>Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum</i> (ed. T. Mommsen <i>et al.</i> , 1863–).
<i>EJ</i> ²	V. Ehreberg and A. H. M. Jones (eds.), <i>Documents Illustrating the Reigns of Augustus and Tiberius</i> (Oxford, 2nd ed., 1976).
<i>FD</i>	<i>Fouilles de Delphes</i> (Paris, 1902–).
<i>FGrH</i>	F. Jacoby, <i>Fragmente der griechischen Historiker</i> (1923–).
<i>FRHist</i>	T. J. Cornell (ed.), <i>Fragments of the Roman Historians</i> (Oxford, 2013).
<i>IG</i>	<i>Inscriptiones Graecae</i> (1873–).
<i>ILLRP</i>	<i>Inscriptiones Latinae Liberae Rei Publicae</i> (ed. A. Degrassi, 1957–63).
<i>ILS</i>	<i>Inscriptiones Latinae Selectae</i> (ed. H. Dessau, 1892–1916).
<i>Inscr.It.</i>	<i>Inscriptiones Italiae</i> (Rome, 1931–).
<i>LIMC</i>	<i>Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae</i> (ed. H.-C. Ackermann and J.-R. Gisler, 1981–99).
<i>LSJ</i>	H. G. Liddell, R. Scott and H. S. Jones, <i>A Greek-English Lexicon</i> (9th ed., Oxford, 1940).
<i>LTUR</i>	<i>Lexicon Topographicum Urbis Romae</i> (ed. E. M. Steinby, 1993–2000).
<i>OCD</i>	S. Hornblower, A. Spawforth and E. Eidinow (eds.), <i>The Oxford Classical Dictionary</i> (4th ed., Oxford, 2012).

- OGIS W. Dittenberger, *Orientis Graeci Inscriptiones Selectae* (Leipzig, 1903–05).
- OLD P. G. W. Glare (ed.), *Oxford Latin Dictionary* (2nd ed., Oxford, 2012).
- ORF H. Malcovati, *Oratorum Romanorum Fragmenta Liberae Rei Publicae* (4th ed., 1976).
- PIR² E. Groag, A. Stein *et al.*, *Prosopographia Imperii Romani saec. I. II. III.* (Leipzig, 1930–).
- RGE R. K. Sherck, *Rome and the Greek East to the Death of Augustus* (Cambridge, 1984).
- RIC H. Mattingly, E. A. Sydenham *et al.*, *The Roman Imperial Coinage* (London, 1923–67).
- RPC M. H. Crawford, *Roman Republican Coinage*, 2 vols. (Cambridge, 1974).
- SEG *Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum* (1923–).
- Syll.³ W. Dittenberger, *Sylloge Inscriptionum Graecarum*, 3rd ed. (1915–24).
- TLL *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae* (Leipzig, 1900–).