Acknowledgments

This book is the revised version of my Habilitationsschrift, which was accepted by the faculty of the humanities at Augsburg University, Germany, in the fall of 2008. First, my thanks go to Gregor Weber, head of the committee, who was the greatest supporter of this project from its beginning. His boundless willingness to engage in fruitful discussions and his unstinting help in academia and beyond will always be remembered. I also thank Anton Bierl, Martin Dreher, and Marion Lausberg for serving on the committee and making many suggestions for improvement. Anton Bierl’s unflagging belief in my ideas, and his excellent advice and encouragement, as well as his kind invitation to publish this book in his new series, deserve my sincere gratitude.

Since the book has been long in the making, I am grateful to the audiences who listened to my ideas at various stages of the project and provided valuable feedback, at Emory University, the University of Florida at Gainesville, and Penn State at University Park, as well as at Augsburg, Basel, Berlin (Humboldt University), Bielefeld, Bonn, Freiburg, Heidelberg, Jena, Munich, Trier, and Wuppertal. I was also given the chance to present my findings at the annual meeting of the Association of Ancient Historians held at Princeton University (2007); at the international conference “Ritual Dynamics and the Science of Ritual,” organized by the Heidelberg Collaborative Research Center “Ritual Dynamics” (2008); at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South in Minneapolis (2009); and on the occasion of the international conference “The Archaeology of Violence: An Integrated Approach to the Study of Violence and Conflict,” organized by the Institute for European and Mediterranean Archaeology at the State University of New York at Buffalo (2009). I would like to thank all hosts and organizers for their kind invitations. The comments I received greatly helped me refine my thinking.

This book could not have been written without the support of many individuals and various institutions. The foundations of this study were laid during a Feodor Lynen Research Fellowship of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation that allowed me to teach and do research under congenial circumstances at Emory University (2002/3). I am grate-
ful to Thomas S. Burns and Niall W. Slater for their invitation and kindness during that year and beyond. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill granted me two one-semester research leaves, which were instrumental in continuing and finishing my studies. I feel indebted to the directors of the Kommission für Alte Geschichte und Epigraphik at Munich, Christof Schuler and Rudolf Haensch, for their kind hospitality to stay and work for a couple of days at this splendid institution in the summer of 2006. I would also like to express my thanks to Carolyn L. and Walter R. Connor, Fritz Graf, Jon E. Lendon, Elizabeth A. Meyer, and Kurt A. Raaflaub for their never-ending willingness to support me over the years. Further thanks are due to Felix Lukas, Günter Hägele, and their library staff at Augsburg University, for providing me with outstanding working conditions during the summers. Most of all, I am eager to thank the Harvard Center for Hellenic Studies at Washington, DC, its Senior Fellows, library staff, and especially Greg Nagy and Douglas Frame, for granting me the great privilege to work uninterruptedly for a whole academic year under most favorable circumstances (2007/8). In the serene atmosphere up on Whitehaven Street I could finally write the larger portion of this book.

I owe a great debt of gratitude to all those friends and colleagues who generously gave their time to read chapters of the manuscript, which benefited enormously from their wisdom and insightful criticism. I mention with warm gratitude Radcliffe G. Edmonds III, Michael Gagarin, Phillip S. Horky, Sharon L. James, David Konstan, John Marincola, S. Douglas Olson, Zinon Papakonstantinou, Kurt A. Raaflaub, as well as the anonymous referees for the press whose comments helped me improve the book. I owe particular thanks to David D. Phillips, who read the chapter on the curse tablets and the section on the forensic speeches, and from whom I learned a great deal about Athenian law, as well as to Anton Bierl and Peter von Möllendorff, who never got tired of reading and discussing matters of comedy with me. Above all, I must single out William H. Race, dear colleague and mentor, master of the English tongue, who read the whole manuscript twice with his sharp eye for detail and precision. I cannot appreciate enough his endless patience in discussing matters of substance and style with me.

If the final product does not betray the non-native speaker of English on every page, it is thanks to David P. C. Carlisle, who edited my English at an early stage of the draft, and to Amanda G. Mathis’ meticulous copy-editing, for which I owe her heartfelt thanks. Further thanks go to Hannah L. Rich and Patrick J. Dombrowski for checking many references,
and to Sebastian Bündgens, Matthias Dewald, and Patrick Weixelmann for help with the indices. For any remaining mistakes, flaws, and inaccuracies I take full responsibility.

Finally, Sabine Vogt, Katrin Hofmann, Katharina Legutke, and Jens Lindenhain made the publishing venture with Walter de Gruyter a most pleasant experience. I thank them for so circumspect and fast a printing process. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill granted sizeable printing subsidies, for which I am very grateful.

Words cannot express what kind of loving support and unstinting help I have been fortunate to receive over the years from my wife Claudia and my family. Their endless patience and encouragement have guided me all along. Last but not least, Philipp’s good humor has always cheered me up. To them I dedicate this book.

Note to the reader

Monographs could be considered selectively through 2010. Anyone working on classical Athens knows that it is impossible to take into consideration all pertinent secondary literature, but I hope I consulted the works of major relevance for my topic. If I have failed to reach the depth of specialization in every corner of the respective fields I am treating here, and if some seemingly far-flung results offend the eyes of the specialist because of my endeavor to synthesize and take a broad look at things beyond highly specialized disciplinary compartments, I ask for indulgence and hope that the project of shedding light on domains usually treated separately has remained a worthwhile endeavor.

Apart from Athenian political and legal institutions, Greek names are Latinized unless the Greek form is common in English (so Kerameikos, not Ceramicus). Greek words are transliterated with vowel lengths marked, unless the words are common in English. Adjectives derived from Greek words are anglicized, so komastic, not kōmastic, etc.
All translations from the orators are taken from the new translations in the Oratory of Classical Greece series by the University of Texas Press, or, where not available yet, from the Loeb editions. Translations of other literary texts are mainly taken from the Loeb series. Where I felt slight changes should be made, I have indicated them as such. Translations of curse tablets are taken from Gager, or the respective editions, or are my own.

Hamburg, September 2011