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Katja Sporn | Alexandre Farnoux |
Eric Laufer
ANCIENT PHOKIS

Athenaia 13
Études méditerranéennes 4

DEUTSCHES ARCHÄOLOGISCHES INSTITUT
Abteilung Athen

ATHENAIA 13

ÉCOLE FRANÇAISE D'ATHÈNES

**ÉTUDES
MÉDITERRANÉENNES 4**

DEUTSCHES ARCHÄOLOGISCHES INSTITUT
Abteilung Athen

Katja Sporn | Alexandre Farnoux | Eric Laufer (eds.)

ANCIENT PHOKIS

New approaches to its history, archaeology
and topography

International Conference, DAI Athens, 30 March – 1 April 2017

REICHERT VERLAG

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Inhaltsverzeichnis

Vorwort	IX
Phocis, Delphoi, and the amphictyony	1
<i>Peter Londey</i>	
Living on a rock. The cities of ancient Phocis and the importance of place	11
<i>Hans Beck</i>	
Borders and identity in ancient Phocis: some reflections	23
<i>Giovanna Daverio Rocchi</i>	
Phocis in the Aetolian League. Self-abandonment or self-assertion?	33
<i>Peter Funke</i>	
The institutions of the Phocian League	45
<i>Denis Rousset</i>	
Phocis in Roman times: beyond the shadow of Delphi	67
<i>Georgios A. Zachos</i>	
Das phokische Koinon zwischen Bötien, Delphi, Athen und Rom	85
<i>Christoph Begass</i>	
Delphes et Kalapodi au début de l'âge du fer ancien (11 ^e –9 ^e siècles av. J.-C.)	101
<i>Jean-Marc Luce</i>	
Zur Selbstdarstellung der Phoker in Delphi	121
<i>Anne Jacquemin</i>	
Athena. A gateway to Delphi	133
<i>Sandrine Huber – Anne Jacquemin – Didier Laroche</i>	

Terres cuites figurées du dépôt votif de Kirrha: de l'établissement du matériel à son exploitation	147
<i>Stéphanie Huysecom-Haxhi</i>	
The sanctuary of Athena in Phocian Antikyra	165
<i>Athanasios Sideris</i>	
The fortifications of ancient Phocis	
Results and prospects	185
<i>Nicolas Kyriakidis</i>	
Δρόμος με παρελθόν	195
<i>Φανούρια Δακορώνια (†) – Πέτρος Κουνούκλας</i>	
Παναγίτσα Ελάτειας 1979–1981	
Κτερίσματα και ταφικά έθιμα σε κλασσικό νεκροταφείο της Ελατείας	209
<i>Πάντος Α. Πάντος</i>	
Spanning two oracles. The sanctuary of Demeter at Erochos, between Delphi and Abae	219
<i>Elena Partida – Anthoula Tsaroucha</i>	
The rediscovery of a manuscript by Erich Gose and Friedrich Schober on the Kephissos valley from 1926	237
<i>Katja Sporn</i>	
Ο κρίσιμος 4ος αιώνας π.Χ.: παλαιές και νέες οχυρώσεις, παλαιοί και νέοι οικισμοί στην κοιλάδα του φωκικού Κηφισού	249
<i>Φώτης Ντάσιος</i>	
Panopeus	271
<i>Elena Kountouri – Ioannis Mavrommatidis – Nikolaos Petrochilos</i>	
New research on the fortification of Tithorea. A preliminary report of fieldwork 2016–2017	287
<i>Petros Kounouklas – Eric Laufer</i>	
Surveying the caves above Tithorea in 2016	307
<i>Stella Katsarou – Lina Kormazopoulou – Eric Laufer – Sabine Neumann – Katja Sporn – Ioanna Zygouri</i>	

Doric capitals and column drums from Modi in Phocis.....	339
<i>Nils Hellner – David Scahill</i>	
Ταφές των Πρώιμων Αυτοκρατορικών Χρόνων από την Υάμπολη στην ανατολική Φωκίδα.....	349
<i>Μαρία Παπαγεωργίου – Δημήτρης Γρηγορόπουλος</i>	
Sites of memory in ancient Phocis	
The Thessalian-Phocian battles, the Persian Wars, and the changing religious landscape.....	371
<i>Elena Franchi</i>	
A transfer of sacred lands from eastern Phocis, IG IX1, 87.....	383
<i>Jeremy McInerney</i>	
Kalapodi 2014–2016: Investigating the surroundings, limits and infrastructure of the sanctuary.....	397
<i>Katja Sporn</i>	
Ritual burials of temples and ritual depositions accompanying building activities in the oracle sanctuary of Apollon at Abai/ Kalapodi.....	409
<i>Wolf-Dietrich Niemeier</i>	
The bronze finds from the Late Geometric ›South Temple 6‹ at Kalapodi	
Cult practices and local craft traditions in eastern Phocis.....	421
<i>Gudrun Klebinder-Gauß</i>	
The significance of the sanctuary of Kalapodi during the Archaic period based on the pottery finds.....	439
<i>Michaela Stark</i>	
A palette of bronze and silver: the monetary perspective of the archaeological site at Kalapodi.....	455
<i>Hristina Ivanova-Anaplioti</i>	
New iron finds from the 2016 campaign in Kalapodi – Contexts and compositions.....	469
<i>Sandra Zipprich</i>	

A bronze foundry of Classical times in the sanctuary at Kalapodi	479
<i>Johanna Fuchs</i>	

Pagan twilight at Kalapodi: Two pottery assemblages of the third and fourth centuries A.D.	491
<i>Dimitris Grigoropoulos</i>	

Vorwort

As a region in the heart of ancient Greece, Phokis was of central importance for transport and travel. Politically and culturally, it was thus often exposed to the interests and influences of neighbouring powers. The Phokian landscape is also diverse: from the bay of Antikyra on the Corinthian Gulf to the mighty massifs of Parnassos and Helikon, from the barren hills to the fertile river plain of Kephissos.

A considerable number of mostly small *poleis* shaped the political landscape. In Delphi and Abai (Kalapodi), two oracles exercised an early impact far beyond the borders of the country. This integrated Phokis into the supra-regional networks of communication, trade, politics, and cultural exchange. Under the pressure of more powerful neighbours, the Phokians came together in a *koinon* early on, already in the Archaic period. The ›Third Holy War‹ fought in and around Phokis around the middle of the 4th century B.C. ultimately led to the establishment of Macedon as a new hegemonic power, thus setting the course for a new epoch in Greek history. The *koinon* of the Phokian poleis remained influential in the political and social development of the countryside, albeit in a changed form and significance until well into the Imperial Period.

The tenth book of Pausanias gives a rich impression of the urban diversity, as well as the wealth of religious, mythological, and cultural traditions of Phokis. In the archaeologically tangible evidence on

the ground, the image of Phokis today is dominated by numerous well-preserved, impressive fortifications set mainly on prominent hillsides. In contrast, residential buildings, public architecture and sanctuaries as well as necropoleis in the cities are only partially known. The systematic excavations in Delphi and Kalapodi, however, have provided rich and uniquely detailed insights into the history and material culture of these important sanctuaries.

A substantial amount of recent fieldwork is contributing significantly to expanding our picture of ancient Phokis. This volume of the International Conference held in Athens in 2017, jointly organised by the German Archaeological Institute and the École Française d'Athènes, brings together for the first time a cross-section of this current research: from the Iron Age to the Early Byzantine period. It tackles topics covering historical matters to settlement archaeology, sacred topography, material culture, and the architectural design of the sanctuaries; analyses of individual matters and broad material genres, and enquiries into aspects of a particular ›Phokian‹ identity. Thus, for the first time, a broad overview of the previous research tradition, desiderata, and new perspectives for future research into ancient Phokis is provided.

Athen

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