

FOREWORD

The first essay in this volume represents the revised text of lectures which I held at several Italian and foreign Universities. I am very grateful to all those who, by their suggestions and proposals, contributed to clarify the problems investigated by me: in particular, I am indebted to my pupil Giovanni Cerri for his valuable and active collaboration.

The second chapter and the third (appendix) are a necessary complement to the first chapter, insofar as they are intended to offer a further clarification of certain problems relating to Hellenistic theatrical practice within the framework of the techniques which early Roman poets adopted in re-shaping their Greek literary models.

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B.G.