"Race," Racism, and Representation in Ancient Italy: Aethiopians in the Visual Arts of the Roman Empire

Lecture by Sinclair Bell, Professor of Art History
Northern Illinois University

Thursday, October 19, 2023 4:30 pm, LUBAR N140 3202 North Maryland Ave., UW-Milwaukee Campus



This lecture surveys the ways in which imperial artists represented the peoples whom the Romans referred to as Aethiopians or Nubians (i.e., "Black" Africans) in a variety of visual media. It also considers how and why these works have been (mis)interpreted or sometimes altogether ignored by ancient art historians, and proposes new ways of integrating them into future, critical histories of Roman art.



Professor Bell teaches courses on Greek, Etruscan, and Roman art and architecture. He has excavated at sites in Italy and Tunisia and worked as a curatorial assistant at museums in Germany and Greece.



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