VINDOBONAE MMXVII

XV. INTERNATIONALER KONGRESS TÜR GRIECHISCHE VIND LATEINISCHE EPIGRAPHIK

Deixis and Frames of Reference in Hellenistic Dedicatory Epigrams

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Aims of the PhD project

The Greek custom of chiselling verse inscriptions on objects offered to the gods, which began in the Archaic age, did not end in the Hellenistic age, when poets started to compose analogous epigrams that were not intended for inscription anymore (or not only), but were meant to be circulated in book form. This passage from stone into books has long been regarded as a decisive event for the development of the Greek epigram, which, only once detached from a unique spatial context, could evolve into a proper literary genre. Such a conception led to a sharp distinction between sub-literary verse inscriptions and literary book epigrams. Only in very recent years have scholars started to highlight properly the important relationship between book epigrams and epigraphic poetry. However, a thorough study of the relation between Hellenistic Buchepigramme and coeval verse inscriptions remains a desideratum. More specifically, an analysis of the strategies employed in book and epigraphic context to point to the surrounding setting appears necessary to draw a richer picture of the evolution of the genre in Hellenistic age, through different media.

In the light of this, considering both *Stein*- and *Buchepigramme*, my research focuses on all those linguistic elements that highlight the relationship between such texts and their physical (actual or imagined) context. On the one hand, I investigate the communicative frames adopted by epigrams (i.e. who is the speaking voice and who is the addressee in the text) and the relation between the choice of a specific communicative frame and the context in which the epigram is found. On the other hand, with reference to each communicative frame, I analyse the use of deictic elements, that is of all those linguistic elements whose meaning and interpretation depend on the spatial and temporal context where they are uttered.

Towards a new corpus of Hellenistic dedicatory epigrams

The work is based on the collection of a new corpus of dedicatory epigrams, which includes all dedications – both on stone and transmitted by manuscripts or papyri – from the end of the 4th century BC to the beginning of the 2nd century BC. Texts included have been selected from the following editions or collections.

For inscribed epigrams:

The unpublished collection of epigrams gathered by Werner Peek and preserved in the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften;

Brandenburgische Akadeinie der Wissenschaften;
 Bernand E., Inscriptions métriques de l'Égypte gréco-romaine. Recherches sur la poésie

épigrammatique des Grecs en Égypte, Paris 1969;

Hansen P.A., Carmina epigraphica Graeca, II (saeculi IV a.Chr.n.), Berolini-Novi Eboraci 1989;

Merkelbach R.-Stauber J., *Steinepigramme*aus dem griechischen Osten, I-V, Stuttgart-Leipzig 1998

(I), München-Leipzig 2001 (II-III), 2002 (IV), 2004

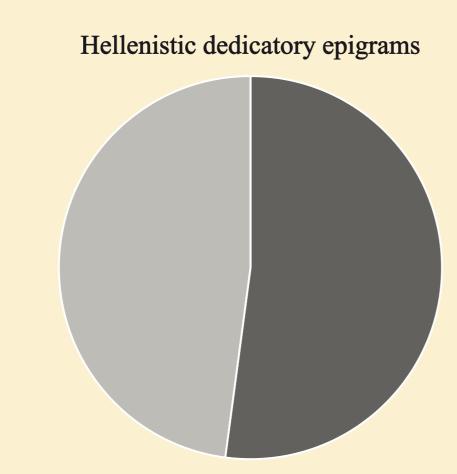
(V);

Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum.

For book epigrams:

- Gow A.S.F.-Page D.L., The Greek Anthology, Hellenistic Epigrams, Cambridge 1965;
- ❖ Austin C.-Bastianini G., *Posidippi Pellaei quae supersunt omnia*, Milano 2002.

The result of this selection is a corpus of 238 texts (see fig. 1). The corpus gathered will be also presented in a digital edition, published by Edition Topoi (http://edition-topoi.org/), where the texts will be accompanied by photos and all relevant metadata.



■ 1. Inscribed epigrams: 124 ■ 2. Book epigrams: 114

Fig. 1

Although the focus of the analysis lies on these selected epigrams, pre-Hellenistic dedicatory epigrams are also taken into account and are analysed in the initial section of the work, in order to delineate models and *topoi* that characterise the genre from the beginnings.

The database

After the collection, the second phase of the work consisted in the analysis of the texts and their contexts. This phase was accompanied by the registration into a database of all the relevant data, with particular attention to the features related to deixis.

The database was conceived of as a tool to organise the data and make them available for the next steps of the research. The structure of the database was designed to include all the important data related to the text examined, in order to have for each epigram a complete profile, including linguistic, literary, historical and archaeological aspects.

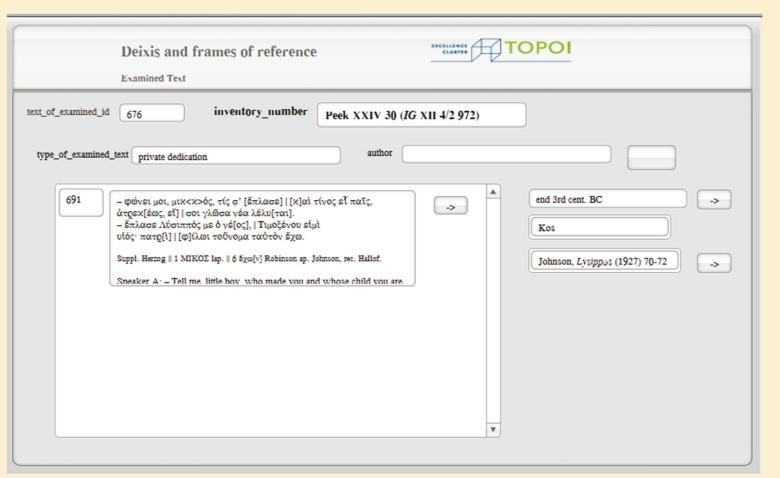


Fig. 2 The database

So far, the database contains texts, translations and analysis of ca. 750 dedicatory epigrams, from the Archaic age to the beginning of the 2nd century BC.

An example of analysis: dialogic epigrams

A comparison between two dialogic Hellenistic epigrams (Theodorid. 5 GP and *IG* XII 4/2 972) and the only pre-Hellenistic example of a dialogic dedicatory epigram (*CEG* 429) shows that the analysis of deictic elements can offer important information on the development of the genre. More specifically, as the table below (fig. 5) illustrates, on the one hand pre-Hellenistic models and traditions are still operative in the 3rd century BC, on the other hand Hellenistic innovations characterise in a similar way both inscribed and book examples.

CEG 429, Halicarnassus, ca. 475? BC, stone base for a bronze statue

- Αὐδὴ τεχνήεσσα λίθο λέγε, τίς τόδ' ἄ[γαλμα] | στῆσεν ἀπόλλωνος βῶμον ἐπαγλαΐ[σας]. |
 Παναμύης υἱὸς Κασβώλλιος, εἴ μ' ἐπ[οτρύνεις?] | ἐξειπε̂ν, δεκάτην τήνδ' ἀνέθηκε θε[ῶι].
- Engineered voice of stone, say who set up this adornment, honoring the altar of Apollo.
 Panamyes the son of Casbollis, if you in[sist2] the
- Panamyes the son of Casbollis, if you in[sist?] that I speak out, dedicated this as a tithe to the god.
 (Translation by M. Tueller, *Look who's talking*, Leuven 2008, 150)

Theorodid. 5 GP (APVI 224)

- Εἰνάλι' ὧ λαβύρινθε, τύ μοι λέγε, τίς σ' ἀνέθηκεν ἀγρέμιον πολιᾶς ἐξ ἁλὸς εὑρόμενος;
- Παίγνιον Άντριάσιν Διονύσιος ἄνθετο Νύμφαις –
 δῶρον δ' ἐξ ἱερᾶς εἰμὶ Πελωριάδος –
- υίὸς Πρωτάρχου· σκολιὸς δ' ἐξέπτυσε πορθμός ὅφρ' εἴην λιπαρῶν παίγνιον Ἀντριάδων.
- Shell, labyrinth of the deep, tell me who found thee, a booty won from the gray sea, and dedicated thee here.
 Dionysius son of Protarchus dedicated me as a plaything for the Nymphs of the grotto. I am a gift from the holy Pelorian coast, and the waves of the winding channel cast me ashore to be the plaything of the sleek Nymphs of the grotto. (Translation by W.R. Paton, *The Greek Anthology*, London-Cambridge, Mass. 1916, 417-419)

IG XII 4/2 972, Asclepieion, Kos, end of the 3^{rd} century BC, marble base for a statue of a child - φώνει μοι, μικ<κ>ός, τίς σ' [ἔπλασε] | [κ]αὶ τίνος εἶ παῖς,

ἀτρεκ[έως, εἴ] | σοι γλῶσα νέα λέλυ[ται].

– ἔπλασε Λύσιππός με ὁ γέ[ος], | Τιμοξένου εἰμὶ υἱός πατρ[ὶ] | [φ]ίλωι τοὔνομα ταὐτὸν ἔχω.

 Tell me, little boy, who made you and whose child you are, precisely, if your young tongue is loosened.

- The young Lysippos made me, I am the son of Timoxenos; I have the same name as my dear father.

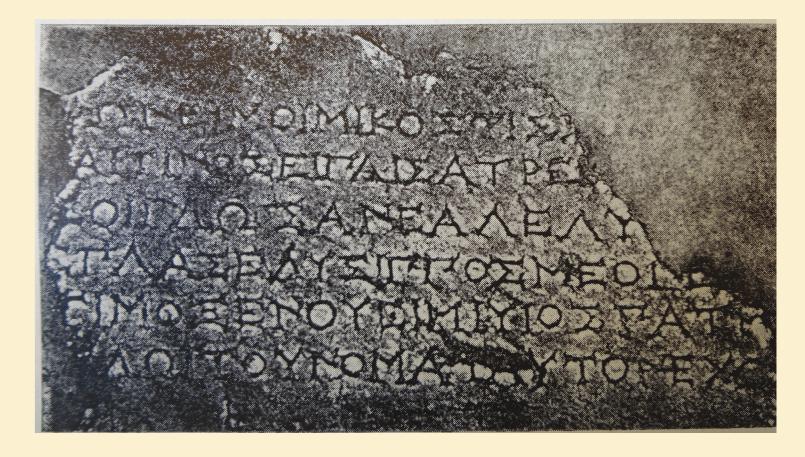


Fig. 4 *IG* XII 4/2 972 R. Herzog, *Schumacher-Festschrift*, Mainz 1930, 208, 1

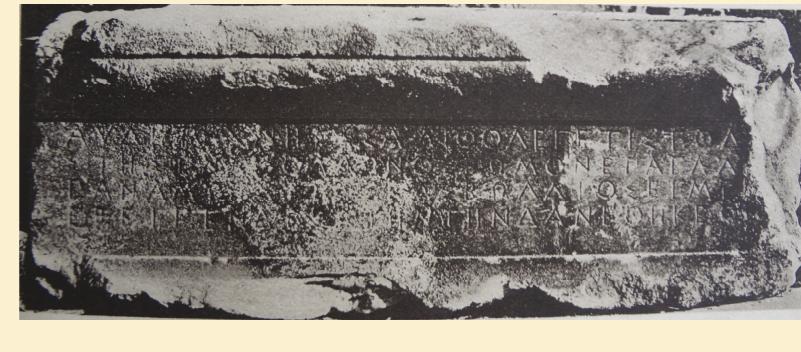


Fig. 3 *CEG* 429

U. v.Wilamowitz-G. Karo «AM» XLV (1920) tab. 4.2

Analogies between 5th century enigrams

- * Recurrent structure: an anonymous external voice asks the monument/object dedicated for information on the dedication
- example and 3rd century epigrams In Theodorid. 5 GP the question asked to the object is the same of CEG 429 (who dedicated you?)

Differences and innovations detected in 3rd century epigrams

CEG 429

- * No deictic elements to mark the alternation of deictic centres. The text remains solidly anchored to one point of reference only, i.e. the monument; see τόδ' ἄ[γαλμα], δεκάτην τήνδ' (ἀνέθηκε).
- ❖ The first anonymous voice triggers the object to speak
- ❖ Demonstrative and generic terms to present the dedicated object, see τόδ' ἄ[γαλμα], δεκάτην τήνδ' (ἀνέθηκε)

Theodorid. 5 GP and IG XII 4/2 972

- * Deictic elements mark the alternation of different deictic centres, see μοι Theodorid. 5, 1 GP and μοι *IG* XII 4/2 972, 1.
- ❖ The first anonymous voice triggers the object to speak and presents the object dedicated
- ❖ No demonstrative referred to the dedicated object but summary descriptions, see Εἰνάλι' ὧ λαβύρινθε Theodorid. 5, 1 GP, μικ<κ>ός...εἴ] | σοι γλῶσα νέα λέλυ[ται IG XII 4/2 972, 1f.

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Fig. 5





