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The East Face of Helicon : West Asiatic Elements in Greek Poetry and Myth. Ever since Neolithic times Greek lands lay open to cultural imports from western Asia: agriculture, metal-working, writing, religious institutions, artistic fashions, musical instruments, and much more.

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The East Face of Helicon: West Asiatic Elements in Greek ...
nation of the East has enthralled him (and us too). The East Face of Helicon is a monument of empiricism which, like a great commentary, defies review. I shall present some samples later, but what is one to do with a Helikon of parallels between East and West, some valid, some possi-ble, some conceivable, a few maybe quietly to be disposed of?

NOTICES OF BOOKS
These influences are detailed by Martin Litchfield West in The East Face of Helicon: West Asiatic Elements in Greek Poetry and Myth. According to Tzvi Abusch of Brandeis University, the poem "combines the power and tragedy of the Iliad with the wanderings and marvels of the Odyssey. It is a work of adventure, but is no less a meditation on some fundamental issues of human existence."

Epic of Gilgamesh - Wikipedia
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The East Face of Helicon: West Asiatic Elements in Greek ...
From the mid-sixties, West took especial interest in the relation of Greek literature to the Orient, and over several decades, culminating in his masterpiece The East Face of Helicon (1997), defended his view that Greek literature derives significant influences and inspiration from Near Eastern literature.

The East Face of Helicon: West Asiatic Elements in Greek ...
Over the last sixty years scholars have increasingly become aware of links connecting early Greek poetry with the literatures of the ancient Near East. Martin West's new book far surpasses previous studies in comprehensiveness, demonstrating these links with massive and detailed documentation and showing they are much more fundamental and pervasive than has hitherto been acknowledged. - ;Ever since Neolithic times Greek lands lay open to cultural imports from western Asia: agriculture, metal-working, writing, religious institutions, artistic fashions, musical instruments, and much more. Over the last sixty years scholars have increasingly become aware of links connecting early Greek poetry with the literatures of Mesopotamia, Anatolia, Canaan, and Israel. Martin West's new book far surpasses previous studies in comprehensiveness, demonstrating these links with massive and detailed documentation and showing that they are much more fundamental and pervasive than has hitherto been acknowledged. His survey embraces Hesiod, the Homeric epics, the lyric poets, and Aeschylus, and concludes with an illuminating discussion of possible avenues of transmission between the orient and Greece. He believes that an age has dawned in which Hellenists will no more be able to ignore Near Eastern literature than Latinists can ignore Greek. -

The East Face of Helicon: West Asiatic Elements in Greek ...
"The book deserves a warm welcome. Steady work has gone into the writing of it, and M. L. West's ability to detect analogies and to make comparisons has again been deployed to good effect G.L. Huxley, Hermathena ...the ideal guide in a complex field of learning. International Review of Biblical Studies Martin West has written the definitive book on Indo-European language and religion...[the]...world of words is beautifully laid out for us in this important book London Review of Books This volume...is written with the grace, style and wit that we have come to expect...the picture that emerges is detailed and consistent...the results are fascinating... West has done a great service in providing an accurate and up-to-date account. Richard Janko, TLS It is a book for repeated consultation rather than a quick read through...a landmark publication in an area of study whose importance is likely to grow - not only for classics but also for the humanities more generally. N. J. Allen, Bryn Mawr Classical Review a virtual compendium of the most relevant material distilled by one of the finest minds to venture into this field J. S. Sheldon", Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society.

Greek Metre
'The Making of the Odyssey' is a penetrating study of the background, composition, and artistry of the Homeric Odyssey, which places the poem in its late seventh-century context in relation to the 'Iliad' and other poetry of the time.

Ancient Greece with musical allusions. For most readers the subject has remained a closed book. Here at last is a clear, comprehensive, and authoritative account that presupposes no special knowledge of music. Topics covered include the place of music in Greek life; instruments; rhythm; tempo; modes and scales; melodic construction; form; ancient theory and notation; and historical development. Thirty surviving examples of Greek music are presented in modern transcription with analysis, and the book is fully illustrated. Besides being considered on its own terms, Greek music is here further illuminated by being seen in ethnological perspective, and a brief Epilogue sets it in its place in a border zone between Afro-Asiatic and European culture. The book will be of value both to classicists and historians of music. - ;The only available study in English of Ancient Greek music -

An updated English edition of Pohlmann's standard reference work on the surviving remains of Greek music which was first published in German in 1970. The original number of fragments, all of which have been revised and consequently reinterpreted, has been expanded to 61 and includes pieces that date from the Classical through to the Roman period.

A new translation of the foundation texts of the Zoroastrian religion, the Gathas (songs) composed by Zoraster himself, together with the Liturgy in seven chapters composed shortly after his death some 2600 years ago. After a substantial introduction to Zoroaster's religious thought, West presents the translations with facing page explanations of the meaning of each verse.

Professor Roger Woodard brings together a group of the world's most authoritative scholars of classical myth to present a thorough treatment of all aspects of Greek mythology. Sixteen original articles guide the reader through all aspects of the ancient mythic tradition and its influence around the world and in later years. The articles examine the forms and uses of myth in Greek oral and written literature, from the epic poetry of 8th century BC to the mythographic catalogues of the early centuries AD. They examine the relationship between myth, art, religion and politics among the ancient Greeks and its reception and influence on later society from the Middle Ages to present day literature, feminism and cinema. This Companion volume's comprehensive coverage makes it ideal reading for students of Greek mythology and for anyone interested in the myths of the ancient Greeks and their impact on western tradition.

The Greek lyric, elegiac, and iambic poets of the two centuries from 650 to 450 BC - Archilochus and Alecan, Sappho and Mimnermus, Anacreon, Simonides, and the rest - produced some of the finest poetry of antiquity, perfect in form, spontaneous in expression, reflecting all the joys and anxieties of their personal lives and of the societies in which they lived. This new poetic translation by a leading expert captures the nuances of meaning and the whole spirit of this poetry as never before. It is not merely a selection but covers all the surviving poems and intelligible fragments, apart from the work of Pindar and Bacchylides, and includes a number of pieces not previously translated. The Introduction gives a brief account of the poets, and explanatory Notes on the texts will be found at the end.

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