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Roman Imperialism and Civic Patronage

In this book, Brenda Longfellow examines one of the features of Roman imperial cities, the monumental civic fountain. Built in cities throughout the Roman Empire during the first through third centuries AD, these fountains were imposing in size, frequently adorned with grand sculptures, and often placed in highly trafficked areas. Focusing on those complexes that can be associated with emperors, Dr. Longfellow situates each monument within its urban environment and investigates the edifice as a product of an individual patron and a particular historical and geographical context. She also considers the role of civic patronage in fostering a dialogue between imperial and provincial elites. Tracing the development of the monumental civic fountain form across the empire, she illuminates the motives and ideologies of imperial and local benefactors in Rome and the provinces and explores the complex interplay of imperial power, patronage, and the local urban environment.

Brenda Longfellow is Assistant Professor of Ancient Art at the University of Iowa, where she was awarded the James N. Murray Faculty Award for teaching, research, and service. She has received fellowships from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation and the Loeb Classical Library Foundation. Her work has been published in the *Art Bulletin*.

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Form, Meaning, and Ideology in Monumental Fountain Complexes

Brenda Longfellow

University of Iowa

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