

The Performance Reception of Greek Tragedy in Ancient Theatres

Greek tragedy enjoyed a rich afterlife on ancient stages. This book reconstructs that history across the entire Mediterranean area, from the fourth century BC to the early third century AD. It is based on an extensive collection of primary sources ranging from inscriptions and festival catalogues to literary records, tragedy-related vases from fourth-century Sicily and South Italy, and the Greek models of Roman Republican tragedies, with each one placed in its historical context. Sebastiana Nervegna identifies the Greek tragedies that formed the ancient theatrical repertoire, assesses how actors contributed to their survival and considers how public audiences continued to enjoy the theatrical masterpieces of Classical Athens. This is the first work entirely dedicated to the circulation of Greek tragedies among the larger public throughout antiquity.

SEBASTIANA NERVEGNA specialises in ancient theatre and has published many contributions on its history, archaeology, iconography and reception, including *Menander in Antiquity: The Contexts of Reception* (Cambridge University Press, 2013).

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Note on Spelling, Conventions and Abbreviations

Names of ancient persons and places are usually given in their Latin spelling, as they appear in the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*⁵ edited by Tim Whitmarsh and available online at <https://oxfordre.com/classics>. Names of Greek tragic and comic poets are also given in their Latin spelling, following the first volume of *Tragicorum Graecorum Fragmenta* edited by B. Snell and revised by R. Kannicht (Göttingen University Press, 1986) and the nine volumes of *Poetae Comici Graeci* edited by R. Kassel and C. Austin (Berlin, 1983–2022, including vol. VI.1 edited by R. Kassel and S. Schröder) respectively. Unless otherwise indicated, all dates are BC.

Abbreviations for Greek authors and their works typically follow *A Greek–English Lexicon*⁹ by G. Liddell and R. Scott, revised by H. S. Jones and R. McKenzie (Oxford University Press, 1940). Exceptions include select tragedies by Euripides (*CH*, *PW* and *TW*), a tragedy by Aeschylus and one ascribed to him (*LB*, *PB*) and select comedies by Aristophanes, which I cite by their full English title (*Birds*, *Clouds*, *Peace*, *Wasps* and *Wealth*). Abbreviations for Latin authors and their works follow the *Oxford Latin Dictionary*² by P. G. W. Glare (Oxford University Press, 2012). The names of lesser-known authors are cited in full, and their works are given in their English titles. Abbreviations for editions of papyri, ostraca and tablets follow the *Checklist of Greek, Latin, Demotic and Coptic Papyri, Ostraca and Tablets* available online at: <https://papyri.info/docs/checklist>.

Cross-references to the performance-related sources listed in Appendices I and II are given in bold, along with the page number in square brackets. I use the following sigla to qualify each source: **A** (arula, a small terracotta altar), **I** (inscription), **P** (pot), **Pa** (painting), **Pap** (papyrus), **Re** (relief), **RT** (Roman tragedy) and **T** (text). **SP** (source for performance) qualifies the records listed in Appendix II.

Journal abbreviations follow *L'Année Philologique*, supplemented where necessary by those used in the *American Journal of Archaeology* 104 (2000) 10–24. The following abbreviations are used for modern works:

- ARV²: Beazley, J. D. 1963. *Attic Red-Figure Vase-Painters*.² Oxford.
- C-C I: Collard, C. and Cropp, M. J. 2008. *Euripides VII. Fragments. Aegeus-Meleager*. Cambridge, MA.
- C-C II: Collard, C. and Cropp, M. J. 2008. *Euripides VIII. Fragments. Oedipus-Chrysippus*. Cambridge, MA.
- C-F: Cropp, M. J. and Fick, G. 1985. *Resolutions and Chronology in Euripides: The Fragmentary Tragedies*. London.
- CFST: Todisco, L., Catucci, M., Gadaleta, G., Roscino, C. and Sisto, M. A. 2004. *La ceramica figurata a soggetto tragico in Magna Grecia e in Sicilia*. Rome.
- CIG: Boeckh, A. 1828–1877. *Corpus inscriptionum graecarum* (4 vols). Berlin.
- CIL: *Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum*. Berlin. 1863–
- DFA²: Pickard-Cambridge, A. 1968. *The Dramatic Festivals of Athens* (revised by J. Gould and M. Lewis). Oxford.
- F.Delphes III: Bourguet, E. et al. 1929–. *Fouilles de Delphes, III: Épigraphie*. Paris.
- FGrH: Jacoby, F. et al. 1923–. *Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker*. Berlin and Leiden.
- IAG: Moretti, L. 1953. *Iscrizioni agonistiche greche*. Rome.
- I.Délos: Dürrbach, F. et al. 1926–1972. *Inscriptions de Délos*, 7 vols. Paris.
- I.Didyma: Rehm, A. 1958. *Didyma, II. Die Inschriften*. Berlin.
- IE: Clinton, K. 2005. *Eleusis: The Inscriptions on Stone: Documents of the Sanctuary of the Two Goddesses and Public Documents of the Deme*, vol. 1. Athens.
- I.Eph.: Wankel, H. et al. 1979–1984. *Die Inschriften von Ephesos I–VIII. Inschriften griechischer Städte aus Kleinasien*, vols. 11–17. Bonn.
- IG: *Inscriptiones Graecae*. 1873–. Berlin.
- IGD: Trendall, A. D. and Webster, T. B. L. 1971. *Illustrations of Greek Drama*. London.
- IGR: Cagnat, R. 1911–1927. *Inscriptiones graecae ad res romanas pertinentes* (3 vols: 1, 3 and 4). Paris.
- I.Iasos: Blümel, W. 1985. *Die Inschriften von Iasos, I–II. Inschriften griechischer Städte aus Kleinasien*, vol. 28, 1–2. Bonn.
- I.Ilion: Frisch, P. 1975. *Die Inschriften von Ilion. Inschriften griechischer Städte aus Kleinasien*, vol. 3. Bonn. I. *Magnesia*: Kern, O. 1900. *Die Inschriften von Magnesia am Mäander*. Berlin.

- I.Oropos:* Petrakos, B. C. 1997. *Οἱ ἐπιγραφές τοῦ Ὀρωποῦ*. Athens.
- I.Priene:* Blümel, W. and Merkelbach, R. 2014. *Die Inschriften von Priene. Inschriften griechischer Städte aus Kleinasien*, vol. 69. Bonn.
- I.Side:* Bean, G. 1965. *Side Kitabeleri: The Inscriptions of Side*. Ankara.
- I.Smyrna:* Petzl, G. 1982–1990. *Die Inschriften von Smyrna* 1, II/1, II/2. *Inschriften griechischer Städte aus Kleinasien*, vols. 23, 24.1–2. Bonn.
- I.Stratonikeia:* Şahin, M. Ç. 1981–1990. *Die Inschriften von Stratonikeia. Inschriften griechischer Städte aus Kleinasien*, vols. 21, 22. Bonn.
- I.Thespiai:* Roesch, P. 2007–2009. *Les inscriptions de Thespies*. Lyon.
- I.Tralleis:* Poljakov, F. B. 1989. *Die Inschriften von Tralleis und Nysa. Teil I: Die Inschriften von Tralleis. Inschriften griechischer Städte aus Kleinasien* vol. 6.1. Bonn.
- IvO:* Dittenberger, W. and Purgold, K. 1896. *Die Inschriften von Olympia*. Berlin.
- LCS:* Trendall, A. D. 1967. *The Red-Figured Vases of Lucania, Campania and Sicily*, 2 vols. Oxford.
- LCS Supp. 1:* Trendall, A. D. 1970. *The Red-Figured Vases of Lucania, Campania and Sicily: First Supplement*. London.
- LCS Supp. 2:* Trendall, A. D. 1973. *The Red-Figured Vases of Lucania, Campania and Sicily: Second Supplement*. London.
- LCS Supp. 3:* Trendall, A. D. 1983. *The Red-Figured Vases of Lucania, Campania and Sicily: Third Supplement*. London.
- LIMC:* *Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae*. Zurich, 1981–1998.
- MAMA:* Calder, W. M., Herzfeld, E., Guyer, S. and Cox, C. W. M. 1928–1993. *Monumenta Asiae Minoris antiqua*. 10 vols. London.
- M-O:* Millis, B. W. and Olson, D. S. 2012. *Inscriptional Records for the Dramatic Festivals in Athens*. Leiden.
- Milet I 3:* Kawerau, G. and Rehm, A. 1914. *Milet: Ergebnisse der Ausgrabungen und Untersuchungen seit dem Jahr 1899*; vol. 1.3: *Das Delphinion in Milet*. Berlin.
- MNC*³: Webster, T. B. L., Green, J. R. and Seeberg, A. 1995. *Monuments Illustrating New Comedy*.³ London.
- MOMC*³: Webster T. B. L. 1978. *Monuments Illustrating Old and Middle Comedy*³ (revised and enlarged by J. R. Green). London.

- OGIS: Dittenberger, W. 1903–1905. *Orientis Graeci Inscriptiones Selectae*. Leipzig.
- PCG: Kassel, R. and Austin, C. 1983–2002. *Poetae Comici Graeci* (including vol. VI.1 edited by R. Kassel and S. Schröder). Berlin.
- Pe&P: Taplin, O. 2007. *Pots & Plays: Interactions between Tragedy and Greek Vase-Painting of the Fourth Century BC*. Los Angeles.
- PMG: Page, D. L. 1962. *Poetae Melici Graeci*. Oxford.
- ROL: Warmington, H. 1935–1940. *Remains of Old Latin* (4 vols). Cambridge, MA.
- RVAp: Trendall, A. D. and Cambitoglou, A. 1978–1982. *The Red-Figured Vases of Apulia*, 2 vols. Oxford.
- RVAp Supp. 1: Trendall, A. D. and Cambitoglou, A. 1983. *First Supplement to the Red-Figured Vases of Apulia*. London.
- RVAp Supp. 2: Trendall, A.D. and Cambitoglou, A. 1991. *Second Supplement to the Red-Figured Vases of Apulia*. London.
- RVP: Trendall, A. D. 1987. *The Red-Figured Vases of Paestum*. London.
- RVSIS: Trendall, A. D. 1989. *Red-Figure Vases of South Italy and Sicily*. London.
- SEG: *Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum*. Leiden, 1923–
- SEHT II: Csapo, E. and Wilson, P. J. 2020. *A Social and Economic History of the Theatre to 300 BC*. Volume II. Cambridge.
- SFP I: Collard, C., Cropp, M. J. and Lee, K. H. 1995. *Fragmentary Plays I*. Warminster.
- SFP II: Collard, C., Cropp, M. J. and Gibert, J. 2004. *Fragmentary Plays II*. Warminster.
- Syll.³: Dittenberger, W. 1915–1924. *Sylloge Inscriptionum Graecarum*,³ 4 vols. Leipzig.
- TrGF: Kannicht, R., Radt, S. and Snell, B. 1971–2004. *Tragicorum Graecorum Fragmenta*, 4 vols. Göttingen.
- TrRF: Schauer, M. 2012. *Tragicorum Romanorum Fragmenta*. Vol. I. *Livius Andronicus, Naevius, Tragicci Minores, Fragmenta Adespota*. Göttingen.
- Manuwald, G. 2012. *Tragicorum Romanorum Fragmenta*. Vol. II. *Ennius*. Göttingen.
- Urkunden: Mette, H. J. 1977. *Urkunden dramatischer Aufführungen in Griechenland*. Berlin and New York.

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