

corpus dedicated to Greek and Persian interactions, making use of it to avoid generic explanations. She scrutinizes the shifting perspectives of antiquity, as well as the modern ones, by placing the debate in a wider scope through discussing the Athenocentric and Eurocentric approaches to political and academic agendas. The book addresses a wider audience by presenting a case study to point out that archaeology can hardly be isolated from political discourses of the past and today. There are almost no print mistakes, except the wrong spelling of 'Cleisthenes' as 'Clesithenes' on page 136.

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## Hellenistic

**Nancy Bookidis and Elizabeth G. Pemberton.** *The sanctuary of Demeter and Kore, the Greek lamps and offering trays* (Corinth, Volume XVIII.7). Princeton (NJ): The American School of Classical Studies at Athens. pp. 256, 50 pls, 2 tables. 2015. ISBN 978-0-87661-187-6 \$150.

Nancy Bookidis and Elizabeth Pemberton's *the Greek Lamps and Offering Trays* is a fine new addition to the Corinth series and another piece of the puzzle that is the sanctuary of Demeter and Kore. Following the six preceding volumes that detail the archaeology, inscriptions and topography of the site, *the Greek Lamps and Offering Trays* presents another detailed look at a particular aspect of material culture from the Demeter and Kore sanctuary. Focussed on Greek lamps and so-called offering trays this volume marvellously succeeds in furthering our understanding of the sanctuary and its associated material culture and is an excellent companion to the earlier volumes detailing the Greek and Roman pottery and terracottas recovered from the site. Corinth XVIII.7 is composed of five chapters and divided into two parts. Part I by Nancy Bookidis focuses on the Greek lamps and consists of 1: Introduction, 2: Catalogue: Corinthian Lamps, 3: Catalogue: Imported Lamps, Multiple Lamps, Stands and Lanterns. Part II by Elizabeth Pemberton is composed of 4: Introduction, 5: Catalogue: Offering Trays. An appendix providing an overview of the archaeological contexts utilised, various indices and the plates follow. Each individual chapter is divided into a number of subsections which provide a structured overview of a material category or present a specific type (e.g. 1, Uses of Lamps or 2, Broneer Type IV). After introductory chapters set the scene for the Greek lamps and offering trays the order of (catalogue) Chapters 2, 3 and 5 is primarily typological, the main focus being on providing a thorough overview of the various types of lamps and offering trays attested.

Chapters 1 and 4 are the most interpretative sections of the book and form a thorough introduction, respectively, to the lamps and offering trays of the sanctuary of Demeter and Kore. Both chapters introduce each material category before discussing in detail the local chronology and archaeological context, making reference not only to the sanctuary and Corinth itself but also parallels from elsewhere. A significant part of these chapters is also devoted to an attempt at interpretation. The uses and functions of lamps and offering trays in the sanctuary are

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discussed and the authors offer helpful suggestions of how both categories of material would have been utilised within the context of the sanctuary itself. All in all these two chapters form, especially for the general/non specialist reader, the most stimulating part of the book as they provide a more general overview and interpretation of the data laid out so thoroughly in the pottery catalogue.

Chapter 1, Introduction, is divided into eight sections. These sections provide a thorough overview of the Greek lamps at the sanctuary of Demeter and Kore and their archaeological setting. Section one, background and approach, sets out the aims of this study (in relation to the lamps) and discusses the methodology used and organization of the catalogue. Nancy Bookidis has opted to follow Broneer's well-known classifications in her attempt to get to grips with the sanctuary material. Although Broneer's pioneering work is by now quite dated and a major restudy of the Corinthian lamp industry is in order, B. had deliberately chosen not to attempt this as the aim of this volume is to specifically focus on the lamps of a specific archaeological locality (the sanctuary of Demeter and Kore) and address the finds within the context of the cult activity taking place at the site. A complete restudy of the Corinthian lamp industry is as such beyond the scope of this volume and B. also rightly observes that the sanctuary lacks the closely dateable contexts required for such an approach. B.'s study is thus a well-defined project with clearly articulated goals and aims: identification and interpretation of the Greek lamp repertoire attested within the sanctuary of Demeter and Kore. For these purposes 4181 excavated lamps were studied by B of which 88.4 % are Corinthian and 10.4% Attic. The catalogue contains only a representative sample of this corpus.

Chapter 1 goes on to discuss in considerable detail the findspots of the lamps discussed, both within and outside of the sanctuary. The chronology of the findspots and lamps is discussed and basic statistics are given. This section is a detailed, if somewhat dense, overview of the archaeological contexts utilised in this study and as such represents a vital tool for any reader wishing to read/check up on these. The most stimulating part of the introduction is, however, by far the section on uses of lamps. B. uses this section to set out in considerable detail her views on the way in which lamps were used in the sanctuary of Demeter and Kore. We learn that lamps were a common feature of sanctuaries dedicated to these two goddesses where they appear to feature in some sort of sacrificial ritual, possibly utilised to draw the attention of the gods. The popularity of lamps in sanctuaries of Demeter and Kore is further explained by raising the possibility of nocturnal rituals taking place for which lighting was an obvious

requirement. Small niches attested in several of the excavated dining rooms, and possibly used to situate lamps, further support the use of lamps as lighting implements. All in all B. has provided in this section some interesting observations and a thought-provoking analysis on the uses of lamps in Demeter and Kore sanctuaries. The chapter finishes with observations on how the subsequent pottery catalogue is organized and a final helpful section on deposits outside of the sanctuary itself, but frequently cited.

Chapter 2 consists of the Corinthian lamps pottery catalogue. After a brief introduction in which statistics on the different types of lamps attested are given (Broneer type IV being by far the most numerous attested followed by type I) the chapter goes on to discuss: crudely fashioned handmade lamps, lamps of Broneer type I to VII and IX-XI. It closes with a discussion of Hellenistic lamps of uncertain type and Broneer type XVII. Each type presented in the catalogue is thoroughly discussed, with details about its chronological and typological development given. The catalogue entries themselves are highly detailed and provide extensive additional information on for example: measurements, fabric and decoration. Given for each catalogue entry are both the proposed date for the vessel in question and that of associated context pottery, which is very helpful.

Chapter 3 focusses on imported lamps, so called multiple lamps, stands and lanterns. 10.4% of the lamps attested in the sanctuary can be identified as Attic and 1.2% came from elsewhere. In the first part of chapter 3 the different Attic (Howland) types attested are discussed as well as imported lamps coming from elsewhere. Extensive details, both within the discussion sections and the actual catalogue entries, on chronology, typological development and fabric are provided. The section on multiple lamps focusses on lamps with multiple nozzles. They date in majority to the 6th-5th centuries BC and represent 2.4% of all the lamps found in the sanctuary. They were possibly special dedications or served a specific lighting function according to B. Chapter 3 concludes with sections on lamps, stands and lanterns. The layout of these sections follows a similar pattern as before with detailed discussion of the objects in question followed by equally detailed catalogue entries.

The second part of the book, by Elizabeth Pemberton, focusses on the offering trays from the sanctuary of Demeter and Kore. In chapter 4 this material category is introduced and its chronology and findspots discussed. The most common offering trays attested carried miniature vases. This chapter presents very detailed sections on the manufacture, clay, decoration,

chronology and findspots associated with the offering trays of the sanctuary. The most stimulating part of the chapter, in particular for the more general reader, is the interpretative section in which P. makes an attempt at interpreting the evidence available to her. P. suggests that the offering trays attested show affinity in function and use with large open trays depicted on 7th-6th century Corinthian vases and were used as support for the foodstuffs required in the ritual. During the 6th century BC these large open trays took the form of winnowing baskets and it is this shape that more closely resembles the miniature versions of offering trays identified in the sanctuary of Demeter and Kore at Corinth. Chapter 5 directly links with chapter 4 as it presents the catalogue entries of the offering trays attested and discussed.

In sum, *the Greek Lamps and Offering Trays*, is a highly valuable addition to our knowledge about the sanctuary of Demeter and Kore. B. and P. provide in this lavishly illustrated book an expert overview of both the lamps and offerings trays attested. The book, however, is primarily geared towards the specialist reader although a clear attempt is made by the authors to offer more than the typological and chronological overview, commonly associated with pottery catalogues. The main focus of the book, however, naturally is on the various types of lamps and offering trays unearthed at the sanctuary and as such it engages but little with the wider archaeological, and socio-historical context in which the material in question was used, produced and discarded. The specialist reader will take from this book a greater understanding of the various lamp and offering tray types attested within the sanctuary and will be particularly enthused by the important discussions regarding the typological and chronological development of the objects in question. The book in this respect will certainly make an important mark on the wider scholarly community dealing with ceramics of the Greek world by fine-tuning our understanding of the occurrence, use and development of well-known lamp types (e.g. the Broneer series). Of most interest to the general reader are the sections in which B. and P. put forward their observations on how the lamps and offering trays were used and might have functioned within the ritual of the sanctuary. The thorough presentation of the various types of objects attested is something which most likely only the dedicated specialist can appreciate. This remains a problem of publications of this nature, especially those that focus on a particular and highly specific material category, such as in our case lamps and offering trays. Viewed in addition to the rest of the Sanctuary of Demeter and Kore book series, this volume provides, however, another building block towards a better understanding of the archaeology and history of this important

shrine. The book of B. and P. is in this respect an excellent example of how a multi-year research and publication project, focussing on a specific site, is able to gradually build up a highly detailed picture upon which future research can build and expand.

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**Volker Grieb, Krzysztof Nawotka and Agnieszka Wojciechowska (eds). *Alexander the Great and Egypt: history, art, tradition*. 2014. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz. ISBN 978-3-447-10270-4 hardback €83.**

This volume, comprised of twenty-two papers delivered at a two-day conference in Wrocław/Breslau in 2011, belongs to the series 'Contributions to the Study of Ancient World Cultures.' The goal of the conference was to investigate Egypt under Alexander and his successors, particularly the concept of Alexander as pharaoh, from an Egyptian viewpoint and using largely Egyptian sources, rather than the more common Hellenistic or Macedonian approach. These aims have largely been achieved in this collection of papers on wide-ranging but often highly specialized topics.

Yet, ironically, the essays begin with an example of the conventional approach: Meißner's examination of Egypt's role in late fifth- and fourth-century B.C. Greek 'strategic discourse' (p. 15), particularly concerning Greco-Persian relations, which concentrates largely on the period before Alexander's arrival in Egypt. The author's focus is on policies among Sparta, Athens, Cyprus, and Persia with Egypt as a frequent pawn in this game, and the essay assumes familiarity with all the players and events in this complex period of ancient Mediterranean history. What we do not receive is a thorough discussion of Egyptian strategies and responses.

Ulanowski considers Alexander's engagement with Egyptian religion by comparing Alexander with the seventh-century B.C. Neo-Assyrian ruler Esarhaddon, who had two victorious campaigns against the Egyptians, and how each of them dealt with Egyptian religion. Esarhaddon made a point of plundering Egyptian sanctuaries to benefit Mesopotamian temples and placed images of Assyrian kings in Egyptian temples, while Alexander demonstrated greater 'respect' and