

Subversive Motherhood and the Roman Revolution

Eugesta Workshop

12-14 November 2025, online

Organizers: Sara Borrello (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia)
Simona Martorana (The Australian National University)

Program

12 November (7:45-10:00 am CET)

Chair: Simona Martorana

7:45-8:00 Greetings and Introduction

8:00-8:20 Silvia Lacorte, Cristina Rosillo López (Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Sevilla): "A Mother with Political Ideas: Cornelia and the Letters to Her Son"

8:20-8:40 Lewis Webb (University of Gothenburg): "Subversive *verba*? Maternal Prayer and/in Crisis in Rome"

8:40-9:00 Discussion

9:00-9:20 Hannah Sorscher (University of Otago): "The Pregnant Prize: Fertility and Enslavement in Vergil's *Aeneid*"

9:20-9:40 Robert Cowan (The University of Sydney): "'Bitches be Crazy': Ecofeminism, Posthumanism, and Subversive Motherhood in Virgil, Grattius, and Columella"

9:40-10:00 Discussion

13 November (8:00-10:00 am CET)

Chair: Jacqueline Fabre-Serris

8:00-8:20 Sara Borrello (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia): "*Maternam obtinebat auctoritatem*: Servilia's Subversive Motherhood?"

8:20-8:40 Giulia Vettori (Università degli Studi di Trento): "Unintended Outcomes of a Moral Reform Programme: Subversive Motherhood and the Augustan Marriage Legislation"

8:40-9:00 Discussion

9:00-9:20 Mairéad McAuley (University College London): "Myrrha's Transcorporeal Maternity in Ovid, *Met.* 10"

9:20-9:40 Henriette van der Blom (University of Birmingham): "The Agency of Maternal Testators in Valerius Maximus"

9:40-10:00 Discussion

14 November (8:00-10:15 am CET)

Chair: Sara Borrello

8:00-8:20 Jacqueline Fabre-Serris (Université de Lille 3): “Is It Love of/for the Mother or Incest? Tacitus’ Account of the Relations Between Agrippina and Nero and Seneca’s Involvement: Backgrounds and Stakes”

8:20-8:40 Simona Martorana (The Australian National University): “*Parta ultio est*: Embodied Motherhood and (Meta)Literary Identities in Seneca’s *Medea*”

8:40-9:00 Discussion

9:00-9:20 Julene Abad Del Vecchio (The University of Manchester): “Archetypal Grief in the *Achilleid*”

9:20-9:40 Marguerite Johnson (The University of Queensland): “‘Run Away!’: Roman Responses to Boudicca’s Subversive Motherhood”

9:40-10:00 Discussion

10:00-10:15 Final Remarks