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GERSON SCHADE

Lectures on Greek Poetry



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The series of lectures contained in this volume were written for students at Adam Mickiewicz University. A first group of these lectures are intended to serve as an introduction to Greek poetry of the archaic, classical and pre-Hellenistic age. They treat a selection of texts, ranging from the eighth to the fourth century BC. A second group of these lectures focuses on Homer's *Iliad*: while the whole work is treated, the lectures follow the story of Achilles, which is developed mainly in five books. All texts are provided in translation, and secondary literature is discussed and used to make the texts more accessible for young students interested in poetry. The lectures introduce to some of the main issues that characterise the texts, such as their relationship to their primary audience, the impact of orality, and the influence of the eastern poetic tradition on the Greeks. Where appropriate, the lectures also treat the interrelation between various texts, their intertextuality. They try to answer the questions of how poetry did work then, and why these texts do matter for the European poetic tradition.

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