Contents

Acknowledgements — V
Christiane Reitz and Simone Finkmann Introduction — 1
Part I: Theories of epic
Philip Hardie Ancient and modern theories of epic —— 25
Joseph Farrell The narrative forms and mythological materials of classical epic —— 51
Egbert Bakker Learning the epic formula —— 81
Robert Kirstein, Andreas Abele, and Hans-Peter Nill Narratology and classical epic —— 99
Christiane Reitz Epic and rhetoric —— 115
Gregor Bitto Alexandrian book division and its reception in Greek and Roman epic —— 133
Part II: Classification and genre
Annemarie Ambühl Intergeneric influences and interactions —— 167
Jason Nethercut History and myth in Graeco-Roman epic —— 193
Abigail Buglass, Giulia Fanti, and Manuel Galzerano Didactic and epic: origins, continuity, and interactions —— 213

Alison Sharrock

Ovid's *Metamorphoses*: the naughty boy of the Graeco-Roman epic tradition —— 275

Silvio Bär and Elisabeth Schedel

Epic fragments — 317

Simone Finkmann

Narrative patterns and structural elements in Greek epyllia — 357

Nicola Hömke

Epic structures in classical and post-classical Roman epyllia — 443

Part III: Core structures

Claudia Schindler

The invocation of the Muses and the plea for inspiration — 489

Andrew Zissos

Closure and segmentation: endings, medial proems, book divisions — 531

Heinz-Günther Nesselrath

'Almost-episodes' in Greek and Roman epic — 565

Anke Walter

Aetiology and genealogy in ancient epic --- 609

Christiane Reitz, Cédric Scheidegger Lämmle, and Katharina Wesselmann Epic catalogues —— 653

Ursula Gärtner and Karen Blaschka

Similes and comparisons in the epic tradition — 727

Stephen Harrison

Artefact ekphrasis and narrative in epic poetry from Homer to Silius — 773

Indices — 807