

Visions of Dido

The complexity of the portrayal of Dido in Vergil's *Aeneid* is a turning point for the character in literature and was a deliberate choice made by Vergil that had rhetorical consequences in the reception of the narrative of Aeneas. This poster presents a line of analysis of the Dido literary tradition that focuses on Vergil's *Aeneid*, which adapts elements of existing narratives, in an effort to unveil the author's perception of what kind of narrative his intended audience would find resonant.

Building on those observations and methods of analysis, the poster will identify other key portrayals of Dido. Recognizing the connections between the character and the audience in different media and at different times is important because literary traditions cannot continue as vital contributors to culture when books sit unread on a shelf. Translations, illustrations, paintings, musical and dramatic adaptations are all uniquely tailored to suit an intended audience. Because of this, the work of translation is never over. Dido has worn many faces. This poster will seek to explore a few of them.

A more comprehensive project developing the themes identified in this poster will be on exhibit in the Utah State University Libraries Special Collections in late April 2020. The aim of *Visions of Dido* is to explore the literary figure of Dido through as many facets as possible. The project will involve intermediate Latin students with Vergil's text and the process of translation, include information about the production and distribution of several editions of Vergil's *Aeneid* dating from the 17th century until today, and provide a backdrop for creative contributions inspired by and depicting Dido.

Bibliography

- Bednarowski, K. Paul. "Dido and the Motif of Deception in *Aeneid* 2 and 3." *TAPA* 145, no. 1 (2015): 135-172. doi:10.1353/apa.2015.0001.
- Berry, D. H. Did Aeneas love Dido? *Proceedings of the Virgil Society* Volume: 28 (2014): 197-217.
- DeGraff, Thelma B. "Dido: Tota Vergiliana." *The Classical Weekly* 43, no. 10 (1950): 147-51. Accessed January 15, 2020. doi:10.2307/4342700.
- Desmond, Marilyn. 1994. *Reading Dido: Gender, Textuality, and the Medieval Aeneid*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. Accessed January 15, 2020. ProQuest Ebook Central.
- Fratantuono, Lee. Divine twins: Daphne, Apollo, and an Ovidian response to Virgil. *Bollettino di Studi Latini: Periodico Semestrale d'Informazione Bibliografica*, Volume: 46 Issue: 2 (2016): 488-497.
- Ruth Scodel. "Sunt Lacrimae Rerum." *The Classical Journal* 111, no. 2 (2016): 219-30. Accessed January 26, 2020. doi:10.5184/classicalj.111.2.0219.
- Virgil, et al. *Virgil's Aeneid, Books I-VI*. Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, 1998.