

CATHARINE EDWARDS : **Magna Mater and the poet unmanned (Ovid, *Fasti* 4.179-372).**

Ovid's treatment of the Magna Mater festival in *Fasti* Book 4 resonates significantly both with his earlier work and with his exile poetry. The episode offers more than one potential figure, it is argued, for the poet and his traumatic experience of punishment at the hands of the emperor. Some significant parallels might prompt readers to perceive an analogy between Ovid, whose experience of exile is repeatedly figured as a painful wound, and Attis, the castrated acolyte of the Magna Mater. More compelling ultimately is the parallel between Ovid and Claudia Quinta, whose reputation, wrongly impugned, is vindicated by the goddess.

Mots-clés :

Ovid – *Fasti* – Magna Mater – Attis – exile – wounding – guilt – sexual morality – Claudia Quinta