Sexy, scintillating, and sometimes scandalous, Greek epigrams from the age of the Emperor Justinian commemorate the survival of the sensual in a world transformed by Christianity. Around 567 CE, the poet and historian Agathias of Myrina published his *Cycle*, an anthology of epigrams by contemporary poets who wrote about what mattered to elite men in sixth-century Constantinople: harlots and dancing girls, chariot races in the hippodrome, and the luxuries of the Roman bath. But amid this banquet of worldly delights, ascetic Christianity—pervasive in early Byzantine thought—made sensual pleasure both more complicated and more compelling. In this book, Steven D. Smith explores how this miniature classical genre gave expression to lurid fantasies of domination and submission, constraint and release, and the relationship between masculine and feminine. The volume will appeal to literary scholars and historians interested in Greek poetry, late antiquity, Byzantine studies, early Christianity, gender, and sexuality.

Steven D. Smith is Professor of Classics and Comparative Literature at Hofstra University, New York. His publications include *Greek Identity and the Athenian Past in Chariton: The Romance of Empire* (2007) and *Man and Animal in Severan Rome: The Literary Imagination of Claudius Aelianus* (Cambridge University Press, 2014).
GREEK CULTURE IN THE ROMAN WORLD

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For Dick
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Acknowledgments

This book took many years to write, and I wish to thank those who generously offered the support without which I could not have brought it to completion. Derek Krueger provided encouragement from the very beginning of this project, and his sensitive, insightful commentary during this book’s long development has been invaluable. I am grateful to Jaš Elsner, Simon Goldhill, and Michael Squire for their many thorough and constructive remarks. Mark Masterson was a formidable reader of an earlier draft and forced me to think seriously about what I was really up to and to sharpen my argument at crucial junctures. He remains a valued friend and colleague. Koen De Temmerman and Kristoffel Demoen kindly invited me to Ghent in May 2017, where I found a receptive audience, and I benefited greatly from the conversation that followed. I was honored that the late Alan Cameron took an interest in this work early on when we discussed the early Byzantine poets over a pleasant lunch in Pécs, Hungary, in 2013, and I regret that he did not live to see this book’s completion, even if I am sure he would have objected to some of my methods and conclusions. Hofstra University generously granted me a special leave in the spring of 2016, during which time I was able to make much progress writing up the preliminary version of this book. Ilaria Marchesi, as ever, has been a beloved champion, and for that I happily tolerate her teasing that I actually enjoy the poems of these sixth-century Graeculi. I am fortunate to have wonderful colleagues in Hofstra’s Department of Comparative Literature, Languages, and Linguistics, and I owe special thanks to Tammy Gales and Vicente Lledó-Guillem, who gave me the final, necessary nudge to submit the book for publication. I also thank Michael Sharp once again for helping me through the publication process. Finally, I thank my family and especially my husband, Dick Wilde, to whom this book is lovingly dedicated.

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A Note on Names and Abbreviations

For the names of the Byzantine poets and other Byzantine figures, I have adopted the conventions of the *Oxford Dictionary of Byzantium*. For the names of classical and Hellenistic authors, figures from myth, familiar historical personages, and familiar place names, I have adopted the conventions of the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*. Less familiar names I have transliterated from the Greek. The titles of various Roman offices and positions receive their traditional Latin spellings (*decurio*, *magister officiorum*, *curator civitatis*, etc.). Abbreviations of the names of classical Greek and Latin authors and their texts are those used in the *Greek–English Lexicon* of Liddell, Scott, and Jones and the *Oxford Latin Dictionary*. Other abbreviations are as follows:

- *AJP* American Journal of Philology
- *Anth. Gr.* Waltz, P., *et al.* (eds.) (1929–2011) *Anthologie Grecque, tomes i–xiii*. Paris. This abbreviation is used only to refer to the editors’ introductions, translations, and notes; references are by Roman numeral volume followed by page number(s). For references to individual epigrams, see *AP* and *APl* below.
- *APl.* Epigrams from the Planoudes Anthology, as numbered in *Anth.Gr*. xiii.
- *ByzZ* *Byzantinische Zeitschrift*
- *CJ* Classical Journal
- *CQ* Classical Quarterly
- *DOP* Dumbarton Oaks Papers
A Note on Names and Abbreviations

GRBS  Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies
JHS  Journal of Hellenic Studies
JRS  Journal of Roman Studies

Paton  Paton, W. R. (ed.) (1916–2014) The Greek Anthology, volumes i–v. Loeb Classical Library. Revised by M. A. Tueller. Cambridge, MA. This abbreviation is used only to refer to the introductions, translations, and notes; references are by Roman numeral volume followed by page number(s). For references to individual epigrams, see AP and APl. above.

TAPA  Transactions of the American Philological Association
ZPE  Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik
Figure 1 Map of Justinian’s Constantinople