

As the first extensive survey of the ancient Greek painters' practice of writing nonsense on vases, *The So-called Nonsense Inscriptions on Ancient Greek Vases* by Sara Chiarini provides a systematic overview of the linguistic features of the phenomenon and discusses its forms and contexts of reception.

While the origins of the practice lie in the impaired literacy of the painters involved in it, the extent of the phenomenon suggests that, at some point, it became a true fashion within Attic vase painting. This raises the question of the forms of interaction with this epigraphic material. An open approach is adopted: "reading" attempts, riddles and puns inspired by nonsense inscriptions could happen in a variety of circumstances, including the symposium but not limited to it.

This book is the winner of the 2018 Géza Alföldy publication prize awarded by the AIEGL (Association Internationale d'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine).

SARA CHIARINI, Ph.D. (2011), Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan), is currently lecturer at the Otto-von-Guericke Universität in Magdeburg (Germany). She works chiefly on the linguistic and socio-cultural features of ancient epigraphic sources.

The So-called Nonsense Inscriptions
on Ancient Greek Vases

Sara Chiarini

The So-called Nonsense Inscriptions on Ancient Greek Vases

Between Paideia and Paidia

Sara Chiarini



ISBN 978-90-04-37118-7

ISSN 1876-2557

brill.com/bsgre

BRILL

BRILL

BRILL