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978-1-107-02666-7 - The Symposium in Ancient Greek Society and Thought

Fiona Hobden

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THE SYMPOSION IN ANCIENT GREEK SOCIETY AND THOUGHT

The symposion was a key cultural phenomenon in ancient Greece. This book investigates its place in ancient Greek society and thought by exploring the rhetorical dynamics of its representations in literature and art. Across genres, individual Greeks constructed visions of the party and its performances that offered persuasive understandings of the event and its participants. Sympotic representations thus communicated ideas which, set within broader cultural conversations, could possess a discursive edge. Hence, at the symposion, sympotic styles and identities might be promoted, critiqued and challenged. In the public imagination, the ethics of Greeks and foreigners might be interrogated and political attitudes intimated. Symposia might be suborned into historical narratives about struggles for power. And for philosophers, writing a *Symposium* was itself a rhetorical act. Investigating the symposion's discursive potential enhances understanding of how the Greeks experienced and conceptualized the symposion and demonstrates its contribution to the Greek thought world.

FIONA HOBDEN is a Senior Lecturer in Greek Culture at the University of Liverpool, where she teaches courses on various aspects of ancient Greek cultural history, including politics, gender and religion. Her current research focuses primarily on the symposion, but she is also interested in representations of the past and the present in Classical Athens, in ancient and modern responses to the Athenian cityscape and in history represented on television.

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To family and friends

Here's tae us!

Wha's like us?

Damn few,

And they're a' deid.

Mair's the pity.

A Scots toast

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Photograph and line drawings are by the author.

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Abbreviations

Abbreviations for ancient sources follow Liddell, Scott and Jones, *A Greek–English Lexicon*. Journal titles in the bibliography are abbreviated in line with *L'Année philologique*.

- ABV* Beazley, J. D. (1956) *Attic Black-figure Vase-painters*, Oxford.
Add. Carpenter, T. H. (1989) *Beazley Addenda: Additional References to ABV, ARV² and Paralipomena*, 2nd edition, Oxford.
- ANET* Pritchard, J. B. (1969) *Ancient Near Eastern Texts Relating to the Old Testament*, 3rd edition, Princeton, NJ.
- ARV* Beazley, J. D. (1942) *Attic Red-figure Vase-painters*, Oxford.
ARV² Beazley, J. D. (1963) *Attic Red-figure Vase-painters*, 2nd edition, Oxford.
- BD* The Beazley Archive Pottery Database (www.beazley.ox.ac.uk/databases/pottery.htm).
- Bergk Bergk, T. (1878–82) *Poetae Lyrici Graeci*, Lipsiae.
 Caizzi Caizzi, F. (1966) *Antisthenis Fragmenta*, Milan.
- Campbell Campbell, D. A. (1988–93) *Greek Lyric*, Cambridge, MA and London.
- CorVP* Amyx, D. A. (1988) *Corinthian Vase-painting of the Archaic Period*, London.
- CTH* Laroche, E. (1997) *Catalogue des textes hittites*, Paris.
- Davies Davies, M. (1991) *Poetarum Melicorum Graecorum Fragmenta*, Oxford.
- DK Diels, H. A. and Kranz, W. (1951–2) *Fragmente der Vorsokratiker: Griechisch und Deutsch*, 6th edition, Berlin.
- FGrH* Jacoby, F. (1923–64) *Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker*, Leiden.
- Guardasole Guardasole, A. (1997) *Eraclide di Tarento: Frammenti*, Naples.

Abbreviations

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- Hiller Hiller, E. (1879) 'Hieronymi Rhodii Peripatetici Fragmenta' in H. Sauppe (ed.), *Satura Philologa* 8.
- K Kinkel, G. (1877) *Epicorum Graecorum Fragmenta*, Lipsiae.
- KA Kassel, R. and Austin, C. (1986–) *Poetae Comici Graeci (PCG)*, Berlin.
- Kern Kern, O. (1922) *Orphicum Fragmenta*, Berlin.
- Kind Kindstrand, J. F. (1981) *Anacharsis: the Legend and the Apophthegmata*, Uppsala.
- Köpke Köpke, E. (1956) *De Chamaeleontis Heracleotae Vita Librorumque Reliquiis Disputavit*, Berolini.
- Lenfant Lenfant, D. (2004) *Ctésias de Cnide: La Perse; L'Inde; autres fragments*, Paris.
- Leshner Leshner, J. H. (1992) *Xenophanes of Colophon: Fragments*, Toronto.
- LP Lobel, E. and Page, D. L. (1955) *Poetarum Lesbiorum Fragmenta*, Oxford.
- LSJ Liddell, H. G., Scott, R. and Jones, H. S. (1996) *A Greek–English Lexicon*, 9th edition with a revised supplement, Oxford.
- MW Merkelbach, R. and West, M. L. (1967) *Fragmenta Hesiodica*, Oxford.
- N Nauck, A. (1889) *Tragicorum Graecorum Fragmenta*, 2nd edition, Lipsiae.
- Page Page, D. L. (1962) *Poetae Melici Graeci*, Oxford.
- Para. Beazley, J. D. (1971) *Paralipomena: Additions to Attic Black-figure Vase-painters and to Attic Red-figure Vase-Painters*, Oxford.
- SH Lloyd-Jones, H. and Parsons, P. (1983) *Supplementum Hellenisticum*, Berlin and New York.
- W West, M. L. (1989–92) *Iambi et Elegi Graeci ante Alexandrum Cantati*, 2nd edition, Oxford.
- Wehrli Wehrli, F. (1969) *Die Schule des Aristoteles: Text und Kommentar*, Basel.