

Honors for a Roman Official at Corinth by the Association
of the Artists of Dionysos from the Isthmos and Nemea
Paul A. Iversen (Case Western Reserve University)

In the Hellenistic period, actors, musicians and others associated with the dramatic arts of Dionysos (οἱ περὶ τὸν Διόνυσον τεχνῖται) banded together to form powerful associations (κοινά / σύνοδοι) that were involved in a wide range of activities, including decrees that honored individuals or cities who had furthered their interests. One of the largest and most important was τὸ κοινὸν τῶν περὶ τὸν Διόνυσον τεχνιτῶν τῶν ἐξ Ἴσθμοῦ καὶ Νεμέας or The Association of the Artists of Dionysos from the Isthmos and Nemea. A fragmentary inscription found at Corinth (*ICor* VIII,3 40) has long been known to involve this group. Two new fragments of this inscription came to light in the 1970s during the excavations of Temple Hill conducted by H.S. Robinson (Corinth Inventory I-76-12 and I-74-12). In preparing their publication, the present author also discovered from an excavation notebook that *ICor* VIII,3 40 was damaged before it was published by Kent, and that more of the first two lines of what is now fragment A of this inscription can be read. With these new readings and the two new fragments it can now be said with virtual certainty that this text was a decree of The Association of the Artists of Dionysos from the Isthmos and Nemea in honor of some Roman official, probably a consul or pro-consul. The present paper will address the new readings and restorations of these three fragments, especially some possible Roman *honorandi*, as well as the inscription's historical context.