

## A Classical Reception *Mensa Rotunda* on the series **DOMINA**

Description and Goal: The limited series *DOMINA*, season one produced by Sky Atlantic (Italy/UK, May 2021) and season two produced by MGM+ (USA, July 2023), created/written by Simon Burke and filmed at the famous Cinecittà studios in Rome, is a historical drama that examines the power struggles of ancient Rome from a female perspective and vividly portrays the figure of Livia Drusilla as the dominating first lady of Rome as she endeavors to fulfill her ancestral ambitions and her father's wish to restore the fallen Republic. The series offers an utterly original narrative angle as it recounts the rise of Livia from her first marriage in around 43 BCE to Tiberius Claudius Nero, and then follows her through the early years of her notorious marriage in 38 BCE to Gaius Octavian, the future Emperor Augustus; season one focuses on the decade of the 20s BCE, while season two centers on the next decade and takes Livia down to the death of her son Drusus in Germania in 9 BCE. This roundtable is open to all those who wish to discuss the series and its engagement with and contribution to classical reception studies, as we explore the figure of Livia and her various relationships with other characters in the show, as well as the depiction of race, power, gender, and sexuality. The goal of the roundtable is to elucidate a number of interesting topics and encourage the writing of chapter abstracts for a planned volume of collected essays on the series.