

**Foubert, L. (2010) “Literary constructions of female identities: the parallel lives of Julio-Claudian women in Tacitus’ *Annals*”, *Studies in Latin Literature and Roman History. Latomus* 15, 344-65.**

This article proposes a method to study the representation of women in Tacitus’ oeuvre. It shows that through ‘paralleling lives’ Tacitus deliberately tried to evoke the image of traditional *matronae* as a framework with which his audience could evaluate and criticize imperial women, both in the past and in the present. The contribution focuses in particular on Tacitus’ narrative techniques to depict Agrippina Maior, Plancina, Livilla, Messalina and Agrippina Minor.