
These distinguished scholars envisage the Muses as rock ing the cradle of Greek civilisation. In four different categories (religion, drama, politics and education) and in thirteen chapters they illustrate how Greek culture is saturated by mousike and the influence of the Muses. If there is a criticism to be made of this exciting and important book, it could be that the authors become paranoiac with mousike, as if there could not exist any particle or fragment of Greek literature, culture, politics or history without the Muses breathing down everybody's necks. The book grew out of a colloquim held at the University of Warwick in 1999 to which a group of scholars were invited who were identified as working in innovative ways on the subject of mousike. The final product has been unusually well edited by Penelope Murray and Peter Wilson, so that cross-references crop up throughout. In their joint introduction, entitled "Mousíkê not music" the editors pave the way for interconnections between the chapters, and in her magisterial final chapter, "The Muses and their Arts", Murray draws together the different strands and themes of the book.

The book has been thoroughly analysed and reviewed by Massimo Raffa at www.ircps.org/publications/estimatio/pdf/2005-10-01_Raffa.pdf and in a similar way by Matthew Wright at cat.sas.upenn.edu/bmcr/2004/2004-07-16.html The book can now be purchased for under fifty pounds via amazon.co.uk.

The fundamental premise of this book is that ancient Greek music or mousike cannot be studied in isolation or purely focusing on the kithara. In Simon Goldhill's words, rock and roll cannot be analysed purely from the role of the bass-guitar. In the same way, mousike must be seen to be a far broader term than music, interfacing ancient Greek epic, drama, comedy, philosophy and even mathematics.

Stephen Evans


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[2003] 256 ff.), consti tu e una benvenuta riconsiderazione di tutto il materiale relativo alle consultazioni delfiche da parte di Atene, che si conoscono dell'età anteriore al 300 a.C. Ben leggibile, fresco e innovativo, il libro offre un interessante sguardo sull'oracolo delfico e la sua continua importanza non solo per l'Atene democratica ma anche per la sopravvivenza della stessa democrazia ad Atene. Di grande interesse anche le osservazioni di Bowden sull'interventi, inevitabile e necessaria, tra democrazia e religione, un aspetto questo troppo spesso sottovalutato nel passato. Ottima lettura per chiunque voglia approfondire e meglio capire i meccanismi costituenti della società ateniese.

Mika Kajava

This volume consists of four interesting papers. The exact nature of this collection is not made clear, but it does not seem to be based on, e.g., a colloquium. There is a preface by A. Giardina and A. Schiavone, but in which capacity these two scholars are writing remains unclear (Giardina is, however, along with A. Fraschetti, the editor of the series of which this is vol. 25), and the formulations possibly intended to illustrate the genesis of this collection seem a bit vague; what seems to be the bottom line here is that Giardina and Schiavone (the plural used in the preface – e.g., in "il tema che abbiamo scelto", p. VII, must refer to them) have asked the contributors to supply papers for this volume, and that the authors have accepted "con entusiasmo". The preface is more specific on the aims of this volume; the work presented here "si inscrive in quell'ambito sempre più promettente degli studi romanistici che si sofferma su temi generali, che si basano sullo studio di particolari modalità di trasformazione e impiego della stessa democrazia ad Atene. Di grande interesse anche le osservazioni di Bowden sull'interventi, inevitabile e necessaria, tra democrazia e religione, un aspetto questo troppo spesso sottovalutato nel passato. Ottima lettura per chiunque voglia approfondire e meglio capire i meccanismi costituenti della società ateniese.

Heikki Solin


This paper contains much of interest (though possibly more from the point of view of the jurist); its main aim seems to be to stress the "principio di pubblicità dei giudizi [in the context] a garanzia della trasparenza delle operazioni giudiziarie" (p. 11, cf. p. 12).

The long paper by F. Porena, "Forme di partecipazione politica cittadina e contatti della stessa democrazia ad Atene. Di grande interesse anche le osservazioni di Bowden sull'interventi, inevitabile e necessaria, tra democrazia e religione, un aspetto questo troppo spesso sottovalutato nel passato. Ottima lettura per chiunque voglia approfondire e meglio capire i meccanismi costituenti della società ateniese.