

Summary

UT PICTURA POESIS: WORD PICTURES AND MIMETIC SYNTAX IN REPUBLICAN LATIN POETRY

Word pictures and mimetic syntax are not only a feature of Augustan poetry, but were widely used by earlier Republican Latin poets as well. This paper discusses hitherto unidentified examples of mimetic syntax in Catullus, in Cicero's *De Consulatu Suo* and *Aratea*, in an epigram by Q. Lutatius Catulus, and in the *Annales* of Ennius. Contrary to common belief, even the earliest Roman poets do not use simple or mechanical word order but place and arrange their words in many clever ways that help the reader to visualize what the text is trying to say.

Keywords: Latin poetry; mimetic syntax; Catullus; Cicero, *Aratea*; Ennius, *Annales*

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