

CREATIVE LIVES IN CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY

Poets, Artists and Biography

What happened when creative biographers took on especially creative subjects (poets, artists and others) in Greek and Roman antiquity? *Creative Lives* examines how the biographical traditions of ancient poets and artists parallel the creative processes of biographers themselves, both within antiquity and beyond. Each chapter explores a range of biographical material that highlights the complexity of how readers and viewers imagine the lives of ancient creator-figures. Work in the last decades has emphasized the likely fictionality of nearly all of the ancient evidence about lives of poets, as well as of other artists and intellectuals; this book now sets out to show what we might nevertheless still *do* with the rich surviving testimony for ‘creative lives’ – and the evidence that those traditions still shape how we narrate modern lives, too.

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RICHARD FLETCHER
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