



EuGeStA

Gender Studies and Classical Scholarship

Strong Women of the Ancient Mediterranean World and their Reception Online series

Organisers: Anastasia Bakogianni (Massey University, New Zealand)
and Martina Treu (IULM University, Milan, Italy)

This online series is sponsored by the EuGeStA Network, in collaboration
with the Australasian Women in Ancient World Studies (AWAWS) and The Imagines Project.

About the series: *The Strong Women of the Ancient Mediterranean World and their Reception* series, comprised of seven sessions, aims to bring together scholars and practitioners from both hemispheres to discuss the stories of ancient historical and fictional women who inspire them and their work. The speakers discuss what the concept of being a 'strong' woman means to them, and how our ideas about the position and roles of women, gender and female agency have evolved over time. In turn this affects how we receive, interact with, and adapt these ancient female figures and their stories.

Each speaker reflects on their chosen ancient woman/women or group, as a launchpad for a wider examination of the impact of ancient women in recent scholarship and/or in a variety of modern media (including but not limited to the stage, screen and the visual arts). Some speakers have chosen to focus on the ancient material but have engaged with questions of gender, and/or diversity. We are also delighted to be joined by practitioners who discuss their creative receptions of ancient female figures, in partnership with scholars. Our goal is to foster dialogue and the exchange of ideas.

Session 6: Friday, 27 November 2026

9 am CET / 9 pm NZ
(1 hour, including Q&A)

Chair: Martina Treu

- *In Sappho's Shadow: How Female Scholars Censored the Lesbian Muse*,
Meg Challis (University of Melbourne)
- *Medea, the "Wise Maiden": Female Authority from Imperial Russia to Tolstoy*,
Elena Giulia Vacca (University of Oxford)

Zoom link: <https://massey.zoom.us/j/81076266841?pwd=ImdwAaPomXGrhS1lMAP3ONtHUppS6z.1>
Password: 285520

Or scan the QR code

