

general survey of modern works on Greek music and then discusses the musical parts of tragedy, the various traditional forms of music used in drama, and the unity of music, poetry and dance as expressed in drama. The many difficult problems involved in this material cannot, of course, be discussed in depth; these chapters serve more as an introduction to the main part of the book, in which the musical parts of the dramas of the three great tragedians are discussed in detail and a general view of the ways in which each tragedian uses music in his dramatic work is given. As an example of the sophistication and depth which the use of traditional musical forms can attain in tragedy, one could mention the great kommos of Aeschylus' Choephoroi (305-476), aptly discussed on pp. 114ff.; in his discussion of the first stasimon of Euripides' Orestes (pp. 204ff.), of which a part has come down to us complete with notation, the author draws perhaps over-subtle conclusions concerning the psychological expressiveness of the music of Euripides, on the very meagre evidence offered to us by this short fragment. In conclusion: this book offers no novel views into the music of Greek drama, but provides a useful and concise introduction to the subject, has a good bibliography, and contains many sensitive interpretations of the lyrics of different dramas. - The other book by the same author, *Tragedia antica e musica d'oggi*, provides a short survey of the music used in the Italian performances of ancient Greek dramas in this century. The modern musical realisations of certain dramas would provide interesting themes for further study.

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*Das römische Epos.* Hrsg. von *Erich Burck*. Grundriss der Literaturgeschichte nach Gattungen. Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, Darmstadt 1979. XII, 419 S. DM 78.-.

Dieser Sammelband enthält dreizehn Abhandlungen über das römische Epos von Naevius bis Corippus. Die meisten dieser feinen Studien sind von dem Herausgeber selbst ("Die Pharsalia Lucans" gemeinsam mit W. Rutz), zwei ("Naevius' Bellum Poenicum" und "Ennius' Annales") von M. von Albrecht. Die ausführliche Gliederung (S. VII-XII) hilft dem Leser, und die dispositionelle Ähnlichkeit der verschiedenen Kapitel macht eine anschauliche Übersicht leichter, zumal das Buch auch für Laien gedacht ist. Mich persönlich interessierten besonders die spätesten, relativ unbekanntesten Epiker, Claudian (um 400) und Corippus (Mitte des 6. Jahrhunderts). In einer Sammlung dieser Art ist es wohl angebracht, die Bibliographie kapitelweise anzuführen. Ein Register wäre wünschenswert gewesen.

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*Mysteria Mithrae.* Pubblicati a cura di *Ugo Bianchi*. Etudes préliminaires aux religions orientales dans l'empire romain, tome 80. E.J. Brill, Leiden 1979. XXVII, 1005 p. Hfl. 240.-.

The Oriental religions in the Roman empire have recently been the object of a large number of monographs, published by the well-known specialist in this field, M.J. Vermaseren. A new addition to this important series are the proceedings of an international Seminar