

**Carl SHAW**  
**SATYRS AND SATIRE**

Scholars of satyr drama tend to emphasize the genre's relationship to tragedy and its general importance to the Athenian "tragic experience"(Griffith, *CA* 22), often overlooking significant comic aspects of satyr plays. Particularly neglected are the extant fragments of fourth- and third-century satyr drama, which, I will demonstrate, exhibit a surprising shift from the mythological burlesque of the fifth-century to a more satirical, even Old Comic, style of humor. While Sutton (1980) and Voelke (2003) have noted this shift in passing, I will closely examine dramatic fragments and didaskalic records to reveal the precise changes in satyr drama's comic mode and to illustrate how literary and historical events shaped it into a more satirical genre.