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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Preface -- Contents -- I. Sophocles -- Sophocles' Philoctetes and Political Nostalgia / Scodel, Ruth -- Genos, Gennaios, and Athens in the Later Tragedies of Sophocles / Mills, Sophie -- Sophocles' Theseus / Finglass, P. J. -- The Sense of Place: Oedipus at Colonus, 'Political' Geography, and the Defence of a Way of Life / Rodighiero, Andrea -- Athens and Athenian Space in Oedipus at Colonus / Saïd, Suzanne -- II. Euripides -- Mythical Paradigms in Euripides: The Crisis of Myth / Nicolai, Roberto -- Fragmenting the Self: Society and Psychology in Euripides' Electra and Ion / Iakov, Daniel -- Myth and Performance on the Athenian Stage: Praxithea, Erechtheus, their Daughters, and the Aetiology of Autochthony / Calame, Claude -- Euripides' Bacchae: The End of an Era or the Beginning of a New One? / Gakopoulou, Konstantina -- Euripides' Iphigenia at Aulis: War and Human Sacrifice / Blume, Horst-Dieter -- Leadership in Action: Wise Policy and Firm Resolve in Euripides' Iphigenia at Aulis / Markantonatos, Andreas -- The Return of the Father: Euripides' Antiope, Hypsipyle, and Phoenissae / Lamari, Anna -- Euripides' 'Family

Reunion Plays' and their Socio-Political Resonances / Karamanou, Ioanna -- III. Aristophanes and Greek Comedy -- Women on the Acropolis and Mental Mapping: Comic Body-Politics in a City in Crisis, or Ritual and Metaphor in Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* / Bierl, Anton -- Persians, Oligarchs, and Festivals: The Date of *Lysistrata* and *Thesmophoriazusae* / Tsakmakis, Antonis -- Comedy and the Crises / Storey, Ian -- IV. Greek Drama -- The 'Dionysiac' Plays of Aeschylus and Euripides' *Bacchae*: Reaffirming Traditional Cult in Late Fifth Century / Xanthaki-Karamanou, Georgia -- Problem Kids: Young Males and Society from *Electra* to *Bacchae* / Sommerstein, Alan H. -- Metatheatre and Crisis in Euripides' *Bacchae* and Sophocles' *Oedipus at Colonus* / Dunn, Francis -- Altruism, Sovereignty, and the Degeneration of Imperial Hegemony in Greek Tragedy and Thucydides / Papadopoulou, Thalia -- Scripting Revolution: Democracy and its Discontents in Late Fifth-Century Drama / Rosenbloom, David -- Notes on Contributors -- Bibliography -- General Index

Sommario/riassunto

This volume explores the relationships between masterworks of Sophocles, Euripides and Aristophanes and critical events of Athenian history, by bringing together internationally distinguished scholars with expertise on different aspects of ancient theatre. These specialists study how tragic and comic plays composed in late fifth century BCE mirror the acute political and social crisis unfolding in Athens in the wake of the military catastrophe in 413 BCE and the oligarchic revolution in 411 BCE. With events of such magnitude the late fifth century held the potential for vast and fast cultural and intellectual change. In times of severe emergency humans gain a more conscious understanding of their historically shaped presence; this realization often has a welcome effect of offering new perspectives to tackle future challenges. Over twenty academic experts believe that the Attic theatre showed increased responsiveness to the pressing social and political issues of the day to the benefit of the polis. By regularly promoting examples of public-spirited and capable figures of authority, Greek drama provided the people of Athens with a civic understanding of their own good.
