

PREFACE

Mogens Herman Hansen died peacefully in his sleep on June 22, 2024, at 83 years old. We realized that we had to honour a great scholar and close friend with a volume of studies in his memory, and we decided to publish it as a supplementary volume of the Danish journal *Classica et Mediaevalia*, a journal of which Mogens himself was an editor for a number of years. Our invitation to contribute was sent to friends and colleagues of Mogens in late August 2024, and the response was overwhelming and most gratifying. Articles began coming in in August 2025, and we are extremely happy to be able to present the memorial volume here. We wish, first of all, to express our most sincere gratitude to the authors, who have produced papers of a quality which makes for a real tribute to Mogens. In addition, many people have provided crucial assistance in other respects as well, and our heartfelt thanks goes to Josine Blok, Mirko Canevaro, Chris Carey, Paul Cartledge, Andrzej S. Chankowski, Leo Catana, Lin Foxhall, Peter Funke, Hans-Joachim Gehrke, Maurizio Giangiulio, Lisa Irene Hau, Signe Isager, Adrian Kelly, Karen Rørby Kristensen, Naoise Mac Sweeney, Emily Mackil, Christel Müller, Josiah Ober, Jari Pakkanen, Beatrice Pestarino, Maria Pretzler, Sofie Remijnsen, Thomas Scanlon, Malcolm Schofield, Johan Thom and Kristina Winther-Jacobsen. Particular thanks are owed to Dr George Hinge (Aarhus University), who is not only a gifted typesetter but also an accomplished classical philologist who has saved editors and authors from several errors in the Greek that went unnoticed through proofreading. Finally, we are indebted to our graphic artist, Erik Barfoed, for drawing the cover illustration of this volume; Erik, by the way, is by education a classical philologist from the University of Copenhagen and so knew Mogens from personal experience.

The volume is divided into three sections, the first being devoted to Athens, the city-state to whose history Mogens made so many immensely important contributions. The other Athenian authors will forgive us for singling out the contribution by Paul Cartledge: it provides us with an opportunity to highlight an aspect of Mogens' activities that is probably not very well known outside Denmark. Throughout his career Mogens

considered it his duty as well as a point of honour to present the results of his research to the Danish general public, and he published so many books and articles in Danish that probably no one person knows them all. This is called *formidling* in Danish, and Mogens practiced *formidling* long before it became a catchword of politicians and university administrators. It is fitting and moving, therefore, that his memorial volume should contain a fine essay of *formidling*.

The second section is devoted to Greek city-state culture, a concept very much at the heart of all the work carried out at The Copenhagen Polis Centre, which Mogens created and directed so masterfully for over a decade, from 1993 to 2004. The last and most bulky section is devoted to *Varia historia*. In our invitation of August 2024, we asked for contributions on the topics of the two first sections or “another topic of Greek history or literature that would have been of interest to Mogens.” As is perhaps less well known beyond Denmark’s borders, Mogens was a treasured teacher of Greek literature, in particular of Greek poetry. He even supervised dissertations on Aristophanes and Euripides, and his courses on Greek metre were the stuff of legend. The contributions by Marcel Lysgaard Lech and Minna Skafte Jensen reflect this side of his personality. All in all, this ample volume reflects well the many aspects of Mogens’ genius, and it is with great joy and pride that we present it to his friends, colleagues and admirers.

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