

Seth L. Schein
Emeritus Professor of Comparative Literature
University of California, Davis
slschein@ucdavis.edu

EDUCATION

1967 Ph.D. Columbia University (Greek and Latin Languages and Literatures)
1964 M.A. University of California, Berkeley (Greek)
1963 A.B. Columbia College (English), *cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa
1965 American School of Classical Studies, Athens (Summer School Member)
1967-68 American School of Classical Studies, Athens (Associate Member)

EMPLOYMENT

2014 Visiting Professor of Classics, UC Berkeley (spring semester)
2012- Professor Emeritus of Comparative Literature, UC Davis,
1992-2012 Professor of Comparative Literature, UC Davis (Director,
 1992-95; Graduate Advisor, 1992-93, 1997-2001; Chair, Graduate Group in
 Comparative Literature, 2001-2004)
1995 Visiting Professor of Classics, UC Berkeley (fall semester)
1988-1992 Professor of Comparative Literature, Queens College, and of Comparative
 Literature and Classics, The Graduate School, City University of New York
 (Chair, Queens College, 1990-92)
1979-1988 Associate to Full Professor of Classical Literature, UC Santa Cruz
1973-1979 Assistant to Associate Professor of Classics, State University of New York,
 College at Purchase
1968-1973 Instructor to Assistant Professor of Greek and Latin, Columbia University

HONORS, AWARDS, ETC.

2017- Honorary Member, Thespis Society (Association for the Study of the Classical
 and Early Modern Theatre), Verona, Italy
2007-8 Visiting Scholar, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa
2006 University of California Humanities Research Institute Conference Grant:
 “Sophoclean Drama and its Continuing Cultural Impact”
2004-5 National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellowship
2004-5 Loeb Classical Library Foundation Fellowship
1983 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute on Women in
 Classical Antiquity (Participant)
1982-3 Visiting Member, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton
1979-80 National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellowship
1966-7 Woodrow Wilson Foundation Dissertation Fellowship
1965-6 President’s Fellowship, Columbia University
1964-5 Henry Drisler Fellowship in Greek and Latin, Columbia University

- 1963-4 Woodrow Wilson Foundation Fellowship
 1963 Mortimer Lamson Earle Prize in Classics, Columbia College

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- 2022 *Homer, Iliad: Book I*. Cambridge Greek and Latin Classics. (Cambridge University Press: Cambridge)
- 2016 *Homeric Epic and its Reception: Interpretive Essays* (Oxford University Press: Oxford)
- 2013 *Sophocles, Philoctetes*. Cambridge Greek and Latin Classics. (Cambridge University Press: Cambridge)
- 2003 *Sophokles' Philoktetes: Translation with Introduction, Notes, and Interpretive Essay*. Focus Classical Library (Focus Publishing/R. Pullins Company: Newburyport, Mass.)
- 1996 *Reading the Odyssey: Selected Interpretive Essays*. (Princeton University Press: Princeton); 2nd printing, 1997 [Edited]
- 1984 *The Mortal Hero: An Introduction to Homer's Iliad* (University of California Press: Berkeley, Los Angeles, London); 3rd printing, 1995; translation into Serbo-Croatian by Z. Dukat, *Smrtni Junak* (Globus Publishing Company: Zagreb, 1989); translation into Modern Greek by G. Philippou, *Ô Thnêtos Irôas* (University Studio Press, Thessaloniki: 2006)
- 1979 *The Iambic Trimeter in Aeschylus and Sophocles: A Study in Metrical Form*, Columbia Studies in the Classical Tradition, 6 (E.J. Brill: Leiden)

Articles and Book Chapters

- 2023 "Generic Expectations and the Interpretation of Attic Tragedy: Some Preliminary Questions and Cognitive Considerations," in *Minds on Stage: Greek Tragedy and Cognition*, ed. F. Budelmann and I. Sluiter (Oxford University Press: Oxford): 196-209
- 2023 "Commenting on Homer," in *Yearbook of Ancient Greek Epic* 6: 117-25
- 2020 "Formulaic Diction and Contextual Relevance: Notes on the Meaning of Formulaic Epithets in *Iliad* 1," in *Text and Intertext in Greek Epic and Drama: Essays in Honor of Margalit Finkelberg*, ed. J. Price and R. Zelnick-Abramovitz (Routledge: London and New York): 21-36
- 2019 "Fathers Cursing Children: Anger and Justice in Sophocles' *Oedipus at Colonus*

- and Shakespeare's *King Lear*," in *Sophocles' Oedipus at Colonus and Shakespeare's King Lear: Early Modern Intersections*, ed. S. Bigliazzi. Skenè Studies 1.2 (Verona): 247-64
- 2018 "The Second *Kommos* in Sophokles' *Philoctetes* (1081-1217)," in *Συναγωνίζεσθαι. Studies in Honour of Guido Avezzi*, ed. S. Bigliazzi, F. Lupi, G. Ugolini. Skenè Studies 1. 2 vols. (Verona): 1.277-98
- 2018 "Reading Homer in Dark Times: Rachel Besspaloff's *On the Iliad*," *Arion* 26.1 (Spring/Summer): 17-36
- 2018 "Tyranny and Fear in Aeschylus' *Oresteia* and Shakespeare's *Macbeth*," *Comparative Drama* 51: 85-102
- 2016 "The Language of Wisdom in Sophokles' *Philoctetes* and Euripides' *Bacchae*," in P. Kyriakou and A. Rengakos (eds.), *Wisdom and Folly in Euripides*. Trends in Classics, Supplementary Volume 31. (W. de Gruyter: Berlin and New York): 255-71
- 2016 "'War, What is it Good For?' in Homer's *Iliad* and Four Receptions," in V. Caston and S.-M. Weineck (eds.), *Our Ancient Wars: Rethinking War through the Classics* (University of Michigan Press: Ann Arbor): 211-28
- 2015 "The Interpretation of *Iliad* 1.1-2: Language, Meter, Style, and Myth," in *Gaia* 18: Πολυφόρβη Γαίη. *Mélanges de littérature et linguistique offerts à Francoise Létoublon*. Textes réunis par F. Dell'Oro et O. Lagacherie: 301-309
- 2014 "The Scene with the False Merchant in Sophocles' *Philoctetes*," *Dioniso: rivista di studi sul teatro antico*, N.S. 4 (2014): 65-81
- 2012 "Sophocles and Homer," in *A Companion to Sophocles*, ed. K. Ormand (Blackwell: Oxford): 424-39
- 2012 "Divine and Human in the Homeric *Hymn to Aphrodite*," in *Hymnes de la Grèce antique: Approches littéraires et historiques*, ed. R. Bouchon, P. Brillet-Dubois, N. Le Meur-Weissman, (Maison de l'Orient et de la Méditerranée: Lyon): 295-312
- 2011 "The Language of Hatred in Aeschylus and Sophocles," *Mètis* N.S. 9: 69-80
- 2011 "Language and Dramatic Action in the Prologue of Sophocles' *Philoctetes*," *Dioniso: rivista di studi sul teatro antico*, N.S. 1 (2011): 79-96
- 2011 Seven articles ("Achilles," "Hektor," "Lycaon," "Poulydamas," "Sarpedon," "Simoeisios," and "Troilus"), in *The Homer Encyclopedia*, ed. M. Finkelberg, 3 vols. (Blackwell: Oxford): I, 4-7; II, 332-34, 490-91, 689; III, 758-60, 803-804, 889

- 2009 "Narrative Technique in the *Parodos* of Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*," in *Narratology and Interpretation*, ed. J. Grethlein and A. Rengakos (Walter de Gruyter: Berlin and New York): 377-98
- 2009 "Greek Mythology in the Works of Thomas Bulfinch and Gustav Schwab," *The Classical Bulletin* 84: 71-78
- 2008 "Translating Aeschylean Choral Lyric: *Agamemnon* 367-474," in *Translation and the Classic*, ed. A. Lianeri and V. Zajko (Oxford University Press: Oxford): 387-406
- 2007 "*O Achilleas kai I Kideia tou Patroklou sti Rapsodia 23 tis Iliadas*" ("Achilles and the Funeral Games of Patroklos in Book 23 of the *Iliad*"), in *Athla kai Epathla sta Omêrika Epê (Contests and Rewards in the Homeric Epics): Proceedings of the 10th International Symposium on the Odyssey, Sept 15-19, 2004*, ed. M. Païzi-Apostolopoulou (Center for Odyssey Studies: Ithaca, Greece): 77-86 (in Greek)
- 2007 "'Our Debt to Greece and Rome': Canon, Class, and Ideology," in *A Companion to Classical Receptions*, ed. L. Hardwick and C. Stray (Blackwell: Oxford): 75-85
- 2007 "An American Homer for the Twentieth Century," in *Homer in the Twentieth Century: between World Literature and the Western Canon*, ed. B. Graziosi and E. Greenwood (Oxford University Press: Oxford): 268-85
- 2007 "Introduction" and "A Note on the Translation" in *Homer, The Iliad*, translated by W.H.D. Rouse (Signet, New American Library: New York): vii-xiv
- 2006 "The *Iliad* and *Odyssey* in Sophokles' *Philoktetes*: Generic Complexity and Ethical Ambiguity," in *Greek Drama III*, ed. J. Davidson, F. Muecke, and P. Wilson. *Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies*, Suppl. 87 (London): 129-40
- 2005 "Divine and Human in Sophokles' *Philoktetes*," in *The Soul of Tragedy: Essays on Athenian Drama*, ed. S. Oberhelmen and V. Pedrick (University of Chicago Press: Chicago): 26-46
- 2005 "Translating Greek Tragedy for the Classroom," The Open University Electronic Seminar Series: archived at http://www2.open.ac.uk/ClassicalStudies/GreekPlays/e_archive/2005/schein.htm
- 2002 "Mythological Allusion in the *Odyssey*," in *Omero: Tremila Anni Dopo*, ed. F. Montanari and P. Ascheri (Edizioni di Storia e Letteratura: Rome): 185-201
- 2002 "The Horses of Achilles in Book 17 of the *Iliad*," in *EPEA PTEROENTA: Beiträge zur Homerforschung. Festschrift für WOLFGANG KULLMANN zum 75. Geburtstag*, ed. M. Reichel and A. Rengakos (Franz Steiner Verlag: Stuttgart): 193-205

- 2002 "Odysseus and the Language of Violence in Sophokles' *Philoktetes*," *Studi italiani di filologia classica*, 3 Ser. 20: 45-49
- 2001 "Klassika grammata kai politistikes spoudes," in *NEKRA GRAMMATA; Oi Klassikes Spoudes ston 21o Aiona*, ed. A. Rengakos (EKDOSEIS PATAKI: Athens, Greece): 213-24 (in Greek).
- 2001 "Herakles and Odysseus' Bow: Mythological Allusion in the *Odyssey*," *ERANOS: Proceedings of the Ninth International Symposium on the Odyssey, 2-7 September 2000*, ed. M. Païzi-Apostolopoulou (Center for Odyssey Studies: Ithaca, Greece): 395-407
- 2001 "Herakles and the Ending of Sophokles' *Philoktetes*," *Studi italiani di filologia classica*, 3 Ser. 19 (2001): 38-52
- 1999 "Homeric Intertextuality: Two Examples," in *Euphrosyne: Studies in Ancient Epic and its Legacy in Honor of Demetrios N. Maronitis*, ed. J.N. Kazazis and A. Rengakos (F. Steiner Verlag: Stuttgart): 349-56
- 1999 "Cultural Studies and Classics: Contrasts and Opportunities," in *Contextualizing Classics: Ideology, Performance, Dialogue. Essays in Honor of John J. Peradotto*, ed. T. Falkner, N. Felson, and D. Konstan (Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, Boulder, New York, Oxford): 297-311
- 1998 "Verbal Adjectives in Sophocles: Necessity and Morality," *Classical Philology* 93 (1998): 293-307
- 1997 "Milman Parry and the Literary Interpretation of Homeric Poetry," in *Hommage à Milman Parry: Le Style formulaire de l'épopée homérique et la théorie de l'oralité poétique* ed. F. Létoublon (J. Gieben: Amsterdam): 275-81
- 1997 "Divinity and Moral Agency in Sophoclean Tragedy," in *What is a God? Studies in the Nature of Greek Divinity*, Ed. A.B. Lloyd (Duckworth: London): 123-38 [reprinted 2009]
- 1997 "The *Iliad*: Structure and Interpretation," in *A New Companion to Homer*, ed. I. Morris and B.B. Powell (E.J. Brill: Leiden): 345-59
- 1996 "Introduction," in *Reading the Odyssey: Selected Interpretive Essays*, ed. S.L. Schein (Princeton University Press: Princeton): 3-32
- 1995 "Female Representations and Interpreting the Odyssey," in *The Distaff Side: Representing the Female in Homer's Odyssey*, ed. B. Cohen (Oxford University Press: New York and Oxford): 17-27
- 1995 "I Odusseia kai o Iliadikos Iroismos" ("The *Odyssey* and Iliadic Heroism") in *EUCHEN ODUSSEI: Proceedings of the Seventh International Symposium on the Odyssey, Sept 3-*

- 8, 1993, ed. M. Païzi-Apostolopoulou, Ithaca, Greece (Center for Odyssey Studies: Ithaca, Greece, 1995): 89-98 (in Greek)
- 1994 "Cavafy and *Iliad* 24: A Modern Alexandrian Interprets Homer," in *Homer*, ed. K.C. King (Garland Publishing Co.: New York): 177-89
- 1991 "Narratology and Homeric Studies," *Poetics Today* 12: 577-90 [see Reviews]
- 1990 "Oi gunaikes stin *Iliada* kai stin *Odyseia*" ("Women in the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*"), in *O Omirikos Oikos (The Homeric House)*, ed. M. Païzi-Apostolopoulou (Center for Odyssey Studies: Ithaca, Greece): 93-103 [in Greek]
- 1990 "Philia in Euripides' *Medea*," in *Cabinet of the Muses: Essays in Classical and Comparative Literature in Honor of Thomas G. Rosenmeyer*, ed. M. Griffith and D.J. Mastronarde (Scholars Press; Atlanta): 57-73
- 1988 [1990] "Philia in Euripides' *Alcestis*," *Mètis* 3: 179-206
- 1988 "The Chorus in Sophokles' *Philoktetes*," *Studi italiani di filologia classica*, 3 Ser. 6: 196-204
- 1987 [1988] "Unity and Meaning in Pindar's Sixth Pythian Ode," *Mètis* 2: 235-47
- 1986 "*H philia stin Iliada kai stin Odyseia*" ("Kinship and Friendship in the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*"), in *Iliada kai Odyseia: Muthos kai Istoria*, ed. M. Païzi-Apostolopoulou (Center for Odyssean Studies: Ithaca, Greece): 129-40 (in Greek)
- 1986 "Gildersleeve and the Study of Attic Tragedy," in *Basil Lanneau Gildersleeve: An American Classicist*, ed. W.W. Briggs and H. Benario, *American Journal of Philology*, Suppl. Vol. 1 (The Johns Hopkins University Press: Baltimore and London): 50-55
- 1985 "*Sun artemeessi philoisin: Odyssey* 13.43," *Studi italiani di filologia classica* 3 Ser. 3: 27-28
- 1982 "The Cassandra-Scene in Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*," *Greece & Rome* 29: 11-16
- "Electra: A Sophoclean Problem Play," *Antike und Abendland* 28: 69-80
- 1980 "On Achilles' Speech to Odysseus, *Iliad* 9.308-429," *Eranos* 78: 125-31
- 1976 "The Death of Simoeisios: *Iliad* 4.473-489," *Eranos* 74: 1-5
- 1975 "Mythical Illusion and Historical Reality in Euripides' *Orestes*," *Wiener Studien* N.F. 9: 49-66
- 1974 "Alcibiades and the Politics of Misguided Love in Plato's *Symposium*," *Thêta-Pi* 3: 158-

1970 "Odysseus and Polyphemus in the *Odyssey*," *Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies* 11: 73-83

Book Reviews

20+ reviews, including:

Review of V. Wohl, *Euripides and the Politics of Form* (Princeton and Oxford, 2015), in *The Classical World* 110 (2016-17): 143-4

Review of M. Griffith and G.W. Most (eds.), *The Complete Greek Tragedies*, ed. D. Grene and R. Lattimore. 3rd edn. (Chicago and London, 2013), in *Classical Philology* 110 (2015): 376-80

Review of R.B. Rutherford, *Greek tragic style: form, language, and interpretation* (Cambridge 2012), in *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 133 (2013): 173-75

Review of E. Hall, *The Return of Ulysses: A Cultural History of Homer's Odyssey*. (Baltimore: 2008), in *New England Classical Journal* 36 (2009): 193-95

Review article, "Narratology and Homeric Studies," *Poetics Today* 12 (1991): 577-90 (on I.J.F. de Jong, *Narrators and Focalizers: The Presentation of the Story in the Iliad*; S. Richardson, *The Homeric Narrator*; J. Peradotto, *Man in the Middle Voice: Name and Narration in the Odyssey*)

Review of L. Braudy, *The Frenzy of Renown: Fame and its History* (New York and Oxford, 1986), in *Criticism* 30 (1988): 253-55

Review of G.S. Kirk, *The Iliad. A Commentary. Vol. 1, Books 1-4* (Cambridge, 1985), in *American Journal of Philology* 108 (1987): 532-34

Review of O. Mandel, *Philoctetes and the Fall of Troy* (Lincoln, 1981), in *Classical and Modern Literature* 3 (1983): 211-14

Review of S.C. Humphries, *Anthropology and the Greeks* (London, 1978), in *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 17 (1981): 533-34

Review of R. Carden, *The Papyrus Fragments of Sophocles* (Berlin and New York, 1974), in *The Classical World* 70 (1976-77): 190-91

Review of J.M. Redfield, *Nature and Culture in the Iliad: The Tragedy of Hector* (Chicago and London, 1975), *The Classical World* 70 (1976-77): 272-73

Review of W. Soyinka, *The Bacchae of Euripides: A Communal Rite* (New York, 1974), *The*

Classical World 70 (1976-77): 403

Review of C.H. Whitman, *Euripides and the Full Circle of Myth* (Cambridge, MA, 1974), *The Classical World* 69 (1975-76): 464-65

Review of H.A. Mason, *To Homer through Pope: An Introduction to Homer's Iliad and Pope's Translation* (New York, 1972), *American Classical Review* 3 (1973 [1976]): 19

Review of W.S. Wyatt, *Metrical Lengthening in Homer* (Rome, 1969), *The Classical World* 64 (1970-71): 86

IN PROGRESS

An edition with commentary of Book 4 of Homer's *Iliad*

A book-length memoir

"Freeze-framing Homeric epic: Michael Longley's Lyric Transformations of Homer's *Iliad*"

TEACHING INTERESTS

Greek and Roman literature, culture, and thought, especially Greek epic and tragedy; comparative epic and tragedy; classical receptions; translation (history, politics, theory, practice); history of literary theory; gender and interpretation; Shakespeare and the classical world

MISCELLANEOUS PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

- 2011-12 Member of Final Selection Panel, American Council of Learned Societies
Dissertation Completion Fellowships
- 2010 Co-organized (with Mary English) panel on "The Pedagogy of Homeric Poetry,"
for Annual Meeting of The American Philological Association, Jan. 2011
- 2009 Panelist, American Conservatory Theater, San Francisco, to discuss
Christopher Logue's *WAR MUSIC: An Account of Books 1-4 and 16-19*
of Homer's Iliad
- 2007 Instructor, NITLE Sunoikesis Summer Seminar on Homer's *Iliad*
- 2006-7 Member of Final Selection Panel, American Council of Learned Societies
Senior Research Fellowships
- 2006 Organized conference on "Sophoclean Drama and its Continuing Cultural
Impact" (UC Davis)
- 1998-2003 Member, Editorial Committee, University of California Press
- 1998 Organized conference on "The *Odyssey* and its Continuing Cultural
Impact" (UC Davis)
- 1997 Invited Participant, "The Future of the Past: Classics in the Twenty-first
Century," University of California Humanities Research Institute

- 1994 Invited Participant, “Classics as a Discipline in the University of California,” at University of California Humanities Research Institute
- 1990 American Philological Association Ad Hoc Committee on the Program
- 1987-90 American Philological Association Program Committee
- 1987 Organized panel on “*Philia* in Greek Literature and Thought,” Annual Meeting of the American Philological Association
- 1986-88 American Philological Association Committee on the Status of Women and Minority Groups (Chairperson 1988)
- 1986 Organized conference on “Interpreting Plato” (UC Santa Cruz)
Organized Seminar on Sophocles’ *Philoctetes*, Annual Meeting of The American Philological Association
- 1970 Revised for publication the English translation of J. Th. Kakridis, *Homer Revisited* (Lund, 1971)–see p. x.
- 1967-68 Assisted Prof. M. Dimen in a twelve-month anthropological field study of a transhumant Vlach community in Epirus, Greece

EDITORIAL AND ADVISORY BOARDS

- 2019- Advisory Board, Skenè Research Centre: Interdisciplinary Theatre and Drama Studies, University of Verona
- 2009- Advisory Board, *Classical Receptions Journal*, Oxford University Press
- 1990-2017 Comité de Lecture, *Gaia: Revue interdisciplinaire sur la Grèce archaïque*

SERVICE AS EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Monash University, Sydney (M.A. thesis)
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa (Tesi di Perfezionamento)
University of California, Los Angeles (Ph.D. dissertation)
University of Melbourne (Ph.D. dissertation)
University of Toronto (Ph.D. dissertation)