

## A Companion to the Etruscans (Blackwell Companions to the Ancient World)

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### A Companion to the Etruscans (Blackwell Companions to the Ancient World) From Wiley-Blackwell

This new collection presents a rich selection of innovative scholarship on the Etruscans, a vibrant, independent people whose distinct civilization flourished in central Italy for most of the first millennium BCE and whose artistic, social and cultural traditions helped shape the ancient Mediterranean, European, and Classical worlds.

- Includes contributions from an international cast of both established and emerging scholars
- Offers fresh perspectives on Etruscan art and culture, including analysis of the most up-to-date research and archaeological discoveries
- Reassesses and evaluates traditional topics like architecture, wall painting, ceramics, and sculpture as well as new ones such as textile archaeology, while also addressing themes that have yet to be thoroughly investigated in the scholarship, such as the *obesus etruscus*, the function and use of jewelry at different life stages, Greek and Roman *topoi* about the Etruscans, the Etruscans' reception of ponderation, and more
- Counters the claim that the Etruscans were culturally inferior to the Greeks and Romans by emphasizing fields where the Etruscans were either technological or artistic pioneers and by reframing similarities in style and iconography as examples of Etruscan agency and reception rather than as a deficit of local creativity

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## A Companion to the Etruscans (Blackwell Companions to the Ancient World) From Wiley-Blackwell Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #3461821 in Books
- Published on: 2016-02-23
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.70" h x 1.00" w x 7.00" l, .84 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 528 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

This companion has an introduction and thirty chapters which not only compile recent research on Etruscan culture but also offer new insights, among others deconstructions based on the primacy of archaeology over Greek and Latin literary sources. - BABESCH 92, 2017 review by L.B. van der Meer All contributions are written in or well translated. - BABESCH 92, 2017 review by L.B. van der Meer

#### From the Back Cover

Over the last decade, interest in Etruscan art and archaeology has been rapidly on the rise. Often dismissed as mysterious, eccentric, and culturally inferior to the Greeks and the Romans, the Etruscans were in fact a vibrant, independent people whose distinct civilization flourished in central Italy for most of the first millennium BCE. This collection contributes to the revitalization of the field by demonstrating the Etruscans' formative role in the development of western culture. With contributions from well-established and emerging scholars alike, *A Companion to the Etruscans* offers fresh perspectives on Etruscan art, society and culture grounded in the most up-to-date research and archaeological discoveries. In addition to coverage of traditional topics such as architecture, wall painting, ceramics, and sculpture, the Companion also focuses on issues and themes previously overlooked or insufficiently addressed in the existing scholarship, such as the *obesus etruscus*, the function and use of jewelry at different life stages, Greek and Roman *topoi* about the Etruscans, the Etruscans' reception of ponderation, and more.

Employing a range of new theoretical approaches to reassess longstanding misconceptions, *A Companion to the Etruscans* will be an essential text for anyone interested in better understanding the lasting legacy of this civilization.

#### About the Author

**Sinclair Bell** is Associate Professor of Art History at Northern Illinois University. He is the co-editor of five other books, including *New Perspectives on Etruria and Early Rome* (2009 with H. Nagy), and is currently the reviews editor of *Etruscan Studies: Journal of the Etruscan Foundation*.

**Alexandra A. Carpino** is Professor of Art History and Department Chair of Comparative Cultural Studies at Northern Arizona University. The author of *Discs of Splendor: The Relief Mirrors of the Etruscans* (2003) and several articles on Etruscan portraiture and mirror iconography, Dr. Carpino also served as editor-in-chief of *Etruscan Studies: Journal of the Etruscan Foundation* from 2012 to 2014.

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