

KEVIN SOLEZ : **Zois the Eretrian, wife of Kabeiras (22 Ziebarth): Music, sexuality, and κῆθάρισμα in cultural context**

A 2004 article argues that the word *kitharisma* as it appears on the *defixio* 22(A) Ziebarth refers to a variety of sexual foreplay. The argument is that a reading of *kitharisma* as 'a piece of music for the cithara' in an erotic curse is not germane to the context. Based on a semantic analysis of *kitharisma*, evidence for female lyre-players in ancient Greek culture, and the longstanding connections both historical and metaphorical between lyre music and sex, I argue that *kitharisma* should be understood literally as 'a piece of music for the cithara', which allows a contextualization of another obscure word on the curse, *parodos*, which should mean 'a public recital'. In the course of this argument I address the dynamics of musico-sexual metaphors in ancient Greek literature in general with reference to conceptual metaphor theory (Lakoff and Johnson 1980).

Mots-clés :

Conceptual metaphor theory – *Defixiones* – Epigraphy – Lyres and lyre-playing – Performance studies – Gender and performance – Sexuality – Women in ancient Greece