PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

The previous edition of *Greek Art* was published in 1991 and was the first of the *New Surveys in the Classics* to be illustrated. I focused on the work carried out in the previous decade or so but also went further back in time. This new, thoroughly revised, edition looks at the research published over the last twenty years but again dips back, where necessary, into earlier decades.

The simple structure of the previous publication has been retained for this second edition. I have not concerned myself with the Bronze Age nor ventured into the Hellenistic centuries; the main emphasis is on the Archaic and Classical centuries. Architecture is included only where it relates to sculptural decoration. Within a set number of pages, it is not easy to strike the right balance between broad generalizations and detailed treatment of specific objects.

Publishers do not keep books in print for ever, nor do libraries in schools, colleges, or universities have the necessary funds to catch them on their way from the day of publication to the sales lists and the shelves of remainders. Given that the readership of *New Surveys* is wide, assumptions have necessarily had to be made about readers' background knowledge; surveys are always a balancing act. The bibliography that underpins the text is undoubtedly daunting to students, but there are some readers who will want to explore the subjects further. References to the vast raft of websites have mostly been omitted.

I have left myself a hostage to fortune by retaining the earlier title and not naming this new edition 'Greek Material Culture' or some other less tendentious phrase than 'Greek Art'.

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The dedication needs no explanation.

Brian A. Sparkes
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