I began thinking about some of the ideas in this book twenty years ago, when I was asked by the Great Lakes Theater Festival in Cleveland to participate in an educational outreach program for their 1995 production of Euripides’s *Bacchae*. That project put me in touch with Bill Rudman, then the educational coordinator for GLTF, and Gerald Freedman, the director of the production. I owe them both a great debt of gratitude, for allowing me to see how a professional theater company approaches the task of bringing a work of Classical drama to the stage. The time I spent talking to each man about this process sparked an interest in issues of performance that has informed my teaching and writing about Greek drama ever since.

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