

**Cenerini, F. (2019) “Messalina e Sillio: un falso matrimonio?”, in S. Segenni (ed), *False notizie... fake news e storia romana. Falsificazioni antiche, falsificazioni moderne*, Milano, Le Monnier Università, 119- 32.**

The political conspiracy involving Caius Silius and Messalina is censored and downgraded, in the regime's vulgate, to banal adultery (fake news) and Messalina's memory is not only damned, as evidenced by the erasure of her name on the stones, but precisely to give substance to this version, the image of a female character totally dedicated to uncontrolled and uncontrollable lust is constructed. This image serves a double purpose: to demolish the figure of Emperor Claudius, the laughingstock of women and freedmen, and, above all, to deny women political intelligence.