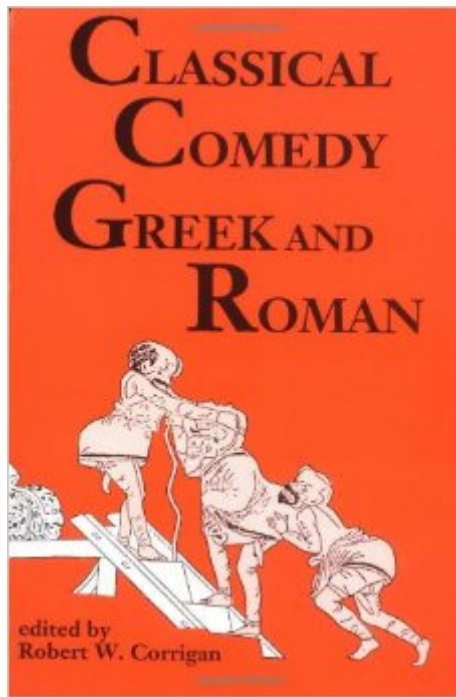


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Classical Comedy: Greek And Roman



Synopsis

(Applause Books). Rich anthologies of dramatic art and critical insight varied, stimulating, broad in its view and deep in its perceptions...exciting variety of translations...enlightening essays from some of the most stimulating minds of the century. Leonard C. Pronko, author, Theatre East and West , Chair, Dept. of Theatre, Pomona College Includes: Aristophanes: Lysistrata, translated by Donald Sutherland; The Birds, translated by Walter Kerr; Menander: The Grouch, translated by Sheila D'Atri; Plautus: The Menaechmi, translated by Palmer Bovie; The Haunted House, translated by Palmer Bovie; Terence: The Self-Tormentor, translated by Palmer Bovie.

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Customer Reviews

Robert W. Corrigan has compiled a wonderful balance of Greek and Roman comedies. The collection is ideal for anyone interested in an overview of classical comedy or wishing to explore the roots of modern comedy. Aristophanes' "Lysistrata" and "The Birds," and Menander's "The Grouch" represent the Greek plays. "The Menaechmi" (sometimes called 'The Brother's Menaechmi') and "Mostellaria" (sometimes called 'The Haunted House' or 'The Ghost') by Plautus and "The Self Tormentor" by Terence represent the Roman plays. The plays themselves are a wonderful study of comedy from its dramatic origins to the Roman's translations of Greek "New Comedy." Students of Shakespeare and renaissance drama will find this book especially useful as "The Menaechmi" is the source of Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors" and plays like "The Grouch" and "The Self Tormentor" greatly influenced the French comic playwright, Jean-Baptiste Moliere. The introductions scribed by Corrigan are outstanding. A master of ancient drama, he has a passion that creeps into all his

essays. Unfortunately, the introductions by the translators sometimes fail to relate to the boarder subject of comedy and leave a little to be desired. Regarding the translations themselves, four different authors have translated the six plays and some are better than others. Walter Kerr's translation of "The Birds" is the best of the collection. Palmer Bovie's translations of the three Roman plays are solid and reflect Plautus' word-play well (which also influenced Shakespeare).

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