

Dear readers,

After several dormant years, we are excited to relaunch the *Berkeley Undergraduate Journal of Classics*! We would like to thank the UC Berkeley Classics department, especially undergraduate adviser Cassandra Dunn, for their guidance and support with restarting the journal. In addition to academic articles, we are thrilled to begin what we hope will be a new tradition of publishing creative works.

Without further ado, we present to you the six exceptional pieces we have selected, all of which touch upon distinct areas of the world of classical antiquity. In “The Princess, The Pauper and The Perpetrator: A Trinational Electra in the Twentieth Century,” Will Shao analyzes how three twentieth-century playwrights incorporated elements from their sociopolitical environs into their adaptations of the Electra myth, and their significance. L. M. Martins vividly captures the rebellious spirit of Medea in the poem “Medea: Incarnate Queen of Disorder,” bringing the ancient queen to life in the modern world through verse. In “Indo-European Poesy and the ‘Ship of State’ in Aristophanes’s *The Frogs*,” Arjun Srirangarajan explores the importance of the parallels between analogies of poetry composition and ship carpentry in *The Frogs*. “‘The Realm of Truth Confronting its Shadowy Other’? The Reality of Elite Self-Distancing Narratives in Classical Literature” by Karl Ulas-Ono discusses the contrasts between the representation of elite versus non-elite spaces in classical literature. Sojeet Sharma’s “Woman of Tiryns” beautifully recreates a Mycenaean fresco from Bronze Age Tiryns, illustrating in vibrant watercolor a Mycenaean woman carrying an ivory pyxis. “The Indo-European Religious Background of the Gygēs Tale of Hērodotos” by Ethan Rite situates the Gygēs story from the *Histories* within a deeper Indo-European context, examining narratives of sacred marriage in a variety of ancient civilizations.

This past year has been a challenging one for all of us, and we are so grateful for everyone who submitted to BUJC this spring, most especially our authors and creators, without whose hard work and patience this issue would not have been possible. We are honored to be a part of sharing their scholarship and creativity with the world, and we hope you enjoy their works as much as we do.

All the best,  
The BUJC editorial board

*“Great deeds are usually wrought at great risks” — Herodotus*

**Editor-in-chief**

LILLIAN MORGENTHALER is a senior from Menlo Park, California majoring in history and classical civilizations. She is especially interested in Roman social history, particularly the rise of Christianity and the institution of Roman marriage. Outside of class, Lilly works as a writing tutor at the Student Learning Center and enjoys reading fantasy novels and watching historical dramas.

**President**

OWEN SHEARD is a senior from East Brunswick, New Jersey majoring in classical civilizations and English. His interests include Bronze Age archaeology, Greek tragedy, and Scythology. Owen has been a research apprentice for Dr. Kim Shelton at the Nemea Center and has spent the last year writing original tragedies taking from Greek form and mythology under the mentoring of Dr. Mario Telò. Out of the classroom, he loves to read historical and science fiction and to go hiking.

**Editors**

YASHILA BORDAG is a 2021 graduate from Dublin, California who double majored in data science and classical civilizations. She has a special interest in Bronze Age archaeology and digital humanities. Outside of coursework and the journal before she graduated, Yashila was a research apprentice for Professor Kim Shelton at the Nemea Center, and apprenticed with Professor Niek Veldhuis and Dr. Adam Anderson in the Sumerian Networks Project, and was a part of the Data 100 course staff. For fun, she loves bullet journaling, reading, and free writing.

PHEE MARCIAL is a senior from the Washington, D.C. area majoring in classical languages. Their interests include Roman and Greek lyric poetry, particularly that of Catullus and Sappho, and the history and mechanisms of translation. They are currently pursuing research on gender expression and translation in Catullus as a SURF 2021 fellow. In their free time, they enjoy painting and making noodles from scratch.

WILLIAM SIEVING is a senior from Sacramento, California studying classical languages and history. His interests include Hellenistic lyric poetry and genre in the Second Sophistic. During quiet moments, he enjoys reading and baking.

SHANNON WHITE is a junior from La Habra Heights, California majoring in classical languages. They are particularly interested in Bronze Age history and archaic Greek poetry. Outside of their studies, Shannon works as a research apprentice for Professor Kim Shelton and as an editor for the Oral History Center in Bancroft Library. They enjoy collecting houseplants and playing electric bass.