



# Aristophanes and Athens: An Introduction to the Plays

*By Douglas M. MacDowell*

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Aristophanes' comedies are famous for their comic characters and earthy humor. But they are also highly topical, with many contemporary political allusions easily missed today. This book provides students with a long needed accessible and essential introductory guide to the plays, focusing particularly on information about the Athens of the day.

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"A thorough sampling of the plays of Aristophanes with extensive commentary. A good anthology for beginning students."--Jack D. Ferguson, Professor of History, *Boise State University*

"There is much of value contained herin, especially from the point of view of the collection of issues....if one requires a single introduction to all the surviving plays of Aristophanes...this is as good as any, and better than most."--*Bryn Mawr Review*

"[MacDowell] offers a judicious summary of much current scholarship, even when he courteously disagrees with some arguments. Useful for college and university libraries and also for courses that deal with Athenian religious beliefs."--*Religious Studies Review*

#### About the Author

Douglas M. MacDowell is at University of Glasgow.

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