

**Hemelrijk, E.A. (2013) “Inscribed in the city: how did women enter ‘written space’?”, in R. Laurence and G. Sears (eds), *Written Space in the Latin West: 200 BC to AD 300*, London and New York: Continuum, 135-51.**

Roman cities and their public spaces are dominated by men: male councillors and officials ruled the city and decided on the erection of public buildings and honorific statues in public locations. Consequently, it is their names that are mostly recorded on public monuments in the city. In the course of the first centuries of the Empire, however, we meet a growing number of women among the donors of public buildings and among the dedicators, and to a lesser extent honorands, of public statues. By lending their names to the public buildings they donated and by recording their names as dedicators of public statues they entered the ‘written space’ of the city. This chapter addresses women’s share in public writing: what role did they play as dedicators and honorands of public inscriptions? How were they portrayed? What may have caused the differences between cities as regards the number and variety of public inscriptions in which women were recorded? Finally, what did their official, written record mean for women and for the outlook of the city?