

Collective Emotions in Euripides' *Rhesus*: A Study on Trust and Fear

Rhesus, a tragedy attributed to Euripides in antiquity, but nowadays commonly regarded as a later fourth-century play, has recently gathered considerable scholarly attention after the publication of three major commentaries in English (Liapis 2012; Fries 2014; Fantuzzi 2020). Yet the emotions experienced by its characters and the Chorus still have not been fully explored, despite the undeniable fact that the study of emotions is a current trend in the field of classics (cf. e.g. Konstan 2007; Cairns 2017; 2022; 2022; Chaniotis, A. N. Kaltsas and I. Mylonopoulos 2017). This paper shall focus on the emotions in *Rhesus* and, more specifically, in the emotions experienced by more than one character. I shall first investigate the emotions (mainly, fear and trust) that drive the actions of the Chorus of Trojan soldiers. I shall show that, through their shared emotions, actions, and counsels towards Hector, this Chorus, to a large degree, determines the tragic action, especially at the beginning of the play. I shall then focus on the shared emotions and actions of the two scouts, Odysseus and Diomedes, as presented on stage and in the dream of the Charioteer.

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