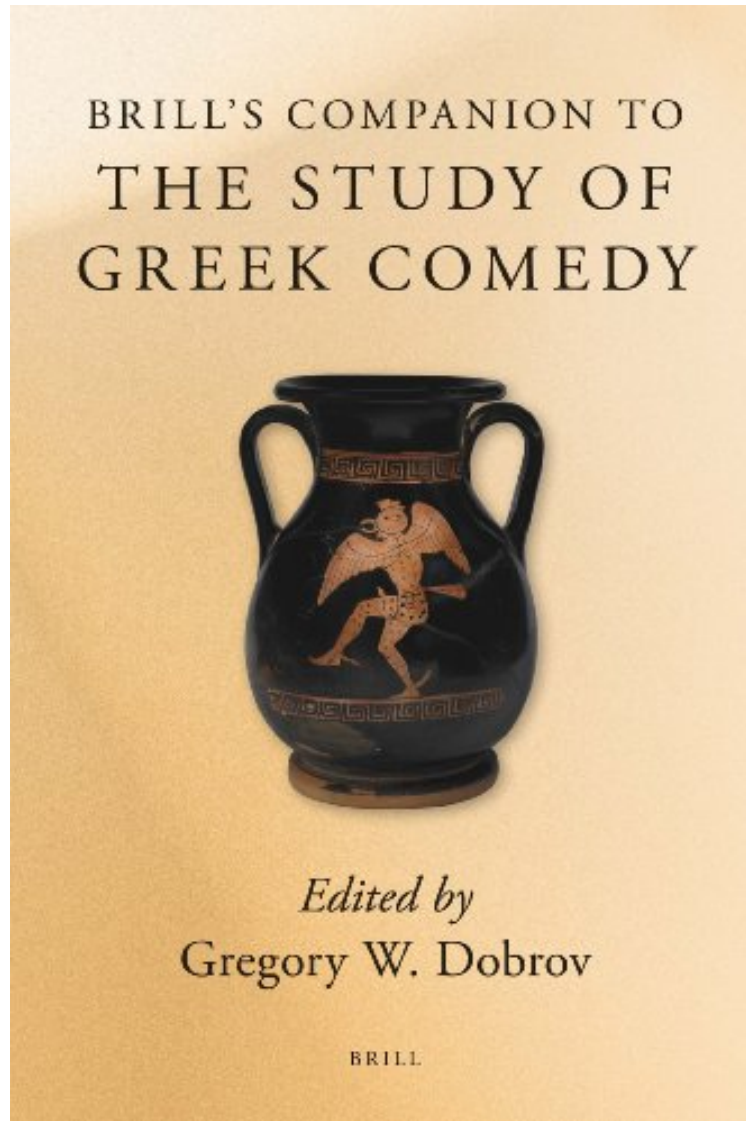


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Brill's Companion to the Study of Greek Comedy (Brill's Companions in Classical Studies)

Dobrov

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#7035678 in Books BRILL 2010-02-16Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.60 x 1.40 x 6.60l, 2.40 #File Name: 9004109633580 pages | File size: 70.Mb

Dobrov : Brill's Companion to the Study of Greek Comedy (Brill's Companions in Classical Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Brill's Companion to the Study of Greek Comedy (Brill's Companions in Classical Studies):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A. Markantonatos on Dobrov (2010)By Gregory DobrovIn the book's blurb Gregory Dobrov, a leading expert in Greek Comedy, rightly states that "the present volume sets forth the

main resources for the advancing student of Ancient Greek Comedy", and much more than this I might add, principally because with its clear purpose and breadth of vision this companion offers both acute younger readers and seasoned scholars of the classics a wide-ranging synthesis of the current debates on the recently blossoming field of the study of Greek Comedy, as well as breaking fairly new ground in those areas of scholarship on Greek comic playwrights that were previously considered shadowy and uninteresting mainly on account of lack of textual evidence and unsystematic primary research. The editor has brought together an impressive cast of specialists, judiciously dividing this tightly packed volume into three sections focusing on contextual, historical, textual, linguistic, and dramaturgical issues. It should be noted from the start that although there is a difference of opinion as to the interpretation of the existing ancient evidence, the thirteen academic experts never fail to provide a wider perspective on the problems. The first part of the book contains five well-argued chapters illuminating, among much else, the political and social backdrop to Greek Comedy, while also discussing in detail a broad array of highly interesting topics concerning the material remains, the production and performance of comedy in antiquity, and the special use of mythological and ritual motifs in the plays. The second part comprises four chapters which shed light on the three periods of Greek Comedy, beginning with a clear-eyed presentation of fifth-century comedy (a separate chapter is justly reserved for Aristophanes alone) and continuing with informative discussions of Middle Comedy and New Comedy. The third and last part includes another four chapters exploring in depth crucial aspects of Greek Comedy such as the manuscript tradition of Aristophanes, the study of comic fragments, structure and metre, and last but not least the language of Old Comedy. Gregory Dobrov, "Comedy and her Critics" (pp. 3-33), kicks off the volume with a both lucid and profound survey of critical trends in the study of Greek Comedy, giving particular focus to ancient literary criticism. His account of ancient scholarship on comedy segues into an unbiased appraisal of contemporary readings of Greek Comedy. He rightly points out that since August Meineke's groundbreaking study of Greek comic playwrights published in 1839 the critical idiom shifted "from a literary-philological perspective to a broad-spectrum approach that includes history, archaeology, epigraphy, papyrology, and performance" (p. 30) 1. The companion is distinctly underpinned by this principle, and Dobrov has carefully chosen the contributors with an eye to accommodating both traditional approaches and complex interpretative methods.....It is only fair to conclude by saying that the contributors to this immensely learned companion will command the attention of both their professional colleagues and the advancing students of classical literature. The thirteen specialists, far from scripting a lengthy rehearsal of hackneyed arguments, have written perceptive and innovative (in certain cases even slightly controversial) introductions to their subjects, while at the same time offering arresting reassessments of important aspects of Greek Comedy. This heavy volume deserves every bit of shelf space it will occupy. A. Markantonatos, University of the Peloponnese (BMCR 2011.11.45)

The Companion to the Study of Greek Comedy sets forth the main resources for the advancing student in three sections: Contexts, "History," and "Elements. The volume is a guide for understanding and interpreting the classic comedies as well as for navigat

"En verdad logra este Companion su pretension de proveer ayuda y estimulo para explorar el corpus comico griego. Acoge todos los aspectos de la comedia griega, los performativos, los textuales (filologicos, ecdoticos, literarios, linguisticos) y los socio- historicos. Aunque el griego no aparece transliterado, las traducciones al ingles permiten el acceso a quienes tengan escaso conocimiento de la lengua griega antigua. Es un libro insoslayable para el estudio de la comedia griega, el primero en su genero y dificil sera de superar." Claudia N. Fernandez in "Sehepunkte," Ausgabe 11 (2011), Nr. 3 "[...] the contributors to this immensely learned companion will command the attention of both their professional colleagues and the advancing students of classical literature. The thirteen specialists, far from scripting a lengthy rehearsal of hackneyed arguments, have written perceptive and innovative (in certain cases even slightly controversial) introductions to their subjects, while at the same time offering arresting reassessments of important aspects of Greek Comedy. This heavy volume deserves every bit of shelf space it will occupy. " Andreas Markantonatos in "BMCR," 2011.11.45"En verdad logra este Companion su pretension de proveer ayuda y estimulo para explorar el corpus comico griego. Acoge todos los aspectos de la comedia griega, los performativos, los textuales (filologicos, ecdoticos, literarios, linguisticos) y los socio- historicos. Aunque el griego no aparece transliterado, las traducciones al ingles permiten el acceso a quienes tengan escaso conocimiento de la lengua griega antigua. Es un libro insoslayable para el estudio de la comedia griega, el primero en su genero y dificil sera de superar." Claudia N. Fernandez in Sehepunkte, Ausgabe 11 (2011), Nr. 3 "[...] the contributors to this immensely learned companion will command the attention of both their professional colleagues and the advancing students of classical literature. The thirteen specialists, far from scripting a lengthy rehearsal of hackneyed arguments, have written perceptive and innovative (in certain cases even slightly controversial) introductions to their subjects, while at the same time offering arresting reassessments of important aspects of Greek Comedy. This heavy volume deserves every bit of shelf space it will occupy. Andreas Markantonatos in BMCR, 2011.11.45From the Back CoverThe present volume sets forth the main resources for the advancing student of Ancient Greek Comedy. An international roster of specialists contributes

chapters organized into three sections: "Contexts": the intellectual, physical and socio-historical setting of Athenian Comedy; "History": the literary history of the Old, Middle and New periods; and "Elements": the text, language and formal components of the genre (including a comprehensive bibliography). This Companion is designed as a resource for understanding and interpreting the classics of Athenian Comedy from its inception through Menander. It will also be useful for navigating the principal corpora of texts, fragments and scholia that have been revised and augmented in recent years. This unique volume occupies the middle ground between short surveys and highly specialized scholarship.

About the Author Gregory W. Dobrov is Associate Professor of Classical Studies at Loyola University Chicago. His publications include *Beyond Aristophanes: Transition and Diversity in Greek Comedy* (Oxford, 1995), *The City as Comedy: Society and Representation in Athenian Drama* (Chapel Hill, 1997), and *Figures of Play: Greek Drama and Metafictional Poetics* (Oxford, 2001).