

Pnyx: Journal of Classical Studies

Vol 4 (2025)

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Editorial

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doi: [10.55760/pnyx.2025.43694](https://doi.org/10.55760/pnyx.2025.43694)

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To cite this article:

Pagkalos, M. (2025). Editorial: πάντα χωρεῖ καὶ οὐδὲν μένει. *Pnyx: Journal of Classical Studies*, 4, vii-viii.
<https://doi.org/10.55760/pnyx.2025.43694>

Editorial: πάντα χωρεῖ καὶ οὐδὲν μένει

With these words, according to Plato, Socrates described the doctrine of Herakleitos (Pl. *Cra.* 402a). They ring true to what we experience as part of *Pnyx: Journal of Classical Studies'* journey. We have arrived at the fourth volume, on equal years, and marked by many changes along the way.

Let me begin with the departures. Christopher Simon (University of Chicago, US) has moved from his position as Assistant Editor. Our collaboration was brief and indicative of the nature of Academia, mirroring especially the pressures within the US context and the problems of time, commitment, and responsibility that manifest in our line of work (academic and professional). In addition, Amanda Marley (Radboud University, NL) has moved to a new post outside academia, thus opening up the position of Editorial Assistant. We wish Amanda every success in their new role and hope our paths cross again in the future! However, it has not been only about departures. A new Assistant Editor has joined *Isegoria* just before the turn of the year—we warmly welcome Marco Ferrario (Northeast Normal University, CN), who brings expertise in Near Eastern history and broadens the scope of our team.

Regarding other changes, this volume is the first to implement *First Read* articles. As announced in the last editorial, one of the main objectives of *Pnyx* is to provide quality, robust (two rounds of peer review), and timely publications. Our move to a single annual volume could have affected this objective. Thus, *First Read* was introduced; it makes contributions accessible once they have cleared the peer review and editing processes. Articles receive DOIs and are downloadable and shareable as before, with copyright remaining with the authors. Upon official publication of the volume, they are collected into a single continuous read, and it works across the board for articles, book reviews and interviews alike. In this way, contributions to this volume began appearing in October, with the final pieces of research published just before its formal publication. The process already allows for a smooth transition between the different stages of each manuscript and work on the new submissions as they appear. We look forward to fine-tuning the process as we move along to our next issue (Volume 5, 2026).

Looking ahead, we have several plans underway. First, we are launching an internship program titled 'Codex Career Pathway', training young students in publishing and equip them with transferable skills for future studies and career development. Second, we are expanding the core team by recruiting additional Associate Editors. We primarily seek Early Career and Independent scholars, or established academics who align with our aims and share our mentality for collaborating with and helping develop our platform. These moves are central to our long-term plan to open up the structures of both the journal and the publishing house to the Community of Scholars they aim to serve.

We often say we do 'things differently' in *Isegoria* and *Pnyx*, and this has been true. Since our beginning, four years ago, we have learned and we have been developing. The road has not always

been smooth and, as with many things in life, it has come with a steep learning curve. We have made mistakes, lost allies and found new, questioned our practices and re-designed our approach – this has been a work-in-progress and it will continue as such. What has not changed, however, is our forward-looking attitude and perseverance in sustaining this academic effort, which we hope makes it fair for scholars everywhere. Then, I once again conclude this editorial for our fourth volume with an open call: please get in touch if you align with our aims, if you think we can collaborate in academic ventures (publishing, events, outreach), or if you have feedback for us. All contributors are welcome and very much needed to shape our journey onwards. Here at *Isegoria* and *Pnyx*, we look forward to hearing from you!

With warm wishes for the New Year,
With fewer wars and more humanity,

Manolis Pagkalos
Hangzhou, PRC
December 2025