(They provide a new critical text and facing French translation, an introduction and commentary that ranges over basic background information as well as details of Readers interested in the history of ideas will find a helpful introduction to Σωκρατικοὶ λόγοι and what the authors call “la philosophie platonicienne des pratiques. The authors In this edition, they provide a helpful introduction, a clear overview of the textual transmission of the dialogue, a new Greek text with a facing French translation, a thoughtful commentary, and finally a series of notes on especially difficult or significant issues raised by the text or its transmission. The book is)

(Plato’s <i>Ion</i> has kept commentators busy: the volume under review is at least the fifth commentary on the dialogue since 1996.[[1]] And no wonder since Socrates and Ion consider central Platonic questions. Do poets, and the interpreters of poets, possess knowledge, or do they rely on divine inspiration, a form of madness? What are the requirements of τέχνη, and what does τέχνη reveal about ἐπιστήμη? Socrates asks these same questions in <i>Apology</i>, <i>Republic</i>, and <i>Phaedrus</i>, so no wonder that <i>Ion</i> attracts attention. At the same time, no one considers <i>Ion</i> on equal footing with such other dialogues, and this too raises questions for commentators. Some earlier scholars argued that Plato could not have written the dialogue, including at one point Wilamowitz although he later changed his mind. They judged the arguments to be to simplistic, the title character too stupid or too naïve, the Socratic irony too broad.)

(Although contemporary scholars no longer doubt the authenticity of <i>Ion</i>, they continue to disagree over very basic questions concerning the dialogue. When was it written? What is its dramatic date? What does it suggest about poetry and knowledge? How do its views on poetry agree or disagree with those in <i>Republic</i> and <i>Phaedrus</i>. What do its ideas on τέχνη add to our understanding of that concept in other Platonic dialogues?)