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A Field Guide to Greek Metre by Carlo Carlucci

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Fergus Millar has given us a comprehensive portrait of the ideal emperor as dispenser of justice and largesse to the ruling classes; this ideal reflects certain aspects of reality. But the claim that this fragment of the whole is its principal part seems to me based on uncritical method and a failure to ask the right questions. Every student of the ancient world will need to read this book, think about it and learn from it; but every reader must also be wary of what the author does with his learning.

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A Field Guide to Greek Metre. By CARLO CARLUCCI. Privately printed: available on application from the Department of Classics, Dwinelle Hall, University of California at Berkeley.

It has long been obvious that the study of Greek metre urgently needed a radically new approach. In this book Carlucci provides it. He has abandoned the pretentious dogma built up over the nomenclature of the longer cola, and returned again to simple fundamentals, to the individual metra and the separate ethos that each possesses. Indeed the reviewer can honestly say that this is one of the most simple and most fundamental books he has ever read. Carlucci's treatment of the so-called irrational spondee places this annoying phenomenon firmly where it belongs. There is a brief but memorable depiction of marching anapaests, and late in the book there is to be found an illuminating insight into the origins of the trochaic trimeter. Carlucci's starkly graphic account of aeolic cola is a fine example of his ability to encapsulate in a single page everything essential that needs to be said about the various metrical forms from which lines and stanzas are built up. Further detailed discussion in a review of this length is hardly possible in a field where professional disagreements are rife.

If there are criticisms to be made, they would be these: Carlucci completely ignores the status differences between the choriambic dimeters type A and type B, and he never touches on the deep emotional impact that ancient poets could produce by the affecting spectacle of an ionic suffering anapaest, i.e. the so-called anacreontic, itself hardly more, as the Oxford school of metricians have speculated, than an acephalous choriamb + iamb. + anceps. All in all however this book fully justifies the author's claim to be sweeping away the outmoded approach of Wilamowitz's *Griechische Verskunst* and its modern derivatives, and indeed one may feel that the endorsement of Carlucci's work by the Chairman of his Department at Berkeley, printed on the cover, errs if anything by expressing enthusiasm in too muted a form.

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Tibull und Delia. Erster Teil. Tibulls Elegie 1,1. By WALTER WIMMEL. Hermes Einzelschriften 37 (Wiesbaden, 1976).

Wimmel's monograph consists of a 4-page preface, a 113-page analysis of Tibullus 1.1, and 7 pages of indices (names and passages cited). The author states at the outset (p. ix) that he is giving special consideration to Tibullus's first elegy because he could not fit it in where it belonged, with the plan of his earlier book *Der frühe Tibull*. He also