The Cambridge Critical Guide to Latin Literature offers a critical overview of work on Latin literature. Where are we? How did we get here? Where to next? Fifteen commissioned chapters, along with an extensive introduction and Mary Beard’s postscript, approach these questions from a range of angles. They aim not to codify the field, but to give snapshots of the discipline from different perspectives, and to offer provocations for future development. The Critical Guide aims to stimulate reflection on how we engage with Latin literature. Texts, tools and territories are the three areas of focus. The Guide situates the study of classical Latin literature within its global context from late antiquity to Neo-Latin, moving away from an exclusive focus on the pre-200 CE corpus. It recalibrates links with adjoining disciplines (history, philosophy, material culture, linguistics, political thought, Greek), and takes a fresh look at key tools (editing, reception, intertextuality, theory).

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for John Henderson
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Preface

Putting this volume together has been an enjoyable task and a smoother process than is often the case: six years from commissioning to publication counts (it’s nice to think) as a respectable enough maturation, even without a pandemic; and growing pains were minimal at most. Hence sincere gratitude to Michael Sharp and the Syndics of CUP for the invitation to edit it, to the seven anonymous readers who commented on our prospectus, and to the nineteen scholars who agreed to join us in the project. If, as we hope, you find the chapters that follow stimulating and varied, that is thanks to the intellectual energy and verve with which those contributors approached their Herculean task, writing substantial chapters whose themes and questions we suggested, but whose contents and execution they determined. First drafts were shared around the table at a workshop held in Cambridge in June 2018; we thank the participants both for making it a very congenial and invigorating occasion, and for the spirit of collaboration in which they produced and shared further drafts and responded to suggestions. Most contributors submitted their chapters in final form in late 2019; it has not been possible for them to provide systematic bibliographic updates since that date.

We gratefully acknowledge the funding from the Faculty of Classics and Emmanuel College in Cambridge, the University of Manchester and Cambridge University Press that made the workshop possible. For help with copyediting, we thank Phoebe Garrett, Laura Losito and Juliet Wilberforce.

The image on the cover is Francesco Vezzoli’s remarkable Nike Metafisica, in an installation on the site of ancient Brixia (part of a major 2019 exhibition at the Fondazione Brescia Musei, Palcoscenici archeologici: Interventi curatoriali di Francesco Vezzoli). We are very grateful to Stefano Karadjov and Francesca Morandini of the Fondazione Brescia Musei, as well as to Francesco Vezzoli himself, for permission to use the image, and for kindly waiving reproduction fees.

This volume is dedicated to an exemplary scholar who does and has done so much to help us all become better readers.
Abbreviations

ANRW  Aufstieg und Niedergang der römischen Welt, Berlin 1972–.
ASD  Erasmus. Opera omnia, Amsterdam 1969–.
BT  Bibliotheca Teubneriana. Leipzig/Stuttgar/Berlin 1849–.
CCSL  Corpus Christianorum series Latina, Turnhout 1954–.
CIL  Corpus inscriptionum Latinarum, Berlin 1862–.
CSEL  Corpus scriptorum ecclesiasticorum Latinorum, Vienna/Berlin 1866–.
CTC  Catalogus translationum et commentariorum, Washington, DC 1960–.
DLL  The Digital Latin Library (http://digitallatin.org).
HLL  R. Herzog and P. L. Schmidt, eds., Handbuch der lateinischen Literatur der Antike, Munich 1989–.
**List of Abbreviations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>IG</td>
<td><em>Inscriptiones Graecae</em>, Berlin 1873–.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGUR</td>
<td><em>Inscriptiones Graecae urbis Romae</em>, Rome 1968–.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCL</td>
<td>Loeb Classical Library, Cambridge, MA 1912– (online at loebclassics.com).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDLT</td>
<td>Library of Digital Latin Texts (published online by the DLL).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGH</td>
<td><em>Monumenta Germaniae historica</em>, Berlin 1826– (online at <a href="http://www.brepols.net">www.brepols.net</a>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT</td>
<td>Oxford Classical Texts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODNB</td>
<td><em>Oxford Dictionary of National Biography</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHI</td>
<td>Packard Humanities Institute database of classical Latin texts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHT</td>
<td><em>Revue d’histoire des textes</em>.</td>
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TLL  *Thesaurus linguae Latinae*, Munich 1900– (online at https://tll.degruyter.com).

VSD  *Vita Suetonii Donatiana* (= Suetonius/Aelius Donatus, *Vita Vergili*).