

## INTRODUCTION

The undersigned are happy to present Lionel Bier's manuscript on the Ephesian Bouleuterion in the series "Forschungen in Ephesos". Before his terminal illness in 2004, Lionel Bier had finished most of the chapters of the manuscript, only the conclusion and a chapter on the architectural decoration of the building were lacking. The editors also had a draft of Lionel Bier's paper on the Bouleuterion (presented in Vienna, 2002) at their disposal. Instead of the conclusion, a summary is presented in this volume. Ursula Quatember wrote the chapter on architectural decoration, while chapters on inscriptions and sculptures found in the Bouleuterion were added by Hans Taeuber, Maria Aurenhammer and Thorsten Oppen.

Maria Aurenhammer, Ursula Quatember and Hilke Thür edited L. Bier's original manuscript, adding footnotes and references to recent scholarly literature. A few new passages were added to the text by H. Thür and U. Quatember, for example the paragraphs on the conversion of the *scaenae frons* from phase 1 to phase 2 (chapter 3.3) and on the windows (chapter 4.9). The editors checked L. Bier's drawings and photographs and compiled the illustrations. H. Thür and U. Quatember provided additional photographs. H. Thür's assistance was especially helpful as she had often discussed the project's progress with L. Bier on the site. Sarah Cormack corrected the English text, including L. Bier's manuscript as well as the other contributions to the volume. Jim Coulton, one of the reviewers, read the manuscript of the volume carefully and provided many suggestions for improvement.

Andrew Leung completed the architectural documentation. Georg Otepka provided a photogrammetric survey of the west and east end of the *parodoi*. Nicolas Gail photographed the portrait of the girl in the Archaeological Museum in Istanbul. Photographs of the sculptures and inscriptions housed in the British Museum are published here by kind permission of the Trustees of the British Museum. The 21<sup>st</sup> Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities in Greece (headed by Maria Marthari) permitted the publication of the statue of a Muse in the Archaeological Museum in Syros. Georg Ladstätter, director of the Austrian Archaeological Institute in Athens, applied for the permission and organised a trip to the island where Valentin v. Eickstedt photographed the statue. Christa Schauer (Austrian Archaeological Institute, Athens) also provided assistance in the matter of the Muse.

Completed four years after the author's death, this volume is a lasting monument to the memory of a man for whom research played a leading role in his life. In the last years of his life, L. Bier spent his entire summers in Turkey, documenting the Bouleuteria of Ephesos and Aphrodisias. In winter, he devoted his spare time to writing the text. L. Bier loved "his" buildings and knew all aspects of them by heart. He was happiest when he was outside in the field, surveying, documenting and drawing, and at the end of the day he proudly presented his results. For all contributors to this volume, editing and participating in L. Bier's publication represents a last act of friendship for a colleague and friend we shall never forget.

Based on notes by the author, a list of acknowledgments can be added here. Firstly, L. Bier wanted to thank the former excavation directors, Stefan Karwiese, for inviting him to the site, and Friedrich Krinzinger, for his continuing support. Secondly, he wanted to extend his thanks to the directors and the assistants of the Efes Müzesi, Selçuk, for facilitating his work, and the director and staff of the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities in the British Museum, for the opportunity to study in the depots and archives of the museum. Isabella Benda-Weber, Ronald Risy and Gudrun Wlach assisted the author in his studies in the archives of the Austrian Archaeological Institute in Vienna. Among his friends and colleagues in Vienna, L. Bier singled out Hilke Thür as the person to whom he owed the greatest debt. He also wanted to thank Peter Scherrer, for clarifying contributions on Ephesian history, Hans Taeuber, with whom he worked on the inscriptions, and Maria Aurenhammer as well as Ursula Quatember. Finally, L. Bier wanted to thank R. R. R. Smith and Christopher Ratté, current and former directors of the Aphrodisias excavation, the site of "his" other Bouleuterion.

The editors themselves would like to thank Johannes Koder, former director of the Ephesos excavations and interim director of the Austrian Archaeological Institute, and Sabine Ladstätter, current director of the Ephesos excavations and the Austrian Archaeological Institute, for supporting the publication of the volume. They want

to extend their thanks to the directors and the assistants of the museums in Selçuk, Istanbul and London who made their research possible. Moreover, they want to thank Christian Kurtze for the completion of survey data, Anita Giuliani and Christine Rogl for information on small finds found in the Bouleuterion, Laura Rembart on the dating of the so-called Serapeion, and Johanna Auinger, Elisabeth Rathmayr and Alexander Sokolicek for fruitful discussions on parts of the evidence.

The manuscript was presented to the Austrian Academy of Sciences in summer 2008. Subsequent publications could only be incorporated occasionally.

*Maria Aurenhammer, Ursula Quatember, Hilke Thür*