

THE WORLD THROUGH ROMAN EYES

The culmination of a project aimed at showcasing, in a systematic way, the potential of applying anthropological perspectives to classical studies, this volume highlights the fundamental contribution this approach has to make to our understanding of ancient Roman culture. Through the close study of themes such as myth, polytheism, sacrifice, magic, space, kinship, the gift, friendship, economics, animals, plants, riddles, metaphors, and images in Roman society (often in comparison with Greece) – where the texts of ancient culture are allowed to speak in their own terms and where the experience of the “natives” (rather than the horizon of the observer) is privileged – a rich panorama emerges of the worldview, beliefs, and deep structures that shaped and guided this culture.

MAURIZIO BETTINI is Full Professor of Classical Philology at the University of Siena and one of the most internationally renowned classicists. His vision of the ancient world, strongly marked by anthropology, has made its mark on studies of Roman culture, myth, and ancient religion. He is the director of several important book series – such as Einaudi’s *Mythologica* – and collaborates with the cultural section of the newspaper *La Repubblica*. Outside of Italy, where he founded the Center for Anthropology and the Ancient World, Bettini has taught for over twenty years in the Department of Classics at the University of California, Berkeley. It was there that his intense collaboration with W. M. Short began and this has taken place in the context of the organization of a study abroad program at the University of Siena as well as numerous research projects.

WILLIAM MICHAEL SHORT is a Lecturer in the Department of Classics and Ancient History at the University of Exeter. His studies, strongly influenced by the cognitive sciences and cognitive linguistics, have given a new and fascinating impulse to anthropological studies of the ancient world. His focus on metaphor in particular, in the light of Lakoffian conceptual metaphor theory, has permitted the articulation of a “new comparativism” and enabled a psychologically realistic method for reconstructing ancient worldviews by juxtaposing metaphorically structured concepts between cultures.

THE WORLD THROUGH ROMAN EYES

Anthropological Approaches to Ancient Culture

EDITED BY

MAURIZIO BETTINI

Università degli Studi, Siena

WILLIAM MICHAEL SHORT

University of Exeter



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-107-15761-3 — The World through Roman Eyes
Edited by Maurizio Bettini, William Michael Short
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107157613

DOI: 10.1017/9781316662168

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2018

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions
of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take
place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

First published 2018

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

ISBN 978-1-107-15761-3 Hardback

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence
or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this
publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will
remain, accurate or appropriate.

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i>	vii
<i>List of Contributors</i>		ix
<i>Preface</i>		xi
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>		xiii
Introduction		I
<i>Maurizio Bettini and William Michael Short</i>		
1 Comparison		24
<i>Maurizio Bettini</i>		
2 Metaphors		47
<i>William Michael Short</i>		
3 Polytheism		71
<i>Gabriella Pironti and Micol Perfigli</i>		
4 Myth		112
<i>Maurizio Bettini</i>		
5 Sacrifice		134
<i>Francesca Prescendi</i>		
6 Witches		151
<i>Laura Cherubini</i>		
7 Kinship		171
<i>Mario Lentano</i>		
8 Friendship and the Gift		191
<i>Renata Raccanelli and Lucia Beltrami</i>		
9 Economy		216
<i>Cristiano Viglietti</i>		

vi	<i>Contents</i>	
10	Space <i>Gianluca De Sanctis</i>	249
11	Animals <i>Cristiana Franco</i>	275
12	Plants <i>Svetlana Hautala</i>	299
13	Images <i>Giuseppe Pucci</i>	318
14	Signs <i>Giovanni Manetti</i>	348
15	Riddles <i>Simone Beta</i>	375
	<i>References</i>	397
	<i>Greek Index</i>	461
	<i>Latin Index</i>	462
	<i>Subject Index</i>	464

Figures

2.1	Latin's alimentary model of mental and verbal activity.	<i>page</i> 66
3.1	Stylized image of the Twelve Gods, Epidaurus, Altar of the Twelve Gods.	88
9.1	Histogram of rural sites on the north-easterly part of the <i>ager Romanus</i> .	234
9.2	Hypothetical organization of a 2- <i>iugera</i> field in a system of crop rotation in early Republican Rome.	237
9.3	La Rustica, Rome; woman's pit grave no. 83 (c. 725 BCE).	240
9.4	Necropolis of Laurentina, Rome; <i>fossa</i> grave no. 127, sixth century BCE.	241
9.5	North slope of the Palatine Hill, Rome; reconstructed floor plan of the atrium of <i>Domus</i> 3 (third quarter of the sixth century BCE).	243
9.6	Three-dimensional reconstruction of the Villa dell'Auditorium; the manor house to the north, the servile quarter to the south (c. 500–350/300 BCE).	244
9.7	Reconstructed floor plan of the Villa dell'Auditorium, manor house with production facilities (c. 500–300 BCE).	246
9.8	Reconstructed floor plan of the Villa dell'Auditorium, manor house with production facilities (c. 300–225 BCE).	247
12.1	Botanical classifications in Greek and Latin.	304

Contributors

- BELTRAMI, L.
 Dipartimento di Filologia e Critica
 delle Letterature antiche e moderne
 Università di Siena
- BETA, S.
 Dipartimento di Filologia e
 Critica delle Letterature antiche
 e moderne
 Università di Siena
- BETTINI, M.
 Centro Antropologia e
 Mondo Antico
- CHERUBINI, L.
 Università di Siena
- DE SANCTIS, G.
 Università di Tuscia
- FRANCO, C.
 Dipartimento di Ateneo per la
 Didattica e la Ricerca
 Università per Stranieri di Siena
- HAUTALA, S.
 Centro Antropologia e Mondo
 Antico
- LENTANO, M.
 Dipartimento di Filologia e Critica
 delle Letterature antiche e moderne
 Università di Siena
- MANETTI, G.
 Dipartimento di Scienze sociali,
 politiche e cognitive
 Università di Siena
- PERFIGLI, M.
 Università di Siena
- PIRONTI, G.
 Centre ANHIMA
 EPHE, PSL – Section des Sciences
 Religieuses (Paris)
- PRESCENDI, F.
 Département des Sciences de
 l'Antiquité
 Faculté des Lettres
 Université de Genève
- PUCCI, G.
 Università di Siena
- RACCANELLI, R.
 Dipartimento Culture e Civiltà
 Università di Verona
- SHORT, W.M.
 Department of Classics and
 Ancient History
 University of Exeter
- VIGLIETTI, C.
 Dipartimento di Filologia e Critica
 delle Letterature antiche e moderne
 Università di Siena

Preface

Our intention to gather in a single volume some of the different strands of scholarship represented within the Center for Anthropology of the Ancient World and its international affiliates developed out of one more general and one more specific consideration. Generally, we wished to support the increasing “manualization” of Classical Studies, which has seen many of the subdisciplines of our field mapped out and provided with explicit statements of theory and method, by creating a guide to anthropologically inspired research for scholars and especially students of the Classics. Specifically, we were aware that apart from Maurizio Bettini’s chapter on “Anthropology” in Barchiesi and Scheidel’s *Oxford Handbook of Roman Studies*, Roman anthropology was lacking any such systematic theoretical and methodological treatment, as well as an accessible entrée to the interests that have defined it. Needless to say, the range of themes, approaches, and perspectives in terms of which Roman anthropology has been articulated by the contributors to this volume reaches well beyond the boundaries of what is typically understood by “Classics and Anthropology”. With this in mind, the plan for the book – the particular “key terms” it would cover, the basic organization of its chapters, and its didactic framing – was fleshed out over a series of dinners during one Sienese summer. As for the result, we hope our readers will enjoy the intellectual feast we have prepared.

Abbreviations

<i>CGL</i>	<i>Corpus Glossarium Latinorum</i> , edited by G. Goetz, Leipzig: Teubner, 1888–1923.
<i>CFA</i>	<i>Corpus Fabularum Aesopicarum</i> , edited by A. Hausrath and H. Hunger, 2 vols., 2nd ed., Leipzig: Teubner, 1959–70.
<i>CIL</i>	<i>Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum</i> , Berlin: De Gruyter, 1863–.
<i>DELG</i>	P. Chantraine, <i>Dictionnaire étymologique de la langue grecque</i> , Paris: Klincksieck, 1968.
<i>DELL</i>	A. Ernout and A. Meillet, <i>Dictionnaire étymologique de la langue latine</i> , Paris: Klincksieck, 1959.
<i>DNP</i>	<i>Der Neue Pauly</i> , edited by H. Cancik, H. Schneider, and M. Landfester, Stuttgart: Metzler, 1996–2010.
<i>DPAC</i>	<i>Dizionario patristico e di Antichità Cristiane</i> , Genua: Marietti, 1983–8.
<i>FGrHist</i>	F. Jacoby, <i>Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker</i> , Berlin: Weidmann, 1927–58.
<i>Gloss. med.</i>	<i>Glossae medicales</i> , edited by J. L. Heiberg, Copenhagen: Host, 1924.
<i>IG</i>	<i>Inscriptiones Graecae</i> , Berlin: De Gruyter, 1873–.
<i>ILS</i>	<i>Inscriptiones Latinae Selectae</i> , edited by H. Dessau, Berlin: Weidmann, 1892–1916.
<i>LEW</i>	A. Walde and J. B. Hofmann, <i>Lateinisches etymologisches Wörterbuch</i> , Heidelberg: Carl Winter, 1938–54.
<i>L&S</i>	C. T. Lewis and C. Short, <i>A Latin Dictionary</i> , Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1991.
<i>LSJ</i>	<i>A Greek–English Lexicon</i> , edited by H. G. Liddell and R. Scott, Oxford: Clarendon, 1996.

<i>OLD</i>	<i>Oxford Latin Dictionary</i> , edited by P. G. W. Glare, Oxford: Clarendon 2012.
<i>PG</i>	<i>Patrologia Graeca</i> , edited by J.-P. Migne, Paris: Migne, 1857–66.
<i>PL</i>	<i>Patrologia Latina</i> , edited by J.-P. Migne, Paris: Migne, 1844–55.
<i>RE</i>	<i>Realenzyklopädie der klassischen Altertumswissenschaft</i> , edited by A. F. Pauly, G. Wissowa, W. Kroll et al., Stuttgart: Metzler, 1890–1980.
<i>REW</i>	W. Meyer-Lübke, <i>Romanisches etymologisches Wörterbuch</i> , Heidelberg: Carl Winter, 1935.
<i>SEG</i>	<i>Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum</i> , Leiden: Sijthoff, 1923–71; Leiden: Siitjhoff & Noordhoff, 1979–81; Amsterdam: Gieben, 1982–2006; Leiden: Brill, 2007–.
<i>ThesCRA</i>	<i>Thesaurus Cultuum et Rituum Antiquorum</i> , Los Angeles: Getty Publications, 2004–6.
<i>TLL</i>	<i>Thesaurus Linguae Latinae</i> , Stuttgart: Teubner, 1900–99; Munich: Saur, 2000–7.