



Vita quotidiana e tensione oltremondana dell'élite tardoantica in area balcanica: l'apporto della documentazione iconografica

Matteo Braconi
Università degli Studi Roma Tre

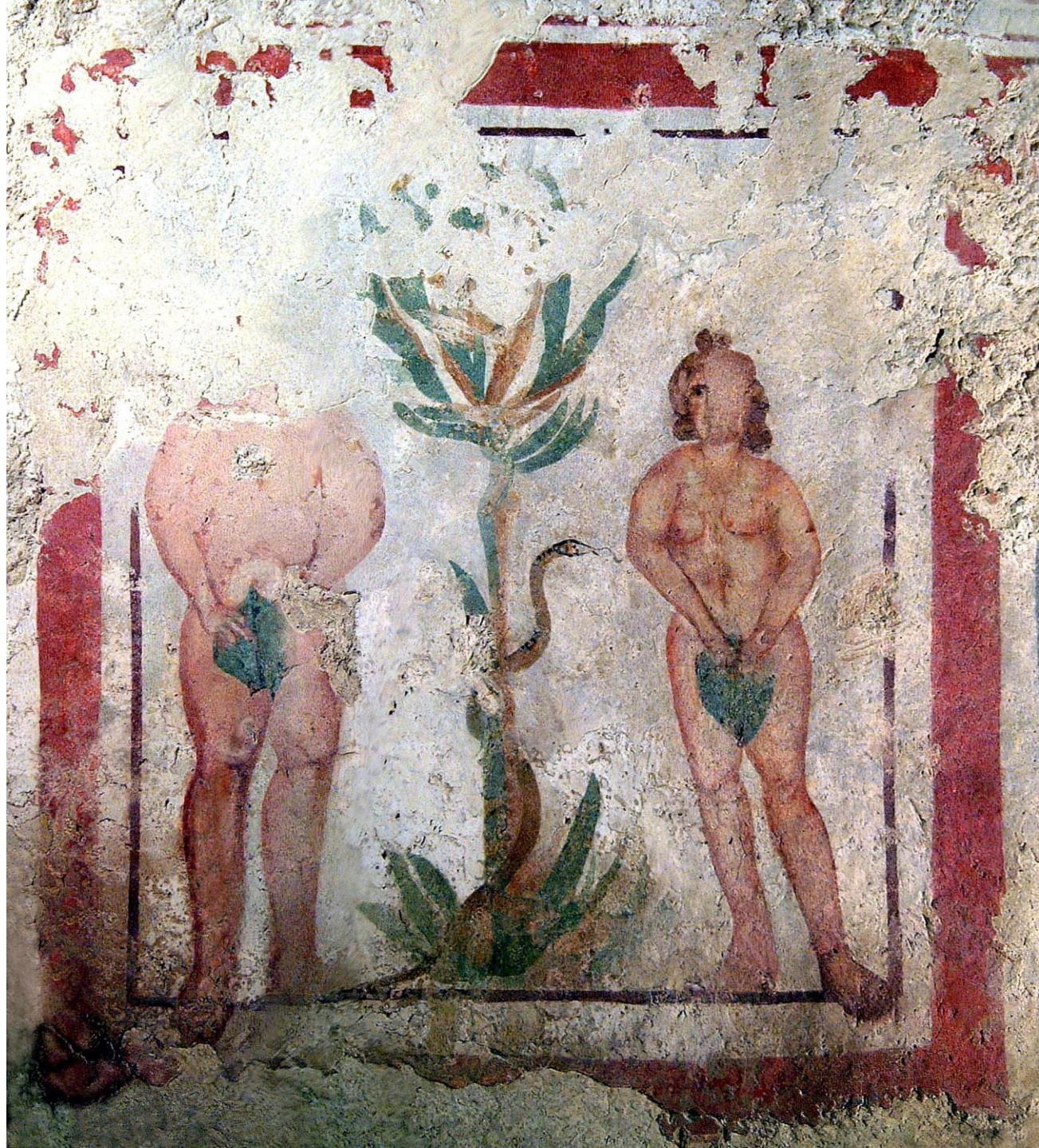


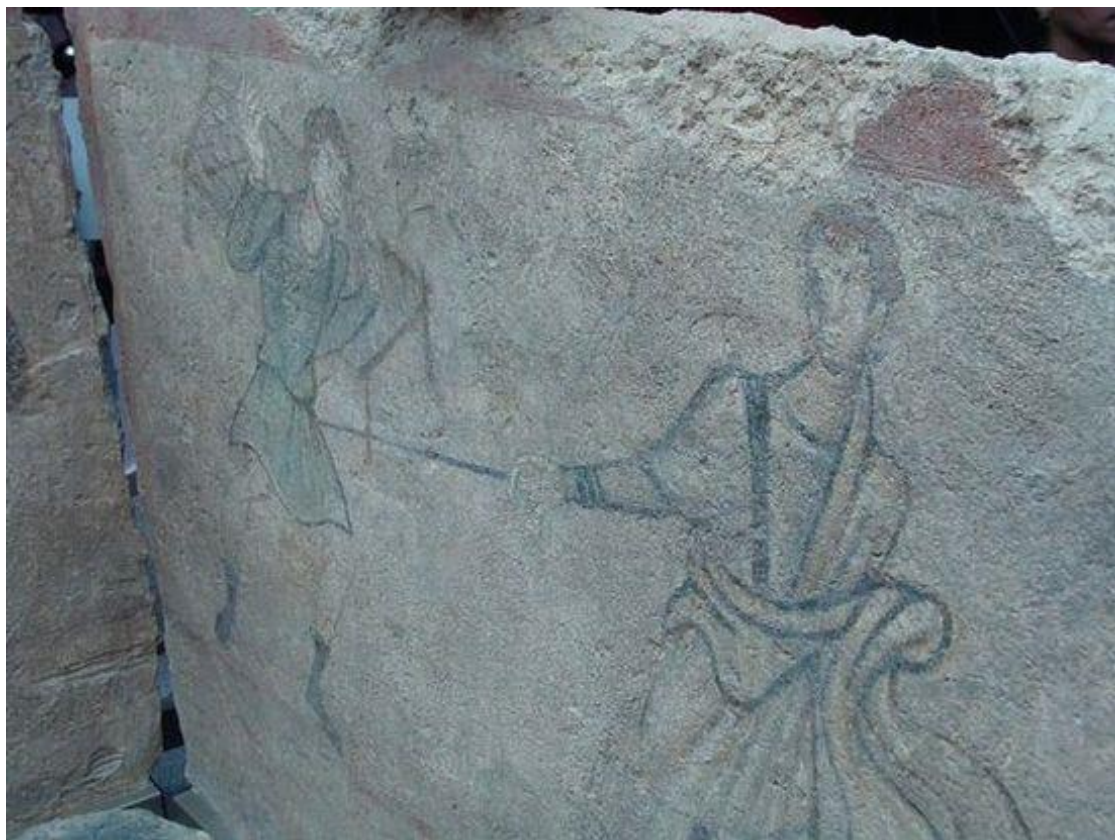


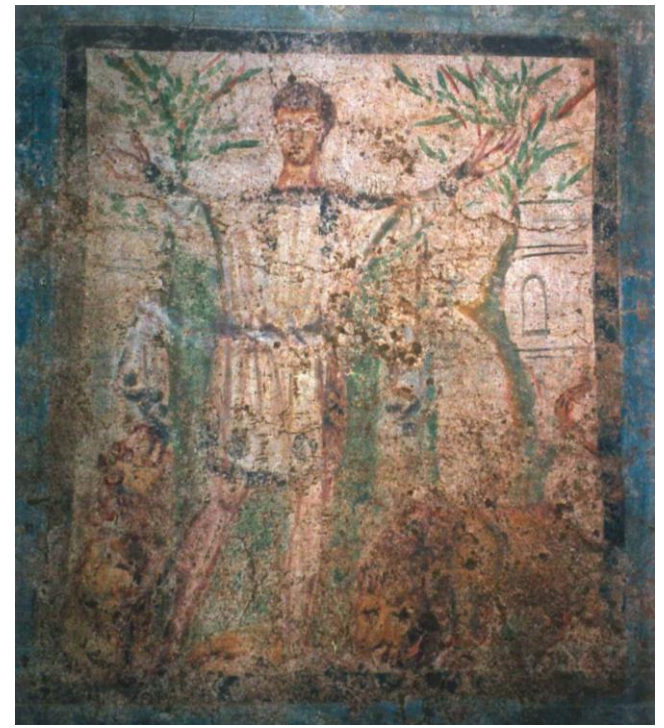
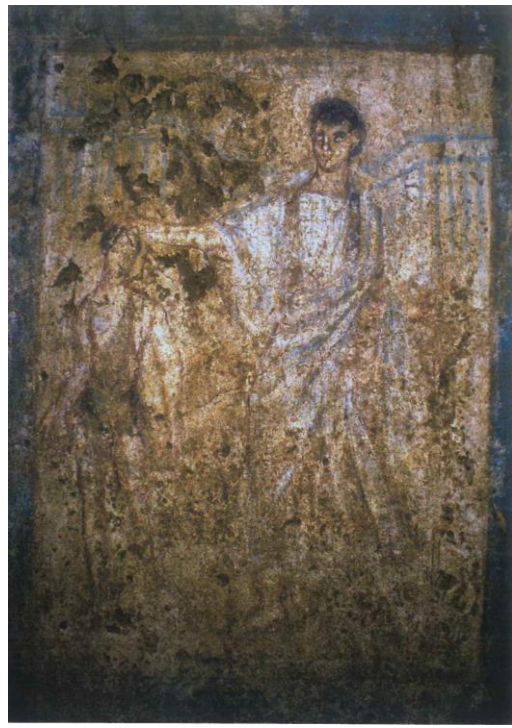
















Rome. Hypogeum of Trebius Justus. General views of the painted cubiculum.

The decoration program refers to social escalation of the owner.

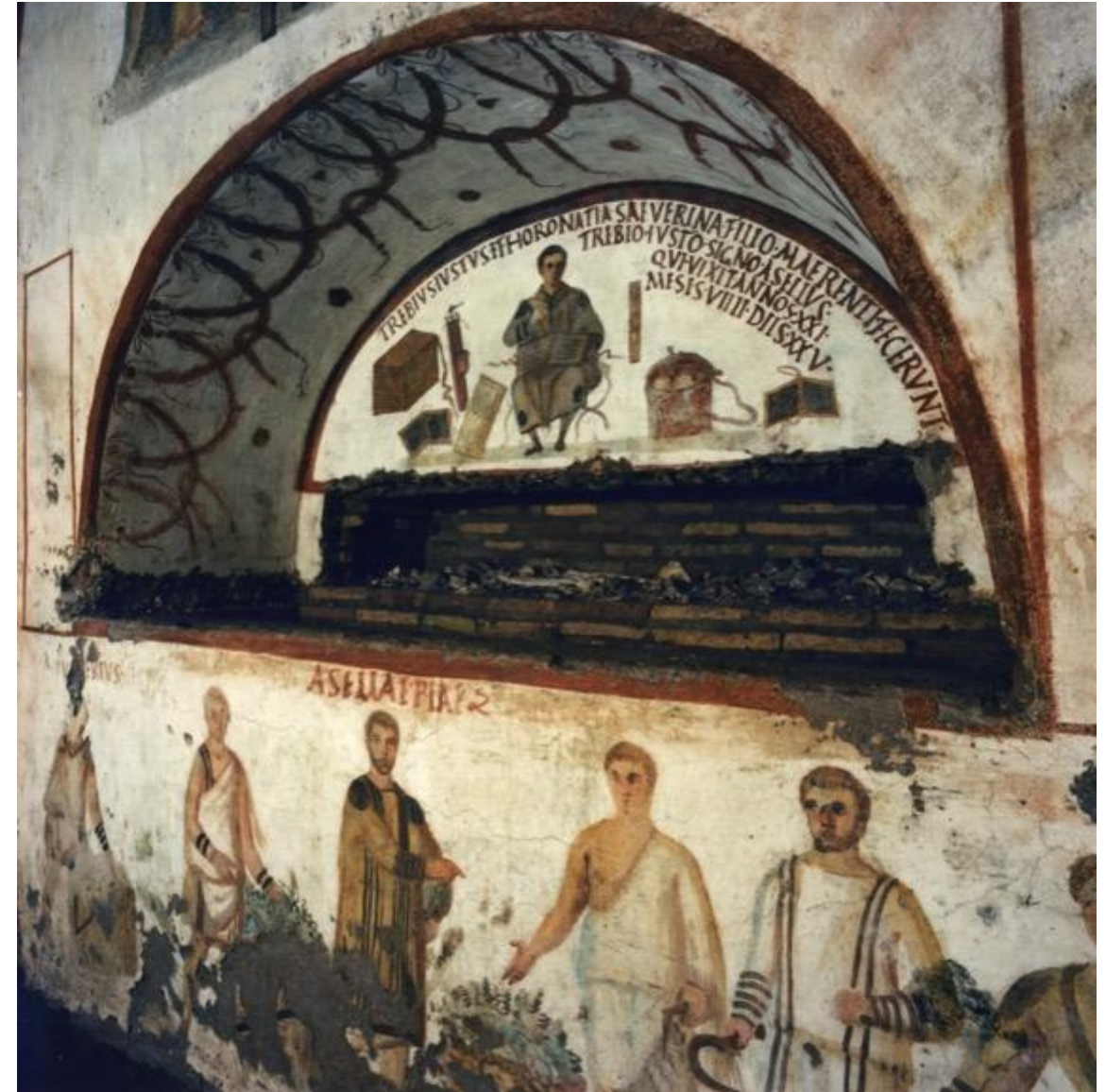
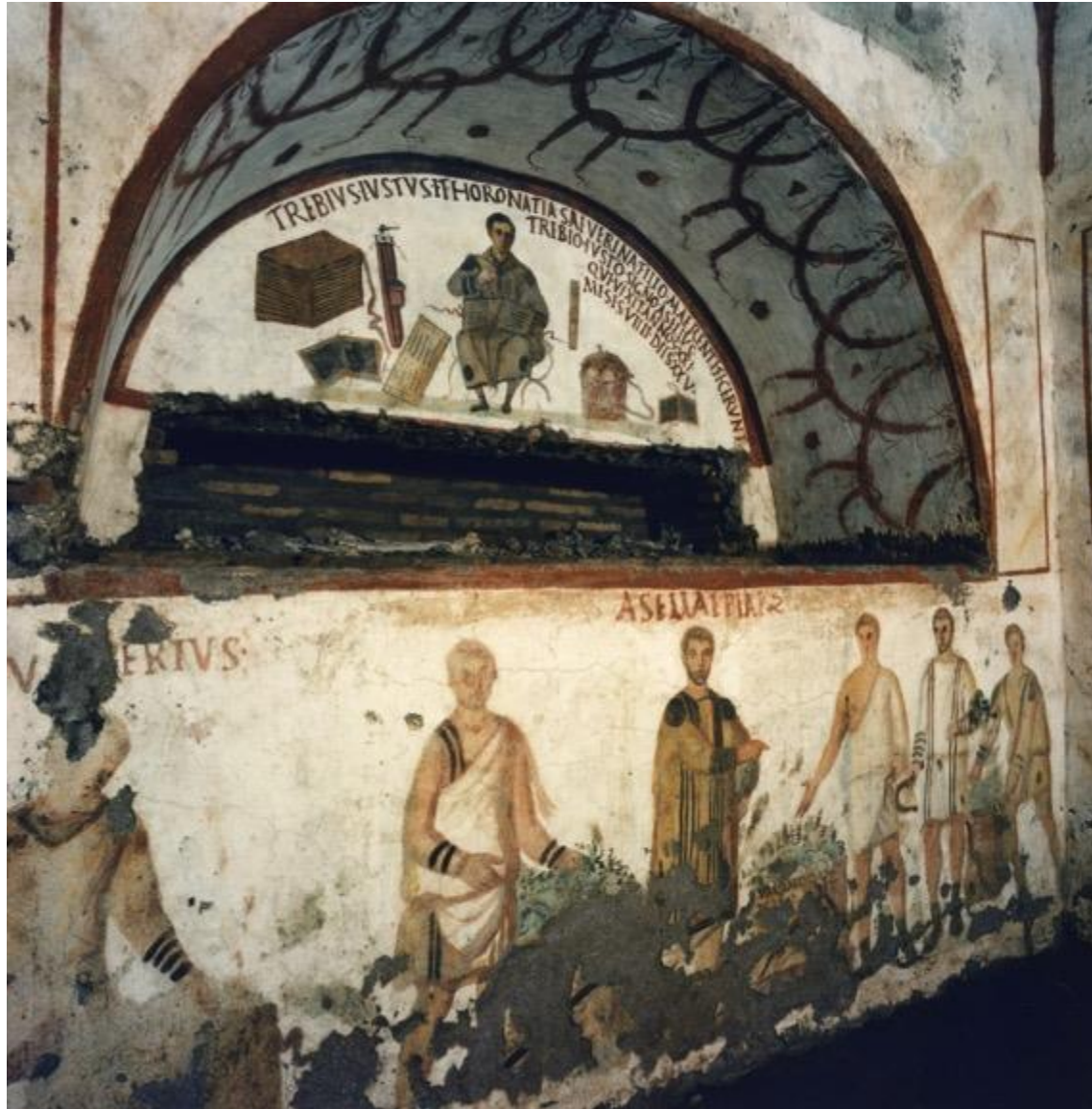


Trebius talks with the *Generosus magister* (architect) about the construction of his suburban villa.



Trebius' villa under construction.

Rome. Hypogeum of Trebius Justus. Paintings of the back wall of the cubiculum.

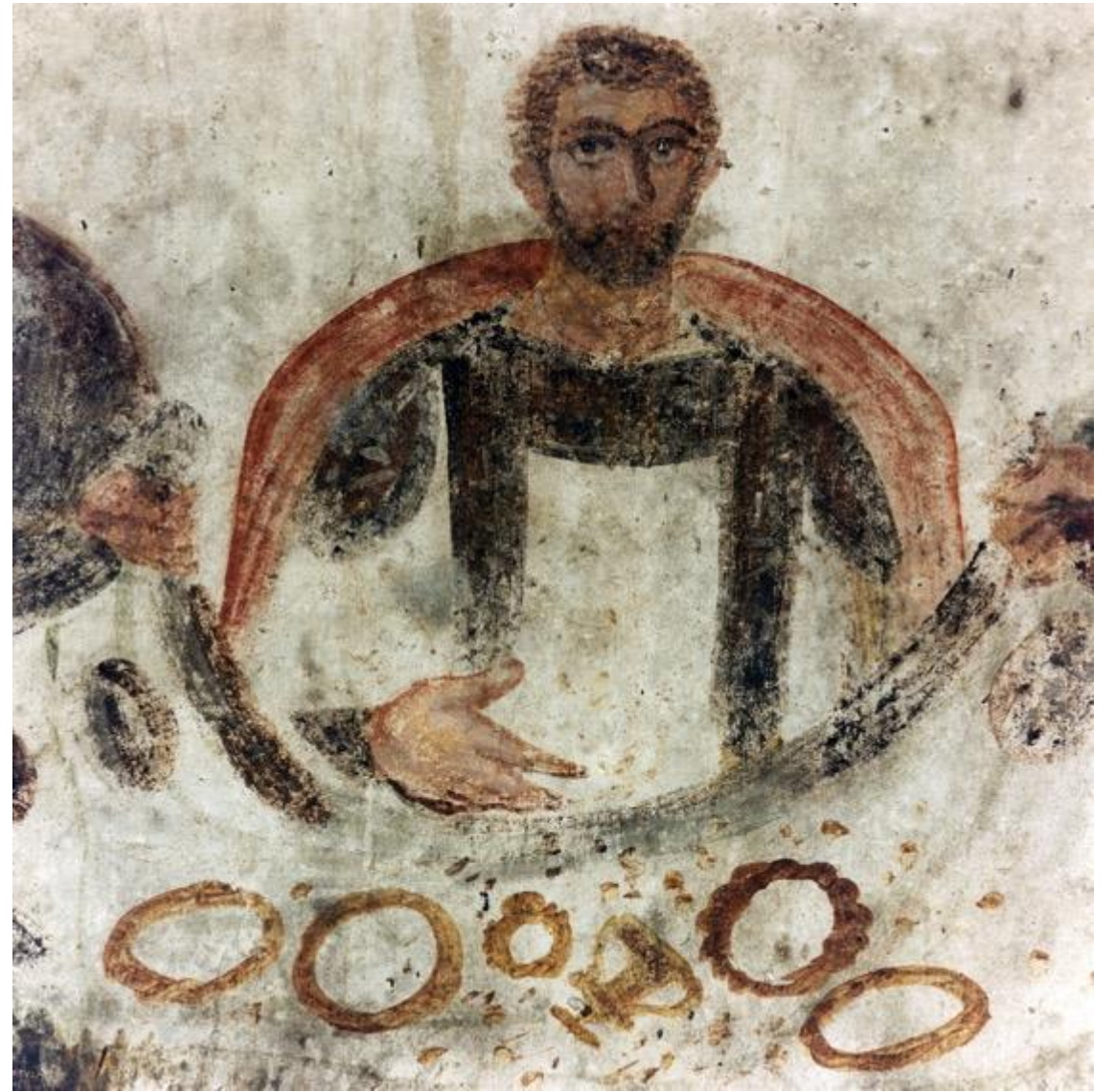


Rome. Hypogeum of Trebius Justus. 4th century. Paintings of the back wall of the cubiculum.























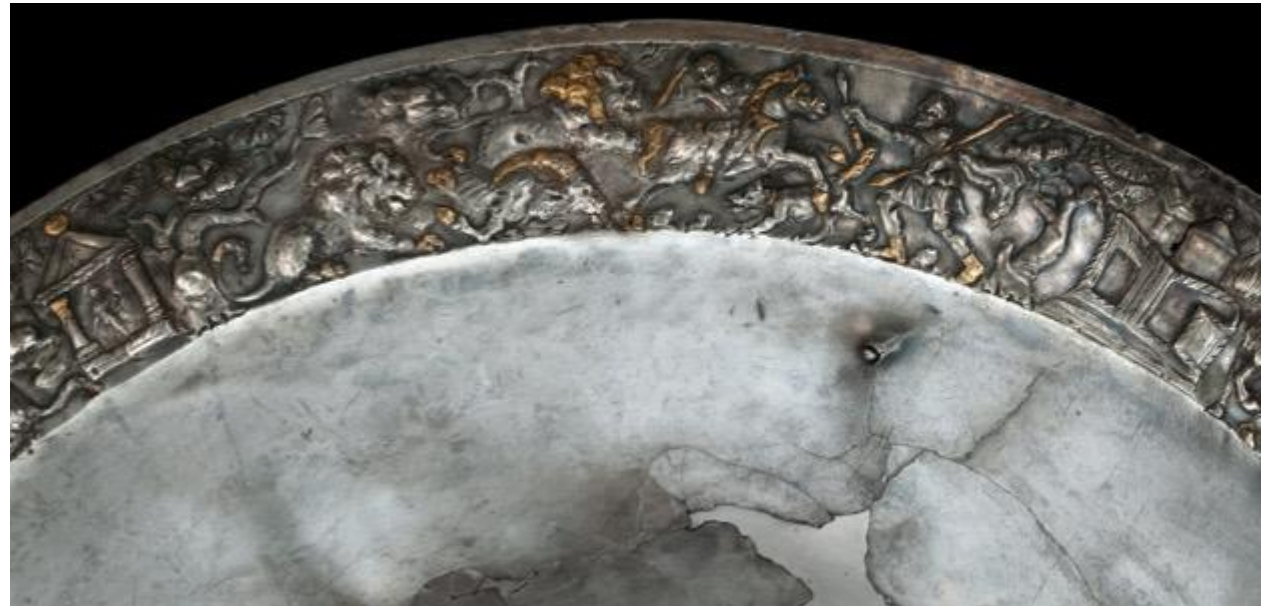
Some of them, if they have gone any distance to see their estates in the country, or to hunt at a meeting collected for their amusement by others, think they have equalled the marches of Alexander the Great, or of Caesar.

Ammianus Marcellinus, *Res Gestae*, XVIII, 4, 18.



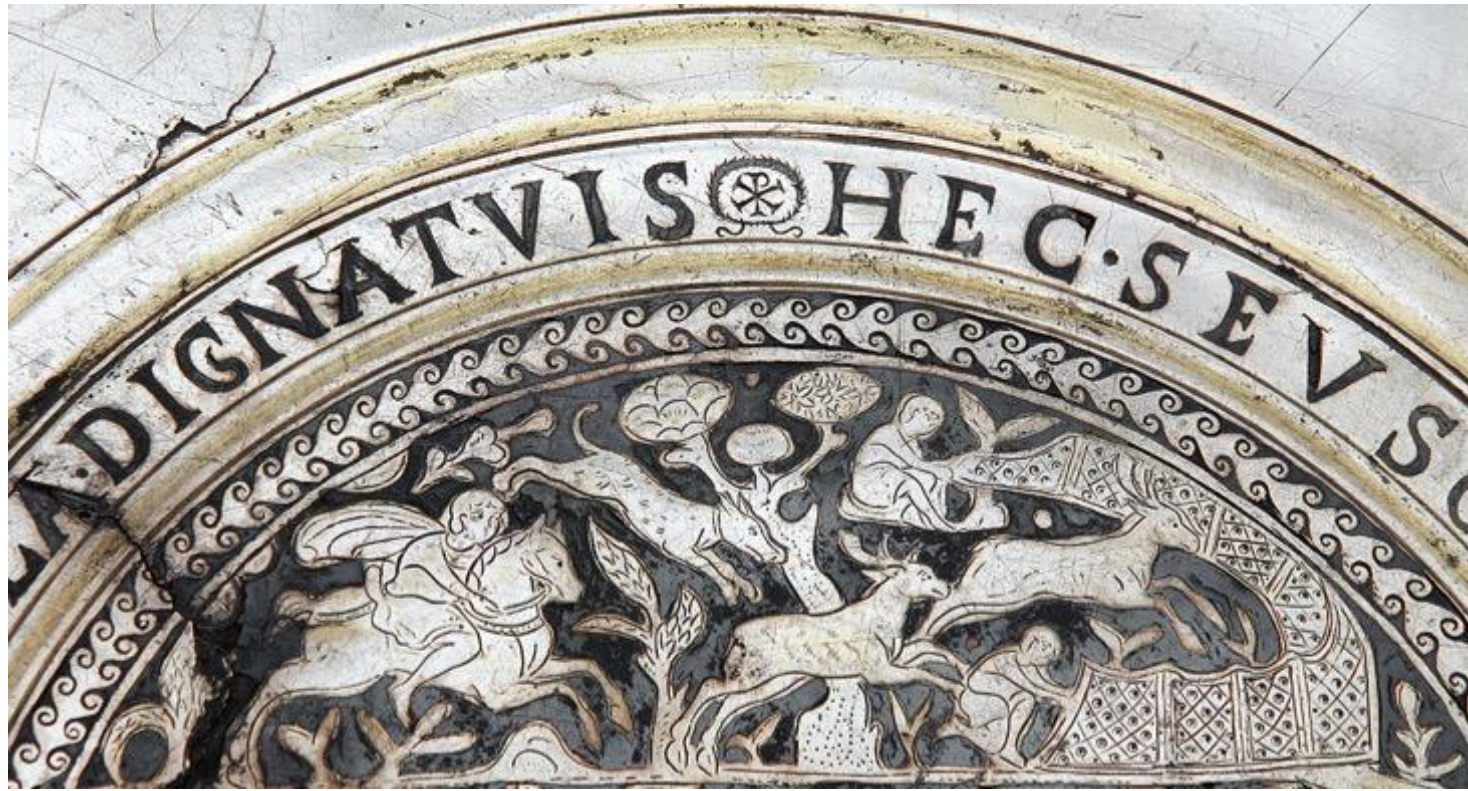












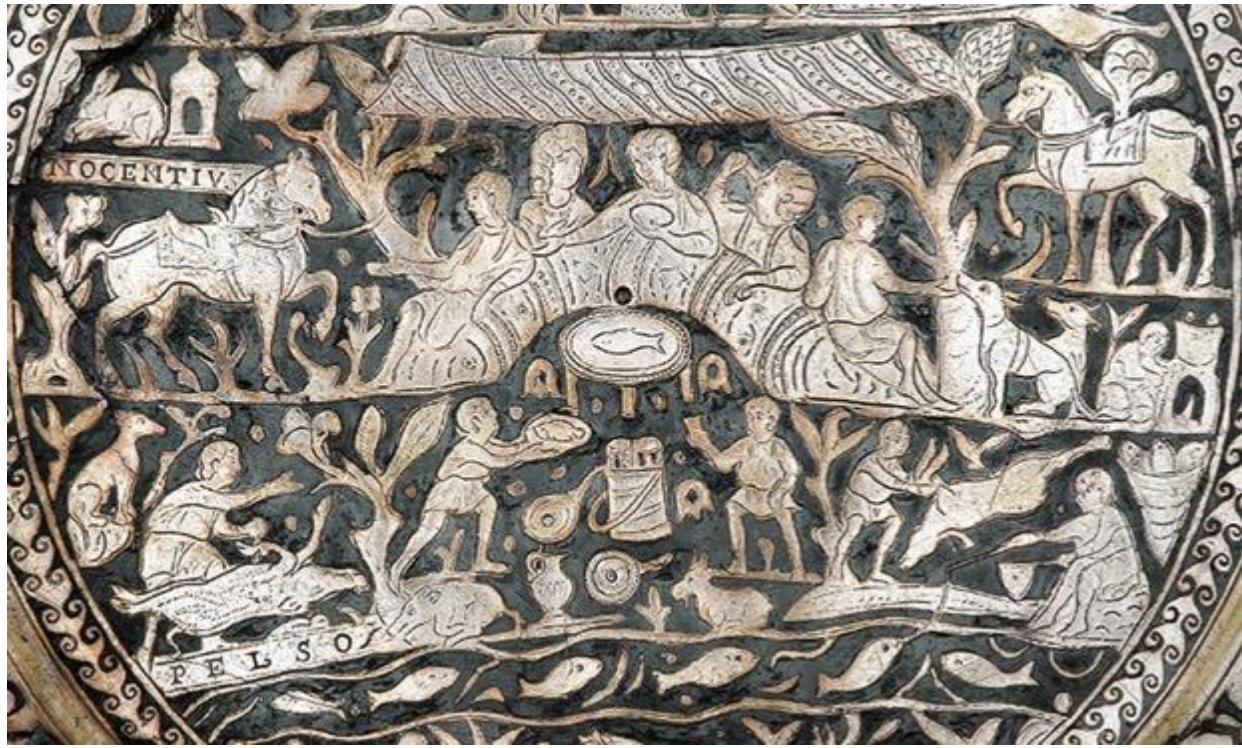














Hunters

Is there any praise you would withhold from these men whom the painting is bringing back from the hunt? And it causes a pure spring of sweet and pellucid water to gush for them from the earth. And no doubt you see the grove around the spring, the work of wise Nature, I believe; [...]. But the band of hunters, charming sturdy youths still breathing the excitement of the hunt but now variously engaged, are resting themselves [...]. This improvised couch, made of nets, I think receives those whom we may rightly call “the leaders of the hunt.” They are five in number. You see the midmost of them, [...] he is relating the story of his contest and how he was first to bring down one of the two wild beasts which are suspended from the trees in nets [...]. As to the other wing of the company, the man next to the central figure, a cup half full in one hand and swinging his right hand above his head [...] while his neighbour, who is looking towards the servant, is bidding him hurry the cup along [...]. Nothing has been overlooked, not even as regards the attendants. The man yonder [...], dressed just as he was in the chase after the quarry and making a meal from the pouch which hangs at his side. One of the two dogs, stretched out in front of him, is eating, while the other squats upon his hind legs and stretches out his neck to catch the morsels that are being thrown to him. A second man kindles a fire [...]; of two other servants, one the carver I suppose, tells us that he is cutting portions with due care to make them equal, and the other holds out the platter that is to receive the meat [...].

Philostratus the Younger, *Imagines*, 3, 1-5 (ed. Fairbanks 1931)























