

## KNOWLEDGE, TEXT AND PRACTICE IN ANCIENT TECHNICAL WRITING

The relationship between theory and practice, between norms indicated in a text and their extra-textual application, is one of the most fascinating issues in the history and theory of science. Yet this aspect has often been taken for granted and never explored in depth. The essays contained in this volume provide a multi-layered and nuanced discussion of this relationship as it emerges in ancient Greek and Roman culture in a number of fields, such as agriculture, architecture, the art of love, astronomy, ethics, mechanics, medicine and pharmacology. The main focus is on the textuality of processes of transmission of knowledge and its application in various fields. Given that a text always contains complex and destabilizing aspects that cannot be reduced to the specific subject matter it discusses, to what extent can and do ancient texts support extra-textual applicability?

MARCO FORMISANO is Professor of Latin Literature at Ghent University. He has published extensively on ancient technical and scientific writing. His first monograph, *Tecnica e scrittura* (2001), was dedicated to late Latin scientific texts. He has studied the ancient art of war as a literary genre and its tradition (*Vegezio, Arte della guerra romana* (2003) and *War in Words: Transformations of War from Antiquity to Clausewitz*, co-edited with H. Böhme (2012)), as well as Vitruvius (*Vitruvius in the Round*, co-edited with S. Cuomo, special issue of *Arethusa*, 2016). He is the editor of a series devoted to late antique literature entitled 'The Library of the Other Antiquity'.

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Edited by Marco Formisano, Philip van der Eijk

Frontmatter

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# KNOWLEDGE, TEXT AND PRACTICE IN ANCIENT TECHNICAL WRITING

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Contents

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>List of Contributors</i>	viii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xii
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xiii
1 Introduction: From Words to Acts? <i>Philip van der Eijk and Marco Formisano</i>	I
2 Introduction: The Poetics of Knowledge <i>Marco Formisano</i>	12
3 Machines on Paper: From Words to Acts in Ancient Mechanics <i>Markus Asper</i>	27
4 <i>Si qui voluerit</i> : Vitruvius on Architecture as ‘the Art of the Possible’ <i>Elisa Romano</i>	53
5 Caesar’s Rhine Bridge and Its Feasibility in Giovanni Giocondo’s <i>Expositio pontis</i> (1513) <i>Ronny Kaiser</i>	68
6 From Words to Acts? On the Applicability of Hippocratic Therapy <i>Pilar Pérez Cañizares</i>	93
7 <i>Naso magister erat – sed cui bono?</i> On Not Taking the Poet’s Teaching Seriously <i>Alison Sharrock</i>	112

vi	<i>Contents</i>	
8	From <i>technē</i> to <i>kakotechnia</i> : Use and Abuse of Ancient Cosmetic Texts <i>Laurence Totelin</i>	138
9	From Discourses to Handbook: The <i>Encheiridion</i> of Epictetus as a Practical Guide to Life <i>Gerard Boter</i>	163
10	The Problem of Practical Applicability in Ptolemy’s <i>Geography</i> <i>Klaus Geus</i>	186
11	Living According to the Seasons: The Power of <i>parapēgmata</i> <i>Gerd Graßhoff</i>	200
12	<i>Auctoritas</i> in the Garden: Columella’s Poetic Strategy in <i>De re rustica</i> 10 <i>Christiane Reitz</i>	217
13	The Generous Text: Animal Intuition, Human Knowledge and Written Transmission in Pliny’s Books on Medicine <i>Brooke Holmes</i>	231
14	From Descriptions to Acts: The Paradoxical Animals of the Ancients from a Cognitive Perspective <i>Pietro Li Causi</i>	252
	<i>Index Locorum</i>	269
	<i>General Index</i>	279

# *Illustrations*

3.1	Diagram from W. Schmidt, ‘Herons von Alexandria Druckwerke und Automatentheater’ in Heron Alexandrinus, <i>Opera</i> , vol. I (Leipzig 1899), 176 (= S.)	page 42
3.2	Diagram © Joyce van Leeuwen	46
10.1	<i>The Palk Strait</i> : <a href="https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palkstra%C3%9Fe">https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palkstra%C3%9Fe</a>	189
10.2	Ptolemy’s first reduction	190
10.3	Ptolemy’s triangle	190
10.4	Ptolemy’s reduction, Kory	191
11.1	Milet <i>parapēgma</i> , Antikensammlung Berlin	203
11.2	Ptolemy’s selection of 30 bright fixed stars using the equatorial coordinate system	209
11.3	Weather events as a function of the Alexandrian calendar (in days) and divided between the cited authorities	210
11.4	Distribution of named, directional winds	211
11.5	Number and type of weather protasis cited by all the authorities	213
11.6	Flora (×) and fauna (dots) events	213

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ix

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*List of Contributors*

xi

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THE EDITORS

## *Abbreviations*

### **Chapter 7**

OCD      *Oxford Classical Dictionary*

### **Chapter 8**

CML      *Corpus Medicorum Latinorum*  
 CMG      *Corpus Medicorum Graecorum*  
 RE      *Pauly's Realenzyklopädie der klassischen Altertumswissenschaft*  
 NP      *New Pauly*  
 PGM      *Papyri Graecae Magicae*

### **Chapter 9**

LSJ      Liddell Scott Jones, *A Greek–English Lexicon*

### **Chapter 11**

CDF      computable document format

### **Chapter 13**

CAG      *Commentaria in Aristotelem Graeca*  
 SVF      *Stoicorum veterum fragmenta*, ed. H. von Arnim  
 (Leipzig 1903–24)