

Four Comedies Lysistrata The Congresswomen The Acharnians The Frogs

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a sweeping new account of ancient greek culture and its remarkable diversity covering the whole of the ancient greek experience from its beginnings late in the third millennium bce to the roman conquest in 30 bce out of one many is an accessible and lively introduction to the greeks and their ways of living and thinking in this fresh and witty exploration of the thought culture society and history of the greeks jennifer roberts traces not only the common values that united them across the seas and the centuries but also the enormous diversity in their ideas and beliefs examining the huge importance to the greeks of religion mythology the homeric epics tragic and comic drama philosophy and the city state the book offers shifting perspectives on an extraordinary and astonishingly creative people century after century in one medium after another the greeks addressed big questions many of which are still very much with us from whether gods exist and what happens after we die to what political system is best and how we can know what is real yet for all their virtues greek men set themselves apart from women and foreigners and profited from the unpaid labor of enslaved workers and the book also looks at the mixed legacy of the ancient greeks today the result is a rich wide ranging and compelling history of a fascinating and profoundly influential culture in all its complexity and the myriad ways good and bad it continues to shape us today

in considering the practice and theory of translating classical greek plays into english from a theatrical perspective found in translation first

published in 2006 also addresses the wider issues of transferring any piece of theatre from a source into a target language the history of translating classical tragedy and comedy here fully investigated demonstrates how through the ages translators have wittingly or unwittingly appropriated greek plays and made them reflect socio political concerns of their own era chapters are devoted to topics including verse and prose mask and non verbal language stage directions and subtext and translating the comic among the plays discussed as case studies are aeschylus agamemnon sophocles oedipus tyrannus and euripides medea and alcestis the book concludes with a consideration of the boundaries between translation and adaptation followed by an appendix of every translation of greek tragedy and comedy into english from the 1550s to the present day

this startling and original study emerged from kenneth rockford s wish to vindicate aristophanes clouds against detractors as a result of years of rereading and teaching aristophanes he realized that the clouds could not be defended in an analysis of that play in isolation a better approach he decided would be to define a comic perspective within which aristophanes comedies in general as well as the clouds in particular could be appreciated this first volume of reckford s defense examines the comedies as a whole in a series of defining essays each with its own dominant concern and method of approach the author begins by exploring not the usual questions of aristophanes political attitudes and his place in the development of comedy but rather the festive celebratory and dionysian nature of old comedy here and throughout the book reckford illustrates aristophanes form of comedy with analogies to rabelais shakespeare charlie chaplin alice in wonderland and the wonderful wizard of oz in the remaining essays reckford goes beyond the usual freudian approaches reinterpreting the comic catharsis as a clarification of wishing and hoping he also explores the growth of plays from comic idea to comic performance in ways reflected in tom stoppard s plays today only then are aristophanes basic political loyalties described as well as the place of his old and new comedy within the history of the genre in a book that is as much about comedy generally as it is about aristophanes specifically some plays are treated more fully than others reckford discusses the wasps at length comparing the symbolic transformations and comic recognitions in the play with dream experience and dream interpretation he also analyzes the peace the acharians the birds and the frogs reckford s vindication of the clouds will appear in the second volume of his defense clouds of glory reckford s playful translations preserve the puns and anachronisms of aristophanes maintaining the playwright s comic feeling and tone combining traditional classical scholarship with a variety of literary psychological and anthropological approaches he has written a study that will appeal to both the academic audience and the general reader who cares about comedy originally published in 1987 a unc press enduring edition unc press enduring editions use the latest in digital technology to make available again books from our distinguished backlist that were previously out of print these editions are published unaltered from the original and are presented in affordable paperback formats bringing readers both historical and cultural value

while there is clearly no dearth of material on greek theatre until now no systematic effort has been made to integrate the classical tradition with our modern perceptions and adaptations of it professor walton s unique guide to greek drama takes on this task bringing together a wealth

of information on athenian tragedy and comedy as performed and appreciated in its own time and as embodied on the modern stage the introductory section highlights some of the characteristic features of greek tragedy and comedy and suggests how and under what conditions plays were first performed the following section consists of analyses of the thirty three surviving plays attributed to aeschylus sophocles and euripides each essay provides information on dates characters size of roles and plot together with an assessment of staging problems and a review of dramatic and theatrical qualities the section concludes with a discussion of the influence of greek tragic tradition on roman drama

no descriptive material is available for this title

from the spartans to alexander the great paul chrystal brings the murky world of sex with the ancient greeks to life

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