

## The Romanization of Vulcan During the Rise and Reign of Octavian

- Thesis
  - During the rise and reign of Octavian Caesar, there was a shift in the identity of Vulcan that led to his increased Romanization.
- Hephaestus in Greece and Vulcan Early Rome
  - Berlin Foundry Cup
  - Plutarch, *Romulus* 27.5
  - Pliny the Elder, *Naturalis Historia* 16.86
  - Temple of 214 BCE
    - Livy. *Ab Urbe Condita*. 24.10.9.
- Octavian and the Divine
  - *In private solo Martis Ultoris Templum forumque Augustum ex manibiis feci... Dona ex manibiis in Capitolio et in aede divi Iuli et in aede Apollinis et in aede Vestae et in templo Martis Ultoris consavravi, quae mihi constiterunt HS circiter milliens... In templis omnium civitatum provinciae Asiae victor ornametna reposui quae spoliatis templis is cum quo bellum gesseram privatim possederat*
  - “On my land I built the Temple to Mars Ultor and the Augustan Forum from the spoils of war... From the spoils of war, I gave consecrated gifts to the Capitaline and to the temple of Divi Iulius and to the temple of Apollo and to the temple of Vesta and to the temple of Mars Ultor, which cost not far from 100 million sesterces... After my victory, I put back the ornaments in the temples in all the cities of the province of Asia, which [my enemy] stripped from the temples for his private use.”
    - *Res Gestae Divi Augusti*. 21 & 24
- Vulcan in War
  - Liv. 8,10,13; App. Hann. 133; Serv. Aen. 8,562

- ἄνεμοι τὴν φλόγα ὑπολαβόντες περιήνεγκαν ἐκ ὅλην Περυσίαν, καὶ ἐνεπρήσθη χωρὶς τοῦ Ἥφαιστείου μόνου... τότε δὲ ὅσοι τὰ λείψανα τῆς πόλεως διέλαχον, τὸν Ἥφαιστον σφίσιν ἔθεντο θεὸν εἶναι πάτριον ἀντὶ τῆς Ἥρας
- “Winds picked up the flames from all of Perusia and burnt everything except the temple of Hephaestus... but then those left to divide the remains of the city, they placed Hephaestus to be god of the city over Hera.”
  - Appian. *The Civil Wars*. 5.5.49
- Servius Tullius
  - *Arserat hoc templum, signo tamen ille pepercit // Ignis: opem nato Mulciber ipse tulit // Namque pater Tulli Volcanus, Orcesia mater // Praesignis facie Corniculana fuit.*
  - “To this burned temple, yet he spared the fire // sign: Mulciber himself helped bear the birth // for Vulcan is the father of Tullius, Orcesia is the mother // made the distinguished little form.”
    - Ovid. *Fasti*. 6.625 – 6.628
  - For further evidence of this story please refer to
    - Livy, *Ab Urbe Condita* 1.39.1-3
    - Dionysius of Halicarnassus. *Antiquitates Romanae*. 4.2.1 – 3
- Cacus, son of Vulcan
  - *Pastor accola eius loci, nomine Cacus, ferox viribus, caputs pulchritudine boum cum avertere eam praedam vellet... caudis in speluncam traxit.*
  - “A shepherd lived here, named Cacus, who was bold by means of strength, caught by the beauty of the cows he wished to take them with him... he dragged them to the cave.”
    - Livy. *Ab Urbe Condita*. 1.7.5 – 7

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- *huic monstro Volcanus erat pater*
- “Vulcan was the father of this monster”
  - Vergil. *Aeneid*. 8.198
- *pater monstri Mulciber huius erat*
- “The father of this monster was Mulciber”
  - Ovid. *Fasti*. 1.554
- The Shield of Aeneas
  - *Talia per clipeum Vulcani, dona parentis // miratur rerumque ignarus imagine gaudet // attollens umero famamque et fata nepotum.*
  - “Through this shield of Vulcan, a gift of the mother // Delighting and wondering at the images // Aeneas lifted it to his shoulder and Venus uttered a prophecy of his grandkids.”
    - Vergil. *Aeneid*. 8.729 – 8.731
- The Pantheon
  - *Iovi ac Iunoni unum, alterum Neptuno ac Minervae, tertium Marti ac Veneri, quartum Apollini ac Dianae, quintum Vulcano ac Vestae, sextum Mercurio et Cereci.*
  - “First Jove and Juno, another is Neptune and Minerva, third is Mars and Venus, fourth is Apollo and Diana, fifth is Vulcan and Vesta, sixth is Mercury and Ceres.”
    - Livy. *Ab Urbe Condita*. 22.10.9
- Conclusion
  - The introduction of new stories, construction of the Parthenon, and increased dedication to Vulcan in terms of cities, leads one to see that there was shift in the identification of Vulcan during Octavian’s rule in Rome.