

ROME, EMPIRE OF PLUNDER

Bringing together philologists, historians, and archaeologists, *Rome, Empire of Plunder* bridges disciplinary divides in pursuit of an interdisciplinary understanding of Roman cultural appropriation – approached not as a set of distinct practices but as a hydra-headed phenomenon through which Rome made and remade itself, as a Republic and as an Empire, on Italian soil and abroad. The studies gathered in this volume range from the literary thefts of the first Latin comic poets to the grand-scale spoliation of Egyptian obelisks by a succession of emperors, and from Hispania to Pergamon to Qasr Ibrim. Applying a range of theoretical perspectives on cultural appropriation, contributors probe the violent interactions and chance contingencies that sent cargo of all sorts into circulation around the Roman Mediterranean, causing recurrent distortions in their individual and aggregate meanings. The result is an innovative and nuanced investigation of Roman cultural appropriation and imperial power.

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ROME, EMPIRE OF PLUNDER

The Dynamics of Cultural Appropriation

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Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	page vii
<i>List of Contributors</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xi
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xii
Introduction	I
PART I INTERACTION	13
1 The Comedy of Plunder: Art and Appropriation in Plautus’ <i>Menaechmi</i> Basil Dufallo	15
2 Citation, Spoliation, and Literary Appropriation in Livy’s <i>AUC</i> Ayelet Haimson Lushkov	30
3 A Second First Punic War: Re-Spoliation of Republican Naval Monuments in the Urban and Poetic Landscapes of Augustan Rome Thomas Biggs	47
4 Buried Treasures, Hidden Verses: (Re)Appropriating the Gauls of Pergamon in Flavian Rome Stefano Rebggiani	69
5 Interactions: Microhistory as Cultural History Matthew P. Loar	82
PART II DISTORTION	91
6 Plunder, Knowledge, and Authorship in Vitruvius’ <i>De Architectura</i> Marden Fitzpatrick Nichols	93

vi	<i>Table of Contents</i>	
7	Appropriating Egypt for the Ara Pacis Augustae <i>Jennifer Trimble</i>	109
8	Monolithic Appropriation? The Lateran Obelisk Compared <i>Grant Parker</i>	137
9	Distortion on Parade: Rethinking Successful Appropriation in Rome <i>Carolyn MacDonald</i>	160
	PART III CIRCULATION	167
10	The Traffic in Shtick <i>Amy Richlin</i>	169
11	Agents of Appropriation: Shipwrecks, Cargoes, and Entangled Networks in the Late Republic <i>Carrie Fulton</i>	194
12	Import/Export: Empire and Appropriation in the Gallus Papyrus from Qasr Ibrim <i>Micah Y. Myers</i>	214
13	Annexing a Shared Past: Roman Appropriations of Hercules-Melqart in the Conquest of Hispania <i>Megan Daniels</i>	237
14	Circulation's Thousand Connectivities <i>Dan-el Padilla Peralta</i>	261
	<i>Bibliography</i>	271
	<i>Index</i>	320

Figures

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----------------|
| 7.1 | The Ara Pacis Augustae in Rome. Constructed 13–9 BCE, reconstructed in 1938 (G. Singer, <i>Neg. D-DAI-Rom 72.647</i>) | <i>page</i> 110 |
| 7.2 | Reconstruction drawing of the Altar of the Twelve Gods in the Athenian Agora, 522/521 BCE (Borbein 1975: 247, fig. 2. ©Adolf Borbein, by permission.) | 112 |
| 7.3 | Reconstruction drawing of the Altar Court at Samothrace, later fourth century BCE (Lehmann and Spittle 1964, frontispiece. ©Princeton University Press, by permission.) | 113 |
| 7.4 | Map showing the relationship between the obelisk and meridian line at left and the Ara Pacis at right in the northern Campus Martius (Haselberger 2014: 44, fig. 1. ©Michael Schütz, by permission.) | 118 |
| 7.5 | Drawing of the excavated portion of the meridian line that extended northward from the base of the Egyptian obelisk in the northern Campus Martius (Haselberger 2014: 22, fig. 7. ©Lothar Haselberger, by permission.) | 120 |
| 7.6 | Plan of the Ara Pacis Augustae (After Simon 1986: 32, fig. 28. ©Martin Boß, by permission.) | 122 |
| 7.7 | Elevation drawing and plan of the chapel of Amenhotep III at Elephantine (Borchardt 1938: detail from pl. 21.) | 123 |
| 7.8 | Plan of the jubilee chapel of Thutmose III west of the holy lake in Karnak. The dark fill marks the first phase of the structure (Borchardt 1938: fig. 27.) | 124 |
| 7.9 | The “White Chapel” at Karnak, built for the jubilee celebrations of Senwosret I, buried in the foundations of the pylon of Amenhotep III, reconstructed in 1938 (Cropped, black and white version of a color photograph by Olaf Tausch: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Karnak_Weiße_Kapelle_01.JPG . Reproduced under the terms of the GNU | |

	Free Documentation License: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:GNU_Free_Documentation_License,_version_1.2.)	125
7.10	Plan and elevation drawing of the Augustan kiosk at Qertassi (Borchardt 1938: detail from pl. 9.)	127
12.1	Egypt and Lower Nubia (Cambridge Ancient History VII.1 ² : 120–21, modified.)	216
13.1	Minting towns in Hispania Ulterior (Jiménez 2014: 236, Fig. 12.1.)	244
13.2	Coins from Gades featuring Hercules, first century BCE (Vives 1924–6: Pl. LXXIV.)	247
13.3	Coins from Gades featuring Hercules on obverse with symbols of pontifical college on reverse (nos. 1–3); a tetrastyle temple on obverse and rayed symbol on reverse (no. 4); Augustus’s head on obverse and a tetrastyle temple encircled with a laurel wreath on reverse (no. 5); and coins referencing both Augustus and Gaius and Lucius (nos. 6 and 7) (Vives 1924–6: Pl. LXXVII.)	250
13.4	Hadrianic aureus featuring laureate and cuirassed bust of Hadrian (obverse) and Hercules Gaditanus with water god reclining below and prow on left (reverse) (British Museum 1861: 1105.1; ©Trustees of the British Museum.)	253
13.5	Hadrianic aureus featuring laureate and cuirassed bust of Hadrian (obverse) and Hercules standing in a tetrastyle temple holding club and apples; the face of a god (Oceanus?) and ship’s prow appear below (reverse) (British Museum 1844: 1008.147; ©Trustees of the British Museum.)	254

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