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Hermeneumata Celtic 20

ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR PAPYROLOGIE UND EPIGRAPHIK

begründet von

Reinhold Merkelbach (†) und Ludwig Koenen

cit. Herm. Celt. en

herausgegeben von

Werner Eck, Helmut Engelmann, Dieter Hagedorn, Jürgen Hammerstaedt, Andrea Jördens, Rudolf Kassel Ludwig Koenen, Wolfgang Dieter Lebek, Klaus Maresch, Georg Petzl und Cornelia Römer



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- + Dionisotti, A.C., JRS 92, 1982, p. 97 (autes Gloss. D., ya despojado)
- + PHamauer 62
- + PParamone 5
- + Gathi, P., ALMA 64, 2006, p. 105



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DR. RUDOLF HABELT GMBH · BONN



New Evidence on the Meaning of $P\Omega MAI\Sigma TH\Sigma$ in IG XI.2 133: 'Actor of Latin Comedies'?

Only two instances of ὑωμαιστής 'actor of Latin comedies' are registered in LSJ and its latest *Supplement*. Both are in inscriptions, and in fact from very different periods and locations, since the first is from Delos (*IG* XI.2 133, II cent. BC), and the second from Philae (326 = SEG 31.1535, I cent. AD). The first to suggest the meaning 'actor speaking in Latin' was A. Wilhelm,¹ and indeed the context in which the Delos inscription was found, a list of artists who offered free performances in honour of Apollo, made the suggestion attractive to later scholars, including Durrbach, the *IG* editor, who took the word to indicate a 'histrio qui sermone Latino scurrilitates pronuntiat'.² More recently, L. Robert drew attention to two further occurrences of the word, at Delos again, 2618 d 8, and in a Cretan coin legend.³ Robert suggested however that the word must mean simply 'mime', and that the meaning came from an association of the ethnic 'Roman' with the typically Southern Italian extempore shows.

It has so far escaped notice that the word occurs, alongside several other little known or unparalleled performers' denominations, in the bilingual Latin-Greek glossary in Vienna also known as Hermeneumata Celtis, ÖNB, Supplementum Graecum 43, studied in detail by A. C. Dionisotti, in JRS 1982, but so far unpublished except for the Colloquium at ff. 12–18. The MS contains a very considerable part of an ancient book of Hermeneumata, used for teaching Latin and Greek to non-native speakers of either language, and the glossary section, organized by subjects, is full of interesting linguistic novelties. The MS folium containing ὁωμαιστής, 21r, was by chance reproduced as plate XLII in J. Bick, Die Schreiber der Wiener griechischen Handschriften (Wien, 1920). The word comes up in titulus nonus, περὶ θεωριών, 'on shows'. I have attached below the text of the significant extract, including items immediately before and after ὁωμαιστής. Individual entries are numbered from the beginning of the chapter or titulus, as previous editors of parts of this glossary have done. Spirits and accents have been added, and I have silently introduced minor, mostly orthographical corrections (the Greek spelling is heavily itacistic), without providing an apparatus, since the function of the extract is only to provide evidence in support of my argument.

- 23 plausus πρότος
- 24 pilarius cφαιριστής
- 25 prestigiator ψηφοπαίκτης
- 26 petauristarius φοιζοπαίκτης
- 27 φωμαιετής Ιεχυροπαίκτης
- 28 mirificus | saltator θαυματοποιός | ὀοχηςτής⁵
- ¹ Nachlese zu griechischen Inschriften, Jahreshefte des Österreichischen Archäologischen Instituts in Wien 3 (1900), 40-61, esp. 49-50.
 - ² See also G. M. Sifakis, Studies in the History of Hellenistic Drama (London, 1967), 20.
 - ³ Bulletin Epigraphique 1983, n. 475, pp. 182-4, with references.
- ⁴ For an edition of the Colloquium and detailed information about what is known of the discovery of the MS by the German Humanist Conrad Celtis see A. C. Dionisotti, From Ausonius' schooldays? A school-book and its relatives, JRS 72 (1982), 83–125. Partial editions of the glossary are: J. Kramer, Die Ämterliste aus dem Wiener Celtis-Glossar, in B. Palme (ed.), Wiener Papyri, als Festgabe zum 60. Geburtstag von Hermann Harrauer (Wien, 2001), 249–65; J. Kramer, Lateinisch-Griechisches Glossar: Celtis' Abschrift aus einem Papyruskodex, in J. M. S. Cowey and B. Kramer (eds.), Paramone. Editionen und Aufsätze von Mitgliedern des Heidelberger Instituts fur Papyrologie zwischen 1982 und 2004 (Leipzig, 2004), 43–62; P. Gatti, Nomi di pesci negli Hermeneumata Celtis, ALMA 64 (2006), 105–21.
- ⁵ Celtis inserted two vertical bars as if to mark a break between the first and the second term in each half of the column. Two equally plausible interpretations come to mind: 1) all words were part of the same line in the *exemplar*, but Celtis after copying realized that the words of each couple were in fact separate entries; 2) Celtis wrote on the same line terms which were separate entries in the *exemplar*, and realized his mistake only later.

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a. 1495: Palat. suppl. Gr. 43.

29 pantomimus⁶ ἐμφανιστής,⁷ ὀοχηστής 30 ludiones σατυρισταί

It is unfortunate that only for the rare οωμαιστής (written in fact with a Latin script initial: "Rωμαιστης") no Latin translation has been provided. I believe in fact that the reason for this is not that there was no Latin term available, or that it was lost in the course of the transmission, but that all three Greek glosses at 26–7 are meant to be definitions of *petauristarius* ('artist performing from a trapeze', or 'diver'). This kind of lay-out, in which the Greek takes over the Latin half-column, is in fact relatively frequent in this glossary. As can be seen from the list of examples provided below, this lay-out was also in Celtis' own *exemplar*, and it is mainly associated with cases in which too many Greek translations were provided for a single Latin entry and there was not enough space in the Greek half-column. The Greek terms need not always be synonyms, as sometimes different subsenses of the Latin are clearly taken into account. (The vertical bars mark line-breaks in the MS.)

(30r) tit. 14.11-2 inaurator χουςογοάφος έγχους ώτης, 8 χους οχόος

(30v) tit. 14.33-4 lapidarius λατόμος Ιλάτυπος, λιθουργός

(31r) tit. 15.44-5 pontifex ίερομνήμων Ι ἀρχιερεύς, πρύτανις

(33r) tit. 18.173-49 <h>arena ἀμφιθέατουν Γαμφίκαμπτος, 10 ἄμμος tit. 18.269-70 deuersorium πανδοκεύς 11 πανδοκείον, καταγώγιον

(34r) tit. 18.375–6 tractus 12 κλίμα | ἔλκυςμα †διωκητις tit. 20.19–20 g<r>allator κωλοβαθοίας 13 | Ιςχυροπαίκτης, θαυματοποιός

(36v) tit. 27.38-9 acetaria όξυβάφια Ιόξηρά, όξυγαριστάρια

(37v) tit. 31.43-4 uestis ἔνδυμα Ι ἔςθηςις, ἱματιςμός

There are also, however, cases in which the Latin has simply gone missing, 14 so perhaps the safest course would be to suggest that ὑωμαιστής and ἰσχυροπαίκτης ("one who performs feats of strength for entertainment", LSJ Suppl.) are the two equivalent terms, leaving petauristarius out of consideration. However, petauristarius occurs again at tit. 14.76 = ἰσχυροπαίκτης, whereas ἰσχυροπαίκτης turns up as a gloss for contopecta at 9.57 and 14.81, itself a word unknown to TLL, but clearly a calque of κοντοπαίκτης (LSJ 'actor who balanced a pole on his head'), 15 and at 20.19–20 for grallator, 'one who walks on stilts'. 16

⁶ παντομιπιαs MS. I take this as a possible clue that the exemplar was in a kind of majuscule or uncial script, also on the Latin side, thus likely to be mistaken for Greek sometimes.

⁷ Apparently not an appropriate translation (LSJ 'informer').

⁸ In LSJ only γρυσωτής for 'gilder'; ἐγχρυσόω 'to gild' is in Tzetzes.

⁹ In fact, all items numbered 18 in this list must have belonged in origin to *titulus decimus nonus* which was missing in Celtis' exemplar, but this is not the place to discuss the original pagination of the MS.

¹⁰ Not in LSJ, TLG, LBG (= Lexikon der Byzantinischen Gräzität). The accent is conjectural.

¹¹ Only 'innkeeper' in LSJ.

¹² The two Greek terms suggest that in fact two different lexical Latin entries are here being explained, i. e. tractus meaning 'slope, inclination' (the titulus includes words for urban locations: streets, alleys, squares and so on), and tractum 'spun wool'. I have found up to now no satisfactory explanation for the third term. Perhaps διέλκωσις, only in Theophilus Protospatharius, De excrementis, 11.2 (9th cent.), meaning 'ulcerating process'. Of other possible emendations, *διόλκη(cιc), *διέλκυσις are reconcilable with the MS evidence but are not attested.

 $^{^{13}}$ Only κωλοβαθριστής in TLG, LSI, for 'one who goes on stilts'.

¹⁴ As at 14.18-9 argentarius αργυροκόπος | χαλκοποιός, χαλκεύς, χαλκουργός, where clearly aerarius is missing.

¹⁵ μοντοπαίκτης = perticarius at 9.40, also unknown to TLL with this meaning.

¹⁶ To add to the problems, the first interpretamentum offered by the glossary for petauristarius, ὁοιζοπαίκτης, is also unparalleled so far in Greek lexica. Since ὁοίζος is a word describing a whizzing sound or motion, and ὁοιζεῖν can mean 'to rush, swing' (LSI, s.v. II), ὁοιζοπαίκτης might be imagined to describe, somewhat hyperbolically, the performance of an acrobat 'who shoots through the air', or 'swings' on a trapeze.

Although the exact nature of the acrobatics of ἰςχυροπαῖκται remains undecidable, it is clear that ὑωμαιστής was understood by the compilers of this glossary to be an athlete, rather than an actor. In view of the etymology of ἰςχυροπαίκτης, ὑώμη 'force' seems to have been the linking element, though no other derivatives of ὑώμη are known except ὑωμαλέος: the process of word-formation may have been influenced by παλαιστής 'wrestler', from πάλη 'wrestle, fight'. But the "actor of Latin comedies" solution seems no longer tenable. 17

Pisa

Rolando Ferri

Rolando Ferri Dipartimento di Filologia Classica Via Galvani 1 56125 Pisa Italia r.ferri@flcl.unipi.it

Brugusti Buonocutre: Reservas: GIF 55 (2003) 160-161; RCCH 46 (2004)

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AC 75 (2006) 403-405 Rochette; Scriptorium 61 (2007) 58x-59*

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¹⁷ I must thank Pierpaolo Campana for encouraging me to follow up the connection with ὑώμη 'force' rather than the 'Latin speaking' interpretation.