

SOLO DANCE IN ARCHAIC AND CLASSICAL GREEK LITERATURE

“Ancient Greek dance” traditionally evokes images of stately choruses or lively Dionysiac revels – communal acts of performance. This is the first book to look beyond the chorus to the diverse and complex representation of solo dancers in Archaic and Classical Greek literature. It argues that dancing alone signifies transgression and vulnerability in the Greek cultural imagination, as isolation from the chorus marks the separation of the individual from a range of communal social structures. It also demonstrates that the solo dancer is a powerful figure for literary exploration and experimentation, highlighting the importance of the singular dancing body in the articulation of poetic, narrative, and generic interests across Greek literature. Taking a comparative approach and engaging with current work in dance and performance studies, this book reveals the profound literary and cultural importance of the unruly solo dancer in the ancient Greek world.

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SOLO DANCE IN ARCHAIC
AND CLASSICAL GREEK
LITERATURE

Representing the Unruly Body

SARAH OLSEN

Williams College



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In loving memory of
Karla and Ernst Ketelsen

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Notes on Texts, Abbreviations, and Style

I do not follow a strictly consistent pattern for Greek proper names, but I aim to use common and familiar forms. Periodicals in the bibliography are abbreviated in accordance with *L'Année philologique*. Abbreviations of ancient authors and texts follow the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* (4th ed.). Additional abbreviations are listed here.

- FGrH* Jacoby, Felix. ed. 1954–1969. *Die Fragmente der Griechischen Historiker*. Leiden: Brill.
- LSJ* Liddell, H. G., R. Scott., H. Stuart Jones, R. McKenzie, and P. G. W. Glare. eds. 1996. *A Greek-English Lexicon*, 9th ed. Oxford.
- M* Maehler, Herwig. 2001. *Pindarus, Pars II: Fragmenta, Indices*. Munich: K. G. Saur Verlag.
- PMG* Page, D. L. ed. 1962. *Poetae Melici Graecae*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- West* West, Martin L. ed. 1992. *Iambi et Elegi Graeci*. 2nd ed. Oxford University Press.

I have used the following editions for the Greek texts discussed in this book. Translations are my own unless otherwise indicated.

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