

Virgil (Publius Vergilius Maro) : Famous roman poet he wrote rome’s epic; The Aeneid

Eclogues (Bucolics) = pastoral poetry

Georgics = didactic poetry

Aeneid = epic poetry

Livia: wife of octavius Augustus

Octavia: wife of Mark Anthony

Maecenas: was an ally, friend and political advisor to Octavian / Maecenas was a member of Augustus' "inner circle" but not a member of his family. Maecenas was a great patron of the arts, and most importantly he was the patron of Vergil, who wrote the Aeneid (and the Eclogues and Georgics).

Marcus Claudius Marcellus [the Younger] (42-23 B.C.),¹ son of Gaius Claudius Marcellus and Octavia, the sister of Augustus; he died young (see Virgil, Aeneid 6, 860-886)

Julia, daughter of Augustus and wife of, among others, Marcus Claudius Marcellus (above). Her second husband was Marcus Vipsanius Agrippa (see Kamm, ’s index) with whom she had several children including a daughter, known as Julia the Younger (to distinguish her from her mother). Her third husband was the emperor Tiberius (Kamm, 49-52), stepson of Augustus. She died in A.D. 142

“Odyssean” *Aeneid*

“Iliadic” *Aeneid*

The Iliad and the Odyssey were two Greek epic poems written by Homer long before Vergil wrote the Aeneid. The Iliad is all about battle and the Odyssey is about a long return home.

In acknowledgement of these two great epics, Vergil styled the Aeneid in a similar way. The "Odyssean" Aeneid is the part of the Aeneid that talks about the Trojans' long journey to their new home in Italy (Books 1 - 6). The "Iliadic" Aeneid is the part of the Aeneid that talks about the battles for the conquest of Italy (Books 7 - 12).

Time Scale in Virgil’s *Aeneid*

dramatic time: is in reference to the age of Troy

symbolic time: reference to the age of Augustus

¹ He was a descendant of the great Marcus Claudius Marcellus [the Elder], also mentioned by Virgil in *Aeneid* 6, c. line 855; the Elder Marcellus died in 208 fighting in the Second Punic War.

² Cf. Julia, daughter of Julius Caesar, who died without living offspring in 54 B.C.

Early Latin Literature⁴

Ennius: A man of “three hearts”, he knew three languages (Oscan, Greek, and Latin). He is the “father of Latin Poetry”. Little of his work survives today. A writer of many tragedies and a few comedies, but only fragments remain today.

Plautus : Wrote only comedies, 20 survived until today. His *Menaechmi* (or *Brothers Menaechmus*) is the source of Shakespeare’s *Comedy of Errors*. More modernly the *Menaechmi* has been the basis of *The Boys from Syracuse*, and several of his plays for the basis of *A Funny Thing happened on the way to the Forum*.

Terence: He wrote his first comedy, the *Andria*, when he was only 19. When he died at 19 he had written 6 total and all of which survived.

Terence and Plautus differed because Plautus wrote for the masses and Terence wrote for patrons. As a result Terence’s work is more sophisticated and less humorous.

Golden Age Latin Literature⁵

History⁶

Caesar

Livy

Oratory, Letters, Philosophy⁷

Cicero: Cicero lived from 106-43 BC. 60 of his orations have survived. He wrote the orations on behalf of clients, and for himself to attack or defend his contemporaries. He campaigned to become consul (he did in 64 BC) and uncovered a plot by Catiline to overthrow the constitution. He denounced Catiline and his conspirators in a series of orations.

900 letters sent and received by Cicero have survived and are a wonderful source of candid information about that time period.

Some 20 works of his philosophy survived but they aren’t his strong suit.

Poetry as Science

Lucretius : His philosophy follows Epicurean Philosophy (341-270 BC).

Epicurean Philosophy –

- Atomic Theory
- Harmony of Body and Mind (One’s life goal)

³ There were no terms for Friday, October 5, University Day: No classes.

⁴ Cf. Kamm, pp. 152-154

⁵ Cf. Kamm, pp. 155-164

⁶ Cf. Kamm, pp. 166-167

⁷ Cf. Kamm, p. 170

He writes about this philosophy in *On the Nature of Things*. The poetic work is in 6 books – unfinished – written in hexameter and beginning with an invocation to Venus.

Lyric Poetry: *in which the composer presents personal thoughts or feelings*

Catullus: Catullus left us 116 poems of various lengths, including love poems to “Lesbia” whose true name wasn’t written because they had an affair.

Horace: Best known for his four books; the Odes. Poems about himself and social life in Rome, Horace also wrote a work of literary criticism called the *Ars Poetica*.

Pastoral, Didactic, & Epic Poetry

Virgil

Elegiac Poetry: *strict composition know as the elegiac couplet*

Propertius: He wrote 4 books of elegies, the last 3 encouraged by Maecenas. Most of it was written to his lover “Cynthia”.

Ovid: Ovid wrote love poems, the *Amores* in three books and a three book mock didactic called the *Ars Amatoria (the Art of Love)*. He also wrote other poems, the most noteworthy is the epic *Metamorphoses*. His love poetry was an offence to Augustus’ moral reforms and so in AD 8 Ovid was banished to Tomi(s) in modern Romania where he died.

These authors and their works have inspired various artists through history.

Dactylic Hexameter⁸

dactyl: 1 long, 2 short syllables. (- * *)

spondee: 2 long syllables (- -)

Julio-Claudian Emperors (27 B.C. – A.D. 68)

Augustus

Tiberius: (AD 14-37)–

Compelled to marry Julia after Agrippa died by Augustus. He stayed away from Augustus and Julia as much as he could, either on campaigns or in self-exile on

⁸ Cf. Kamm, pp. 148-152

Rhodes. He became emperor and ruled from his home in Capri until his death in 37 AD.

Gaius/Caligula: (AD 37 – 41) –

The grandnephew of Tiberius, familiarly called Caligula ('Bootsie'). He got this nickname by wearing his father's military boots (Caligula) as a child as the family followed the father around on campaigns. He becomes ill but recovers, coming back crazy. He was assassinated by the Imperial Bodyguard. He believed he was a god and he married his sister. He elects a consul of his favorite horse. Crazy.

Claudius: The uncle of Caligula. He was born at Lyon in Gaul and was the first emperor not born in Italy. He became emperor at age 50, the choice of the Imperial Bodyguard because they believed they could control him.

Claudius was a very competent administrator, politician and general. He orchestrated an invasion of Britain and received the title of Britannicus. He married 4 times, unfortunately his wife (Agrippina) poisoned him. She then killed his son and Nero (her son) becomes emperor.

Nero: An artist, sportsman, he was both brutal and deranged (Kamm). He becomes emperor at 16. A pupil of Seneca. He was a good son and the first 5 years of his reign went well but then his pent up hostilities got out and he rebelled against his mother, killing her. In AD 64, Rome had a great fire. The public blamed Nero and he blamed the Christians. In AD 65, Piso attempted a conspiracy against Nero's life. This conspiracy involved many of Rome's higher ups. Nero found out and had each of the conspirators killed (by forced suicide). In AD 68, the senate sentenced Nero to death but he committed suicide instead.

Livia: (Wife of Augustus) –

One of the most important women in the Roman Empire. She was also the mother of Tiberius, Grandmother to Claudius, Great-Grandmother to Caligula and the Great-Great Grandmother to Nero. Very influential.

Agrippina: the wife of Tiberius
Britannicus
Great Fire of Rome

Year of the Four Emperors

Galba

Otho

Vitellius

Vespasian

Flavian Emperors (A.D. 69 - 96)

Vespasian

Titus

Domitian

CLCV 1003 – Terms 5 – Class of Friday, October 19

Pompeii: Pompeii was partially destroyed and buried under 4 to 6 m (13 to 20 ft) of ash and pumice in the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 7

Herculaneum: Town west of Pompeii that also got destroyed by Vesuvius

Stabiae: small Roman town south of Pompeii, got destroyed

Misenum: town in the west of Gulf of Naples

Via Appia/Appian War

Pliny the Elder (Kamm: Gaius Plinius Secundus)

Pliny the Younger (Kamm: Gaius Plinius Caecilius Secundus)

- We have an eye witness account from two letters between Pliny the Younger to the historian Tacitus. The uncle of Pliny the Younger, called Pliny the Elder was a politician, soldier and historian (who wrote the book *Natural History*) was killed in the eruption. Tacitus considered the death of such a great man (Pliny the Elder) to be worthy of being written about so he asked Pliny the Younger to write about the death of his uncle to include in his histories. The first letter was so good that Tacitus asked for a second letter on the subject of Pliny the Younger's personal account as well.

pyroclastic surge: is a fluidized mass of turbulent gas and rock fragments which is ejected during some volcanic eruptions

Plinian eruptions: also known as 'Vesuvian eruptions', are volcanic eruptions marked by their similarity to the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79

Giuseppe Fiorelli: was an Italian archaeologist born in Naples, Italy. His excavations at Pompeii helped preserve the city.

atrium court: In an ancient Roman house, an open central court that contained the impluvium, a basin where rainwater collected. It originally contained the hearth and functioned as the center of family life. / open central court

impluvium: the square basin in the centre of the atrium of an ancient Roman house, which received rainwater from an opening in the roof.

compluvium: was a central opening in the roof of the atrium that let in light and air.

peristyle court: a **peristyle** is a columned porch or open colonnade in a building surrounding a court that may contain an internal garden

Augustus of Prima Porta. (early first Century A.D.):

-It commemorates Augustus' victory over the Parthians in 20 B.C.

-at the top is Caelus, the sky god. Below him are the Sun god, Sol in a four horse chariot and Aurora riding a female figure.

-On the left is a figure of Hispania (Spain) and at the right a captive female barbarian. Apollo and his lyre on a winged griffin and Diana on the back of a stag that crowned the Arch of Gaius Octavius on the Palatine come beneath¹. Below, the Mother Earth Tellus reclines and cradles two babies and a cornucopia full of fruits. Both the images of the sky god and the Mother Earth imply peace that results from the victory². The gods on the breastplate suggests that Augustus' victory has a cosmic favor.

Doryphorus/Spear Bearer: an early greek sculpture that became famous many westerners based their sculpture on this one, like Augustus of Prima Porta

Polyclitus: The sculptor of the above

Ara Pacis (13-9 B.C.): Altar of Augustan Peace"; commonly shortened to *Ara Pacis*) is an altar to Peace, envisioned as a Roman goddess. It was commissioned by the Roman Senate on 4 July 13 BC to honor the return of Augustus to Rome after three years in Hispania and Gaul,^[1] and was consecrated on 30 January 9 BC by the Senate to celebrate the peace established in the Empire after Augustus's victories

Tellus: also called **Terra Mater**, ancient Roman earth goddess. Probably of great antiquity, she was concerned with the productivity of the earth and was later identified with the mother-goddess Cybele.

CLCV 1003 – Terms 6 – Class of Friday, October 26

Arch of Titus (c. A.D. 81) : It was constructed in c.82 AD by the Roman Emperor Domitian shortly after the death of his older brother Titus to commemorate Titus' victories, including the Siege of Jerusalem in 70 AD.

Column of Trajan (dedicated A.D. 113) : it was built to commemorate Roman emperor Trajan's victory in the Dacian Wars

Dacia/Dacian Campaigns: were two military campaigns fought between the Roman Empire and Dacia during Emperor Trajan's rule. The conflicts were triggered by the

constant Dacian threat on the Danubian Roman Province of Moesia and also by the increasing need for resources of the staggering economy of the Roman Empire

Roman concrete = mortar (pozzolana and water mixed with lime) + aggregate

arch

vault : is an architectural term for an arched form used to provide a space with a ceiling or roof

dome: A **dome** is an element of architecture that resembles the hollow upper half of a sphere. Dome structures made of various materials have a long architectural lineage extending into prehistory.

architectural orders: Doric, Ionic, Corinthian

procella [front porch of a Roman temple]

cella: the cella is a room at the centre of the building, usually containing a cult image or statue representing the particular deity venerated in the temple.

pilaster: shallow rectangular column that projects slightly beyond the wall into which it is built and conforms precisely to the order or style of the adjacent columns.

coffer: is a sunken panel in the shape of a square, rectangle, or octagon in a ceiling, soffit or vault

Maison Carrée, Nîmes. Late first Century BC: Roman temple in south east France: , it was dedicated to Lucius and Gaius Caesar, adopted sons of Augustus;

Forum of Augustus. Late first Century BC: The triumvir Octavian vowed to build a temple honoring Mars, the Roman God of War, during the battle of Philippi in 42 BC. After winning the battle, with the help of Mark Antony and Lepidus, Octavian had avenged the assassination of his adoptive father Julius Caesar. He became the first emperor of Rome in 27 BC under the name Augustus, and planned for the temple to be built in a new forum named after himself.

Temple of Mars Ultor

Pont du Gard. near Nîmes.: Mid-first Century AD: structure built by the Romans to carry water from a spring at Uzès to the Roman colony of Nemausus (Nîmes). Because the terrain between the two points is hilly, the aqueduct – built mostly underground – took a long, winding route that crossed the gorge of the Gardon, requiring the construction of an aqueduct bridge. Built in the 1st century AD, the Pont du Gard is the highest of all Roman aqueduct bridges and is the best preserved after the Aqueduct of Segovia.

Flavian Amphitheatre/Colosseum. c. AD 72-80: Capable of seating 50,000 spectators, [5][6] the Colosseum was used for gladiatorial contests and public spectacles such as mock sea battles, animal hunts, executions, re-enactments of famous battles, and dramas based on Classical mythology. The building ceased to be used for entertainment in the early medieval era. It was later reused for such purposes as housing, workshops, quarters for a religious order, a fortress, a quarry, and a Christian shrine.

velarium: big curtain that acted as a ceiling in the colosseum

Pantheon. AD 125-128: is a building in Rome, Italy, commissioned by Marcus Agrippa as a temple to all the gods of Ancient Rome, and rebuilt by Emperor Hadrian in about 126 AD.[]

oculus: circular window or rain hole

Mural, Villa of the Mysteries, Pompeii. Mid-first century BC: The **Villa of the Mysteries** or *Villa dei Misteri* is a well preserved ruin of a Roman Villa which lies some 400 metres northwest of Pompeii, southern Italy.

fresco: a made in wall painting, very durable

Alexander Mosaic, House of the Faun, Pompeii. First Century BC: It depicts a battle between the armies of Alexander the Great and Darius III of Persia and measures

tessera (pl.: tesserae)⁹: A tessera is the very small tile of marble, glass, stone, etc., that I mentioned in class, used in mosaics like the one of Alexander and Darius.

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