

Verlag Philipp von Zabern, Mainz am Rh. 1997. 192 S. mit 169 Abb., 33 Farbabbildungen, 1 Karte. ISBN 3-8053-2032-9. DEM 68.00.

The second edition of "Stempelsiegel" was motivated by the accumulation, since the publication of the first catalogue in 1975, of a great deal of new knowledge on the dating and the manufacture of the seals. The new evidence is inserted in the introductory chapter, while the catalogue itself is reprinted with only some corrections to the earlier text. The catalogue is also preceded by a new, brief introduction to seal stamps with some more recent bibliography.

The volume "Mit Sieben Siegeln versehen" was published on the occasion of a homonymous exhibition held in the Vorderasiatisches Museum in Berlin in 1997. The ten contributions present the results of recent research on the seals and their significance in the ancient Near East.

*Mika Kajava*

MARCELLO SPANU: *Keramos di Caria. Storia e monumenti*. Studia archaeologica 89. "L'Erma" di Bretschneider, Roma 1997. 222 p., 28 tav., ill. ISBN 88-7062-979-1. ITL 250.000.

It is with delight that scholars will welcome this book, since the history and the important archaeological remains of Ceramus have attracted considerably less attention than those of many other Carian cities (Aphrodisias, Caunus, Cnidus, Halicarnassus, Iasos). The edition of the inscriptions of Ceramus by E. Varinlioglu (1986) was a major step in Carian studies, but before Spanu's work there was no comprehensive survey of the historical, archaeological and topographical sources relating to this city. After a survey of literary, epigraphic and numismatic evidence on Ceramus (Ch. 2), the author discusses in detail the development of the urban plan which appears to have been renewed in the fourth century B.C., and he observes that not only Ceramus but also some other Carian cities had an astronomical orientation. The Hellenistic and Roman periods were characterized by extensive construction, new building techniques, and manifestations of local benefactions. The reader is pleased to find an index of names and places at the end of the volume. This is anything but typical of Italian (and other) publications of an archaeological character.

*Mika Kajava*

JOHN BOARDMAN: *Griechische Plastik. Die spätklassische Zeit und die Plastik in Kolonien und Sammlungen*. Ein Handbuch übersetzt von Ute Winter und Sabine Albersmeier. Philipp von Zabern, Mainz am Rhein 1998. ISBN 3-8053-2446-4. 319 S. DEM 58.00.

The original book, written in English, appeared in 1995. It completed the series on Greek sculpture of different periods by Sir John Boardman, the first volume of which – the archaic period – was published in 1978. All three volumes have been most pleasant reading, and the things one might have wished to see included in the earlier volumes, such as art in the colonies, are now treated here. Of course, it would have been ideal to include the colonial

sculpture with the sculpture of mainland Greece in order to see the period as a whole, the differences as well as the similarities, but better now than never.

The black and white photographs, drawings and the maps are inserted between the chapters, a system which already proved useful in the first handbook. The mostly short captions under the photos often contain useful and detailed information not mentioned in the text itself. The pictures are small, but generally very clear. The drawings of the architectural sculpture give a general view of the subject with the surviving parts often marked with shading. In the final fourth part of the handbook under the title "Ancient and Antique" the author deals with the Greek way of communicating using images, as well as ancient and modern collecting and the significance of the collections. It is very useful to remind the reader that a piece of ancient sculpture had its own life in its time, which in modern times, even if a statue is separated from its original context, is still valid. To cite the last sentence of the handbook: "There is life in these dry stones yet!"

I recommend warmly all the handbooks on Greek Sculpture by Sir John Boardman. One gets not only basic knowledge of the development of iconography and styles, but also a witty discussion of the subject made against a wider historical and cultural background. The not too many words and the limited number of pages should not exceed a beginner's capacity and is sheer enjoyment for a more advanced reader.

*Leena Pietilä-Castrén*

PAOLA BALDASSARRI: Σεβαστῶι Σωτήρι. *Edilizia monumentale ad Atene durante il Saeculum Augustum*. Archaeologica 124. Giorgio Bretschneider editore, Roma 1998. 282 p., 51 fig., 59 tav. ISBN 88-7689-134-X. ITL 630.000.

In this monumental book Baldassari discusses the varying relationship between Augustus and the people of Athens as well as the question of how the Imperial ideology began to manifest itself in that city. The merit of the book is that it tries (successfully) to place the Augustan building activity in archaeological, historical and social contexts. The useful historical introduction is followed by a topographically arranged catalogue which discusses Augustan interventions both on the Acropolis and in the lower city (the Olympieion, the Roman Agora, the Greek Agora, the Eleusinion, and a number of repairs and restorations). Among the many fresh views presented by Baldassari, one may cite one related to the Temple of Roma and Augustus on the Acropolis (probably dedicated in 19 B.C.). In her view (p. 61), this temple and a round temple of Mars Ultor on the Capitol in Rome were not only contemporaneous but were dedicated for identical reasons, that is, to commemorate the recovery of the legionary standards from the Parthians the year before. This is a plausible conclusion, though one might add that the Capitoline sanctuary (where it was intended to deposit the standards) would have served as a model for the Athenian one (cf. now T. Schäfer, *Spolia et signa* [Nachr. Akad. Wiss. Göttingen; phil.-hist. Kl. 1998,2], 58 f.; 63 ff.). Moreover, it seems probable that the temple on the Capitol never existed but remained only a plan represented on some coins (cf. J.W. Rich, *PBSR* 66 [1998] 79 ff.; M. Spannagel, *Exemplaria principis* [1999], 62 ff.). Nonetheless, Baldassari's argument of an ideological connection between the two projects remains perfectly valid.