

Contents

<i>List of Contributors</i>	xi
<i>Texts and Translations Used</i>	xv
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xvii
Introduction: Representing Ritual and Religion in Flavian Epic <i>Antony Augoustakis</i>	1
Part I. Gods and Humans	
1 With (a) God on Our Side: Ancient Ritual Practices and Imagery in Flavian Epic <i>Marco Fucecchi</i>	17
2 Divine Messages and Human Actions in the <i>Argonautica</i> <i>Gesine Manuwald</i>	33
3 Competing Visions: Prophecy, Spectacle, and Theatricality in Flavian Epic <i>Helen Lovatt</i>	53
4 Argive Augury and Portents in the <i>Thebaid</i> <i>Anne Tuttle</i>	71
5 'Consider in the Image of Thebes': Celestial and Poetic Auspicy in the <i>Thebaid</i> <i>Eleni Manolaraki</i>	89
6 <i>Malae preces</i> and their Articulation in the <i>Thebaid</i> <i>Ann Hubert</i>	109
7 Hymnic Features in Statian Epic and the <i>Siluae</i> <i>Bruce Gibson</i>	127
8 Religion and Power in the <i>Thebaid</i> <i>Federica Bessone</i>	145
Part II. Death and Ritual	
9 Chthonic Ingredients and Thematic Concerns: The Shaping of the Necromancy in the <i>Thebaid</i> <i>Ruth Parkes</i>	165

10	Wasted Water: The Failure of Purification in the <i>Thebaid</i> <i>Nicholas Dee</i>	181
11	Patterns of Darkness: Chthonic Illusion, Gigantomachy, and Sacrificial Ritual in the <i>Punica</i> <i>R. Joy Littlewood</i>	199
12	Back Out of Hell: The Virtual Katabasis and Initiation of Silius' Minucius <i>Robert Cowan</i>	217
13	Ritual Murder and Suicide in the <i>Thebaid</i> <i>Neil W. Bernstein</i>	233
14	The Death and Funeral Rites of Opheltes in the <i>Thebaid</i> <i>Randall Ganiban</i>	249
15	Epitaphic Gestures in Statius and Silius Italicus <i>Martin T. Dinter</i>	267
Part III. Ritual and the Female		
16	Reconcilable Differences: Anna Perenna and the Battle of Cannae in the <i>Punica</i> <i>Raymond Marks</i>	287
17	Medusa, Python, and Poine in Argive Religious Ritual <i>Alison Keith</i>	303
18	Orphic Ritual and Myth in the <i>Thebaid</i> <i>Christopher Chinn</i>	319
19	Dancing in Scyros: Masculinity and Young Women's Rituals in the <i>Achilleid</i> <i>Vassiliki Panoussi</i>	335
	<i>Bibliography</i>	353
	<i>Index Locorum</i>	381
	<i>General Index</i>	399