This new collection of essays by well-known scholars of Seneca focuses on the multifaceted ways in which Seneca, as philosopher, politician, poet and Roman senator, engaged with the question of ethical selfhood. The contributors explore the main cruces of Senecan scholarship, such as whether Seneca’s treatment of the self is original in its historical context; whether Seneca’s Stoicism can be reconciled with the pull of rhetorical and literary self-expression; and how Seneca claims to teach psychic self-integration. Most importantly, the contributors debate to what degree, if at all, the absence of a technically articulated concept of selfhood should cause us to hesitate in seeking a distinctively Senecan self – one that stands out not only for the “intensity of its relations to self,” as Foucault famously put it, but also for the way in which those relations to self are couched.


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SENECA AND THE SELF

EDITED BY

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