

As noted by the authors, sometimes a sherd of Italiote pottery is more easily accessible than a whole vase which overwhelms the observer by the overt richness of detail. Thus one of the merits of the volume is to draw the attention of the reader to the particularities of iconography and painting technique from a closer distance.

*Ria Berg*

*Akten des Symposiums »125 Jahre Sarkophag-Corpus«, Marburg, 4.–7. Oktober 1995, unter Mitarbeit von Rita Amedick, Doris Bielefeld, Dagmar Grassinger und Claudia Wölfel hrsg. von Guntram Koch. Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Sarkophag-Studien, Bd. 1. ISBN 3–8053–2344–1. Verlag Philipp von Zabern, Mainz am Rh. 1998. X, 324 p., 37 figs, 128 pls. DEM 198.*

This volume presents the results of a Marburg-Colloquium held in 1995 to celebrate 125 years of studies on Roman sarcophagi. It was in 1870 that Friedrich Matz the Elder was given the charge of collecting and listing the innumerable Roman sarcophagi preserved from Imperial times. Ever since then Germany has remained the pioneering country in the study of Roman sarcophagi, the result of which can be seen in a number of excellent corpora published over the past century, and already for some time the city of Marburg has been the centre of the great sarcophagus project. Not only the collaborators of the Corpus were invited, but also many others who work on sarcophagi. The 29 contributions deal with sarcophagi from all over the Roman Empire which means that besides the central places of production (Rome and Athens), many local groups in individual provinces are also dealt with. The great variety of themes represented on the reliefs is naturally reflected by a wide range of iconographic discussions (e.g. children, funeral meals, hunting, office-holders, various mythological items, Christian material, etc.). Some papers concentrate on technical questions and the dating of sarcophagi. Though epitaphs are not the theme of this book, the inscribed pieces discussed are nonetheless numerous. Fortunately, however, apart from some minor misunderstandings, there seem to be no serious flaws in their interpretation. On the whole, the volume is a collection of highly interesting studies in the world of ancient sarcophagi, and it certainly ennobles the long and illustrious history of German studies on the subject.

*Mika Kajava*

PIETRO TAMBURINI: *Un abitato Villanoviano perilacustre. Il "Gran Carro" sul lago di Bolsena (1959–1985)*. Archaeologica 113. Tyrrhenica 5. Giorgio Bretschneider Editore, Roma 1995. ISBN 88–7689–114–5. 422 p., 25 tav., 94 fig. ITL 1.100.000.

Die Erforschung von Villanova-Kultur hat sich bisher ziemlich einseitig auf die Gräber und ihre Gaben gestützt. Obgleich wir einige Wohnplätze kennen, sind die Kenntnisse über das diesseitige Leben sehr beschränkt, weil die gefundenen Zentren bescheiden oder ihre archäologischen Materialien schlecht erhalten waren. Tamburinis Buch behandelt die ergiebige Ausbeute der Unterseeausgrabungen des in vieler Hinsicht eigenartigen Gran Carro.