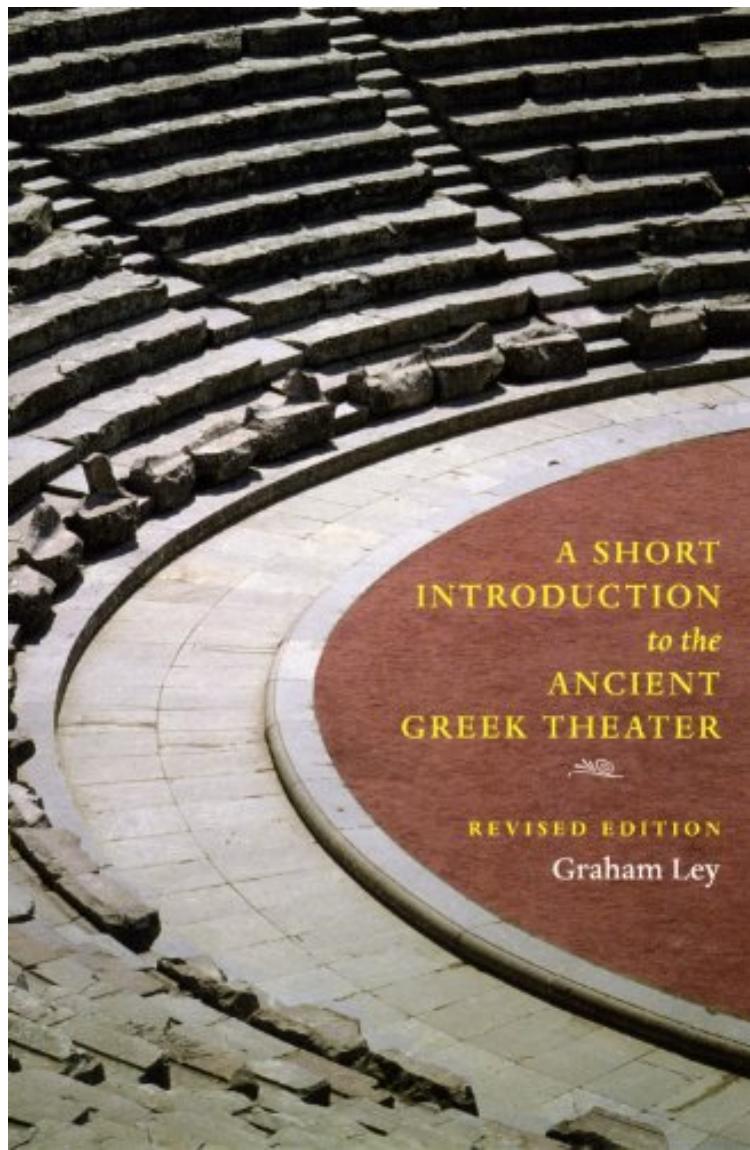


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A Short Introduction to the Ancient Greek Theater: Revised Edition

Graham Ley

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Ancient Greece.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Two StarsBy CustomerToo many marks for my liking.11 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Just what the title saysBy TrentonBuyerThis book is no more than the title promises: a short introduction. If you want to read detailed analyses of the Greek theatre, this isn't the book for you, but if you want a book to get you started and teach you the basic vocabulary, this one is as good as any.

Contemporary productions on stage and film, and the development of theater studies, continue to draw new audiences to ancient Greek drama. With observations on all aspects of performance, this volume fills their need for a clear, concise account of what is known about the original conditions of such productions in the age of Pericles.

Reexamining the surviving plays of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes, Graham Ley here discusses acting technique, scenery, the power and range of the chorus, the use of theatrical space, and parody in their plays. In addition to photos of scenes from Greek vases that document theatrical performance, this new edition includes notes on ancient mime and puppetry and how to read Greek playtexts as scripts, as well as an updated bibliography. An ideal companion to *The Complete Greek Tragedies*, also published by the University of Chicago Press, Ley's work is a concise and informative introduction to one of the great periods of world drama. "Anyone faced with Athenian tragedy or comedy for the first time, in or out of the classroom, would do well to start with *A Short Introduction to Ancient Greek Theater*."—*Didaskalia*

From the Back CoverContemporary productions on stage and film, and the development of theater studies, have created a new audience for ancient Greek drama. This volume fills the need for a clear, concise statement of what is known about the original conditions of production for tragedy, comedy, and satyr play in the age of Pericles and provides observations on all aspects of performance. About the AuthorGraham Ley is a reader in drama and theory at the University of Exeter. He has directed ancient and modern plays, has been a dramaturg for professional productions, and is the author of many specialist essays and books, including, most recently *The Theatricality of Greek Tragedy*, forthcoming from the University of Chicago Press.