

**Carlà-Uhink, F. and Wieber, A. (eds) (2020) *Orientalism and the Reception of Powerful Women from the Ancient World*, Bloomsbury, London et al.**

This volume investigates the (modern) reception, in particular in the visual and performing arts, of ancient women who have been represented and are considered at popular level to have been “powerful”. Through a detailed introduction and a set of case studies, the volumes discusses how – throughout all centuries – the image of the “woman in power” has been based on the idea that she was “usurping” a male role; this image was thus deployed as an unsettling, even “deviant” one. The volume shows how this re-imagination and re-visualization is, more often than not, the product of Orientalist stereotypes - even when dealing with women who had nothing to do with Eastern regions; and compares these images with examples of Eastern gaze on the same women.

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