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978-1-107-06202-3 - *Lycurgan Athens and the Making of Classical Tragedy*

Johanna Hanink

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LYCURGAN ATHENS AND THE MAKING OF CLASSICAL TRAGEDY

Through a series of interdisciplinary studies this book argues that the Athenians themselves invented the notion of ‘classical’ tragedy just a few generations after the city’s defeat in the Peloponnesian War. In the third quarter of the fourth century BC, and specifically during the ‘Lycurgan Era’ (338–322 BC), a number of measures were taken in Athens to affirm to the Greek world that the achievement of tragedy was owed to the unique character of the city. By means of rhetoric, architecture, inscriptions, statues, archives and even legislation, the ‘classical’ tragedians (Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides) and their plays came to be presented as both the products and vital embodiments of an idealised Athenian past. This study marks the first account of Athens’ invention of its own theatrical heritage and sheds new light upon the interaction between the city’s literary and political history.

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SHORT TITLES AND ABBREVIATIONS

Standard abbreviations for ancient authors and texts as well as for reference works have been used, but the following should be noted:

<i>Agora 16</i>	Woodhead, A. G. (1997) <i>Inscriptions: The Decrees. The Athenian Agora Vol. 16</i> . Princeton.
<i>CEG</i>	Hansen, P. A. (1983–1989) <i>Carmina epigraphica graeca</i> (2 vols.). Berlin.
<i>CGFPR</i>	Austin, C. (1973) <i>Comicorum graecorum fragmenta in papyris reperta</i> . Berlin and New York.
Csapo–Slater	Csapo, E. and Slater, W. J. (1995) <i>The Context of Ancient Drama</i> . Ann Arbor.
<i>DFA</i> ²	Pickard-Cambridge, A. (1988) <i>The Dramatic Festivals of Athens</i> . Second edition (1968) revised with a new supplement (1988) by J. Gould and D. M. Lewis. Oxford.
<i>DNP</i>	Cancuk, H. and Schneider, H., eds. (1996–2003) <i>Der neue Pauly: Encyclopädie der Antike</i> . Stuttgart.
<i>FdD III</i>	<i>Fouilles de Delphes, III: Épigraphie</i> . (1929–) Paris.
<i>FGE</i>	Page, D. (1981) <i>Further Greek Epigrams</i> . Cambridge.
<i>FGrH</i>	Jacoby, F. (1923–1958) <i>Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker</i> . Berlin and Leiden.
<i>GP</i>	Gow, A. S. F. and Page, D. L. (1968) <i>The Garland of Philip</i> . Cambridge.

Short titles and abbreviations

- GV* Peek, W. (1955) *Greichische Vers-Inschriften*. Berlin.
- IE* Clinton, K. (2008) *Eleusis: The Inscriptions on Stone. Documents of the Sanctuary of the Two Goddesses and Public Documents of the Deme* (3 vols.). Athens.
- IG* *Inscriptiones Graecae*. (1913–) Berlin.
- Lambert Lambert, S. D. (2008) ‘Polis and theatre in Lykourgan Athens: the honorific decrees’, in *Μικρός Ιερομνήμων: Μελέτες εις Μνήμην Michael H. Jameson*, ed. A. P. Matthaiou and I. Polinskaya. Athens: 53–85.
- Le Guen Le Guen, B. (2001) *Les associations de technites dionysiaques à l’époque hellénistique*. Vol. I: *Corpus documentaire*. Paris.
- LSJ Liddell, H. G. and Scott, R. (1940) *A Greek–English Lexicon, 9th edn revised and augmented by H. S. Jones*. Oxford and New York.
- Meiggs–Lewis Meiggs, R. and Lewis, D. M. (1971) *A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the End of the Fifth-Century BC*. Oxford.
- Millis–Olson Millis, B. W. and Olson, S. D. (2012) *Inscriptional Records for the Dramatic Festivals in Athens*. Leiden.
- Rhodes–Osborne Rhodes, P. J. and Osborne, R. (2003) *Greek Historical Inscriptions, 404–323 BC*. Oxford and New York.
- Schwenk Schwenk, C. J. (1985) *Athens in the Age of Alexander: The Dated Laws and Decrees of ‘The Lykourgan Era’*. Chicago.
- SH* Lloyd-Jones, H. and Parsons, P. (1983) *Supplementum Hellenisticum*. Berlin.
- SOD Stork, P., Ophuijsen, J. M. and Dorandi, T. (2000) ‘Demetrius of Phalerum: the sources, text and translation’, in *Demetrius*

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of Phalerum: Text, Translation and Discussion, ed. W. W. Fortenbaugh and E. Schütrumpf. New Brunswick, NJ: 1–310.

Stephanis Stephanis, I. (1988). *Διονυσιακοὶ τεχνῖται*. Heraklion.

Unless otherwise noted, fragments of tragic drama follow the texts and use the numbering of:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| <i>TrGF</i> | (1971–2004) <i>Tragicorum Graecorum fragmenta</i> (5 vols.). Göttingen. |
| Vol. I | Snell, B. ed. (1986) <i>Didascaliae tragicae, catalogi tragicorum et tragoediarum testimonia et fragmenta tragicorum minorum</i> . Corrected and augmented by R. Kannicht. Göttingen. |
| Vol. II | Kannicht, R. and Snell, B. eds. (1981) <i>Fragmenta adespota, testimonia, volumini I addenda, indices ad volumina I et II</i> . Göttingen. |
| Vol. III | Radt, S. ed. (1985) <i>Aeschylus</i> . Göttingen. |
| Vol. IV | Radt, S. ed. (1977) <i>Sophocles</i> . Göttingen. |
| Vol. V | Kannicht, R. ed. (2004) <i>Euripides</i> (2 fascicles). Göttingen. |

Unless otherwise noted, fragments of comic drama follow the texts and use the numbering of:

- | | |
|------------|--|
| <i>PCG</i> | Kassel, R., and Austin, C. (1983–2001) <i>Poeti comici graeci</i> (8 vols.). Berlin. |
|------------|--|

All translations into English are by the author except where otherwise noted.

REFERENCE CHRONOLOGY

Year(s)	Archon	Event(s)
c. 355–337		Eubulus administrator of <i>theorikon</i> treasury (the theoric fund)
c. 350		Construction renewed on the ‘Lycurgan’ Theatre of Dionysus (first planned/begun under Pericles)
347/6	<i>Themistocles</i>	Peace of Philocrates (spring; just after the Great Dionysia)
346/5	<i>Archias</i>	Aeschines, <i>Against Timarchus</i>
347/6–343/2		The <i>Fasti</i> (IG ii ² 2318) first inscribed at some point
343/2	<i>Pythodotus</i>	Aeschines and Demosthenes, <i>On the False Embassy</i>
341/40	<i>Nicomachus</i>	Astydamas victorious at the Great Dionysia; awarded honours
338/7	<i>Chaerondes</i>	Battle of Chaeronea (summer)
338–322		The ‘Lycurgan Era’; Lycurgus son of Lycophon, of Butadae overseer of the Athenian treasury
336/5	<i>Pythodelos</i>	King Philip II of Macedon assassinated at the theatre in Aegae; Alexander the Great ascends to the throne (autumn)
332/1	<i>Nicetes</i>	Alexander the Great founds the city of Alexandria (7 April); Alexander’s theatre festival in Phoenicia (spring); First attested ‘Assembly in [the Theatre of] Dionysus’
331/30	<i>Aristophanes</i>	Lycurgus, <i>Against Leocrates</i>

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330/29	<i>Aristophon</i>	Aeschines, <i>Against Ctesiphon</i> ; Demosthenes, <i>On the Crown</i>
c. 330		Lycurgan law on scripts and statues of the three tragedians; Aristotle, <i>Poetics</i>
325/4	<i>Anticles</i>	Death of Lycurgus
324/3	<i>Hegesias</i>	Death of Alexander the Great (10 June)
324/3–323/2		Lamian War; Athens falls to Macedon
323/2	<i>Cephisodorus</i>	Death of Aristotle
322/1	<i>Philocles</i>	Demosthenes commits suicide
320/19	<i>Neaechmus</i>	'Lycurgan' Theatre of Dionysus completed