

PREFACE

The papers in this volume were all delivered in an earlier form at a conference held at the University of California at Berkeley from April 7 to April 9, 1988. The title of the conference was "Images and Ideologies: Self-definition in the Hellenistic World," and it was sponsored by the Departments of Art History, Classics, and History, and by the Graduate Group in Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology.

Our purpose in holding the conference was to provide a context for a dialogue between specialists in the different fields of Hellenistic study, and thereby, we hoped, to open up new perspectives in Hellenistic research. Most of those who attended the conference seemed to agree that we had made a successful beginning, and the lectures and the informal discussions that were to be heard outside the conference hall went far beyond the organizers' modest hopes. Consequently we now offer the formal lectures from the conference in revised, and in many cases expanded, form to a wider public, again in the hope that we may stimulate discussion of some of the key issues across the particular fields of history, literature, philosophy, art, and religion. We are under no illusion that in one meeting, or one volume, we could attempt a new synthesis of Hellenistic culture, but we do hope to have taken some steps in that direction. We decided to choose a theme which would focus on an aspect of Hellenistic culture that cuts across all disciplinary boundaries and is cardinal to them all, and we have sought to capture the individuality, the national and personal identity, the cultural exchange and self-consciousness that have long been sensed as peculiarly potent in the Hellenistic world.

The conference was divided into five panels, to cover the fields of history, literature, art, philosophy, and religion, each with two speakers

and a respondent, and we have decided to keep the same format for this volume. We hope that thereby some of the direction and focus achieved by the conference itself will be conveyed to the reader.

A project of this kind could not proceed without the benevolent support and assistance of many individuals and institutions. In addition to the academic departments of the University of California at Berkeley mentioned above, we wish to express our profound gratitude to the College of Letters and Sciences at Berkeley, the Skaggs Foundation, and the Heller Fund of the Berkeley Classics Department for their very generous financial contributions. We have also been particularly fortunate to enjoy the help of Lisa Zeman, of the Graduate Group in Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology, who was unstintingly generous in her work as conference coordinator; Rainer Mack, of the Department of History of Art, who labored long hours getting the text of the papers into publishable shape; and Mary Lamprecht of the University of California Press, who was, as ever, endlessly patient and helpful. To them, and to the many others who have helped us prepare both the conference and the volume arising from it, we express our profound thanks.

Anthony Bulloch
Erich Gruen
Anthony Long
Andrew Stewart