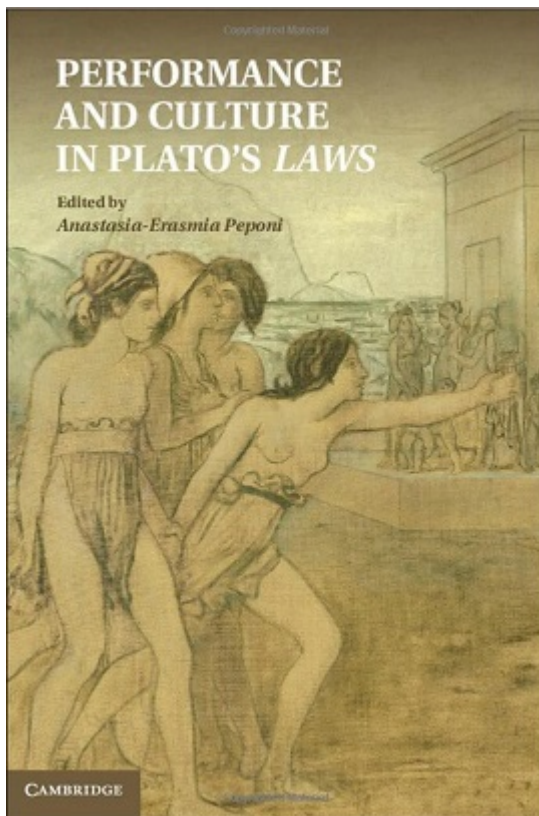


# Broken Rhythms in Plato's Laws

Materialising Social Time in the Chorus

mercredi 21 décembre 2016, par [Barbara Kowalzig](#)



B. Kowalzig, « Broken Rhythms in Plato's *Laws*. Materialising Social Time in the Chorus » in A.-E. Peponi (ed.), *Performance and Culture in Plato's Laws*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2013.

Le texte de Barbara Kowalzig est en partie accessible en ligne [ici](#).

Ever since 1951, Plato has been cited as the inventor of the modern notion of 'rhythm', the orderly sequence of regular temporal intervals in bodily movement. The French linguist Emile Benveniste came to this conclusion on the basis of a sweeping study of the word and its meanings in early Greek thought.<sup>5</sup> I argue here that we can go much further than Benveniste and uncover an 'anthropology of rhythm' in the *Laws* that is central to the treatise's wider projects, or at least one of them: that project is to achieve a full integration of individual and collective as a basis for stability in the city-state and, more intriguingly, as a bastion against civic and social change.