

Cambridge University Press
0521383072 - Author and Audience in Latin Literature - Edited by Tony
Woodman and Jonathan Powell
Frontmatter/Prelims
[More information](#)

The relationship between an author and his audience has received much critical attention from scholars in non-classical disciplines in recent years, yet the nature of much ancient literature and of its 'publication' meant that audiences in ancient times were more immediate to their authors than in the modern world. This book contains essays by distinguished scholars on the various means by which Latin authors communicated effectively with their audiences. The authors and works covered are Cicero (as both orator and letter-writer), Catullus, Lucretius, Propertius, Horace's *Odes*, Virgil's *Aeneid*, Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, Senecan tragedy, Persius, Pliny's letters, Tacitus' *Annals* and medieval love lyric. Contributors have provided detailed analyses of particular passages in order to throw light on the many different ways in which authors catered for their audiences by fulfilling, manipulating and thwarting their expectations; and in an epilogue the editors have drawn together the issues raised by these contributions and have attempted to place them in an appropriate critical context.

Author and audience in Latin literature is a sequel to the influential series of essay-collections edited by Tony Woodman and David West and published by Cambridge University Press: *Quality and pleasure in Latin poetry* (1974), *Creative imitation and Latin literature* (1979) and *Poetry and politics in the age of Augustus* (1984).

Cambridge University Press
0521383072 - Author and Audience in Latin Literature - Edited by Tony
Woodman and Jonathan Powell
Frontmatter/Prelims
[More information](#)

Author and audience in
Latin literature

Cambridge University Press
0521383072 - Author and Audience in Latin Literature - Edited by Tony
Woodman and Jonathan Powell
Frontmatter/Prelims
[More information](#)

Author and audience in Latin literature

EDITED BY

TONY WOODMAN

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM

&

JONATHAN POWELL

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE



Cambridge University Press
 0521383072 - Author and Audience in Latin Literature - Edited by Tony
 Woodman and Jonathan Powell
 Frontmatter/Prelims
[More information](#)

Published by the Press Syndicate of the University of Cambridge
 The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RP
 40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211, USA
 10 Stamford Road, Oakleigh, Victoria 3166, Australia

© Cambridge University Press 1992

First published 1992

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress cataloguing in publication data

Author and audience in Latin literature / edited by Tony Woodman and
 Jonathan Powell.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and indexes.

ISBN 0 521 38307 2 (hardback)

1. Latin literature – History and criticism. 2. Authors and readers –
 Rome – History. 3. Theater audiences – Rome – History. 4.

Reader–response criticism. I. Woodman, A. J. (Anthony John).

II. Powell, J. G. F.

PA601.L.A8 1992

870.9'001–dc20 91-27096 CIP

ISBN 0 521 38307 2 hardback

Transferred to digital printing 2004

UP

FOR
DAVID WEST

Vellem rediret carmine callido
laudare amicum doctus Horatius,
aut ille posset ueritatis
insatiabilis explicator
Carus renasci: tertius eloquens
si iunctus hospes Vergilius foret,
tum forte possemus decoris
uersibus ingeminare laudem
docti sodalis, nomine praediti
regis lyristae. redditus otio
linquis professoris cathedram:
tempore saepe tamen futuro
interpretandis uatibus et mero
scite bibendo des operam, neque
mensas amicorum recusans
uisere, nec metuens uetustae
cornicis aeuum, quod sapientiam
constanter auget non leuibus uiris;
non rura nec dulces Camenas
nec minuit citharam senectus.

J. G. F. P.

CONTENTS

| | | |
|---|---|---------|
| | List of contributors | page xi |
| | Prologue | xiii |
| 1 | THE ORATOR AND THE READER: Manipulation and response in Cicero's <i>Fifth Verrine</i> R. G. M. NISBET | 1 |
| 2 | STRATAGEMS OF VANITY: Cicero, <i>Ad familiares</i> 5.12 and Pliny's letters NIALL RUDD | 18 |
| 3 | 'SHALL I COMPARE THEE...?': Catullus 68B and the limits of analogy D. C. FEENEY | 33 |
| 4 | ATOMS AND ELEPHANTS: Lucretius 2.522–40 T. P. WISEMAN | 45 |
| 5 | <i>IN MEMORIAM GALLI</i> : Propertius 1.21 IAN M. LE M. DUQUESNAY | 52 |
| 6 | THE POWER OF IMPLICATION: Horace's invitation to Maecenas (<i>Odes</i> 1.20) FRANCIS CAIRNS | 84 |
| 7 | THE VOICE OF VIRGIL: The pageant of Rome in <i>Aeneid</i> 6 G. P. GOOLD | 110 |
| 8 | FROM ORPHEUS TO ASS'S EARS: Ovid, <i>Metamorphoses</i> 10.1–11.193 D. E. HILL | 124 |

Cambridge University Press
 0521383072 - Author and Audience in Latin Literature - Edited by Tony
 Woodman and Jonathan Powell
 Frontmatter/Prelims
[More information](#)

Contents

| | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 9 | POET AND AUDIENCE IN SENECA TRAGEDY: <i>Phaedra</i> 358–430 GORDON WILLIAMS | 138 |
| 10 | PERSIUS' FIRST SATIRE: A re-examination J. G. F. POWELL | 150 |
| 11 | NERO'S ALIEN CAPITAL: Tacitus as paradoxographer (<i>Annals</i> 15.36–7) TONY WOODMAN | 173 |
| 12 | <i>AMOR CLERICALIS</i> P. G. WALSH | 189 |
| 13 | EPILOGUE | 204 |
| | Notes | 216 |
| | Abbreviations and bibliography | 260 |
| | Indexes | 274 |

Cambridge University Press
 0521383072 - Author and Audience in Latin Literature - Edited by Tony
 Woodman and Jonathan Powell
 Frontmatter/Prelims
[More information](#)

CONTRIBUTORS

FRANCIS CAIRNS. Professor of Latin in the University of Leeds. Author of *Generic composition in Greek and Roman poetry* (1972), *Tibullus: a Hellenistic poet at Rome* (1979), *Virgil's Augustan epic* (1989), and editor of the series *ARCA*

IAN M. LE M. DUQUESNAY. Lecturer in Classics in the University of Cambridge and Fellow of Jesus College. Author of several studies of republican and Augustan poetry

D. C. FEENEY. Associate Professor, Department of Classics, University of Wisconsin–Madison. Author of *The gods in epic: poets and critics of the classical tradition* (1991)

G. P. GOOLD. Lampson Professor of Latin in Yale University. General Editor of the Loeb Classical Library, and editor and translator of *Manilius* (1977), *Catullus* (1983) and *Propertius* (1990)

D. E. HILL. Senior Lecturer in Classics in the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. Editor of Statius, *Thebaid* (1983) and author of *Ovid: Metamorphoses 1–4* (1985)

R. G. M. NISBET, F.B.A. Corpus Christi Professor of Latin in the University of Oxford 1970–92. Author of commentaries on Cicero, *In Pisonem* (1961) and, with Margaret Hubbard, on Horace, *Odes* 1 (1970) and 2 (1978)

J. G. F. POWELL. Lecturer in Classics and from October 1992 Professor of Latin in the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. Author of commentaries on Cicero, *Cato Maior* (1988) and *Laelius on friendship* and *The dream of Scipio* (1990)

NIALL RUDD. Emeritus Professor of Latin in the University of Bristol. Author of *The Satires of Horace* (1966), *Lines of enquiry* (1976), *Themes in Roman satire* (1986) and *Horace: Epistles Book II* (1989)

Cambridge University Press
 0521383072 - Author and Audience in Latin Literature - Edited by Tony
 Woodman and Jonathan Powell
 Frontmatter/Prelims
[More information](#)

Contributors

P. G. WALSH. Professor of Humanity in the University of Glasgow. Author of *Livy: his historical aims and methods* (1961), *The Roman novel* (1970) and *Livy (Greece & Rome Survey, 1974)*, and also of commentaries on Livy Books 21 (1973) and 36 (1990) and of editions of Books 26–7 (1982) and 28–30 (1986). He has also written extensively on patristic and medieval authors: Paulinus of Nola (1966–7 and 1975), the *Carmina Burana* (1972 and 1976), Thomas Aquinas (1967), Andreas Capellanus (1982), George Buchanan (1983), William of Newburgh (1988) and Cassiodorus (1991)

GORDON WILLIAMS. Thacher Professor of Latin in Yale University. Editor of Horace, *Odes 3* (1969) and author of *Tradition and originality in Roman poetry* (1968), *Horace (Greece & Rome Survey, 1972)*, *Change and decline: Roman literature in the early empire* (1978), *Figures of thought in Roman poetry* (1980) and *Technique and ideas in the Aeneid* (1983)

T. P. WISEMAN, F.B.A. Professor of Classics in the University of Exeter. Author of *Catullan questions* (1969), *New men in the Roman senate* (1971), *Cinna the poet and other Roman essays* (1974), *Clio's cosmetics* (1979), and *Catullus and his world* (1985). His *Roman studies: literary and historical* was published in 1987

TONY WOODMAN. Professor of Latin in the University of Durham. Author of two volumes of commentary on Velleius Paterculus (1977 and 1983), of *Rhetoric in classical historiography* (1988), and, with R. H. Martin, of *Tacitus: Annals IV* (1989); with T. J. Luce he has also edited *Tacitus and the Tacitean tradition*

PROLOGUE

It is now almost twenty years since the publication of *Quality and pleasure in Latin poetry*, the first volume in what has become an occasional series. Although the present volume conforms to the general style of its three predecessors, readers will notice that there has been a change in the editorial team. The reason is that our publication is intended to honour one of the original editors, David West, who in 1992 retires from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, where he has held the Chair of Latin since 1969.

That the theme of this book is close to David West's heart will be recognised by all those who have come into contact with him, whether as students, colleagues, readers, auditors or friends. He has devoted most of his scholarly life to explaining Latin texts – and especially those of Lucretius, Horace and Virgil, each of whom is represented here – to modern audiences which have ranged from fellow professionals to sixth-formers. Indeed several generations of sixth-formers will remember with (it is hoped) affection 'Latin Alive', the Latin residential course which was held in Newcastle at Easter in the 1970s and to which guest Latinists were invited if they were willing, and perhaps even able, to join 'Professor Occidens' in playing football with the students.

Yet the title of this volume is of course disingenuous too. It evokes such modern mysteries as 'audience-oriented criticism' and its companion 'reader-response criticism'; and followers of David West's career will be only too well aware of his scepticism about modern literary theory. Participants at a meeting of 'Seminar Boreas', which was his own precursor of the Liverpool Latin Seminar twenty years ago, will perhaps recall his memorable interruption of an unfortunate speaker on Virgil ('Must we listen to any more of this?'); many others will recall the audience's applause when he intervened similarly at a paper on Horace at a Joint Meeting of the Hellenic and Roman Societies in Oxford in 1981.

We trust that David West will not find too much to displease him in

Cambridge University Press
0521383072 - Author and Audience in Latin Literature - Edited by Tony
Woodman and Jonathan Powell
Frontmatter/Prelims
[More information](#)

Prologue

the essays of our contributors, who, as usual, have been free to choose their own passages and to devise their own approach. They have tried to make their essays as wide as possible in their appeal, useful to both students and scholars alike; they have referred to other discussions and critiques as they have seen fit; and technical terms, except the most common, have been explained. We as editors have tried to summarise in an epilogue some of the issues involved in a Latin author's effective communication with his audience.

A. J. W., J. G. F. P.