



The Web of Athenaeus (Hellenic Studies Series)

Christian Jacob

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In *The Web of Athenaeus*, Christian Jacob produces a completely fresh and unique reading of Athenaeus's *Sophists at Dinner* (ca. 200 ce). Jacob provides the reader with a map and a compass to navigate the unfathomable number of intersecting paths in this enormous work: the books, the quotations, the diners, the dishes served, and—above all—the wordplay, all within the simulacrum of an ancient Greek library. A text long mined merely for its testimonies to lost classical poets, the *Sophists at Dinner* has now received a full literary re-imagining by Jacob, who connects the world of Hellenistic erudition with its legacy among Hellenized Romans. *The Web of Athenaeus* simultaneously offers a literary history of the rarest and finest of Greek culture along with a creative anthropology of a Roman imperial world obsessed with the Greek past.

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