Village to Empire

SEMESTER 2: THE EMPIRE





Statue of the emperor Augustus

Rome & Italy → Empire



Statue of the emperor Augustus

Schedule

- Theme I (lectures 21-25):

Augustus and the establishment of the Principate

Principate
- 27 B.C. to A.D. 284
- Augustus devised a particular system: no monarchy, dictatorship or kingdom
- *princeps senatus* / *princeps civitatis* (= first amongst the senators / amongst the citizens) – *primus inter pares* "first among equals"
- de facto monarchy within the constitutional framework of the Roman Republic
- *princeps* as the very incarnation of all virtues attributed to the ideal ruler



Statue of the emperor Augustus

Schedule

- Theme II (lectures 26-28):
  Roman imperialism

The emperor Tiberius:
'A good shepherd should shear his flock, not skin it.'



Romans destroying and plundering Jerusalem and the 2nd Temple, A.D. 70

Schedule

- Theme III (29-30):

Trade and economy in the Roman empire





Schedule

- Theme III (29-30):

Trade and economy in the Roman empire





Schedule

- Theme III (29-30):

Trade and economy in the Roman empire

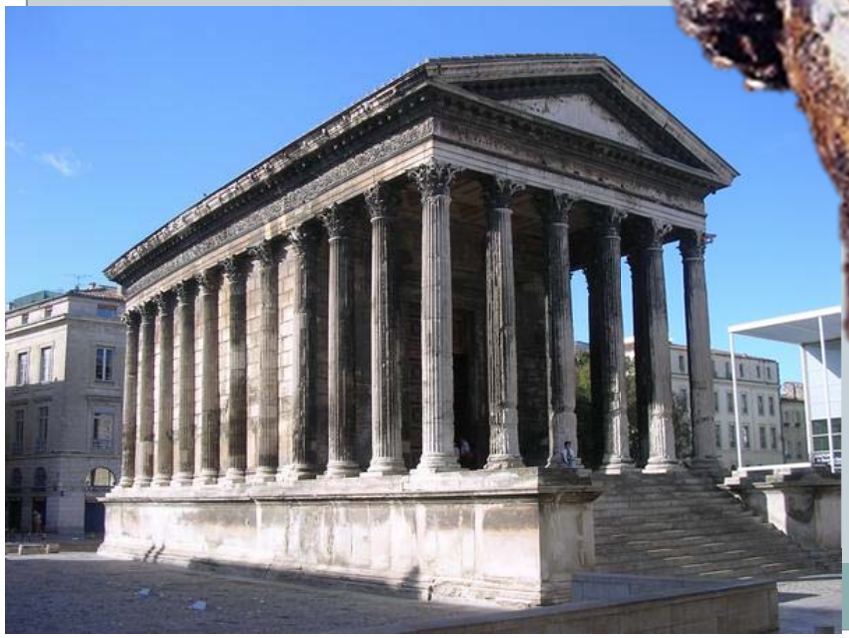




Schedule

- Theme IV (31-35):

Culture and religion across the empire







Schedule

- Theme IV (31-35):

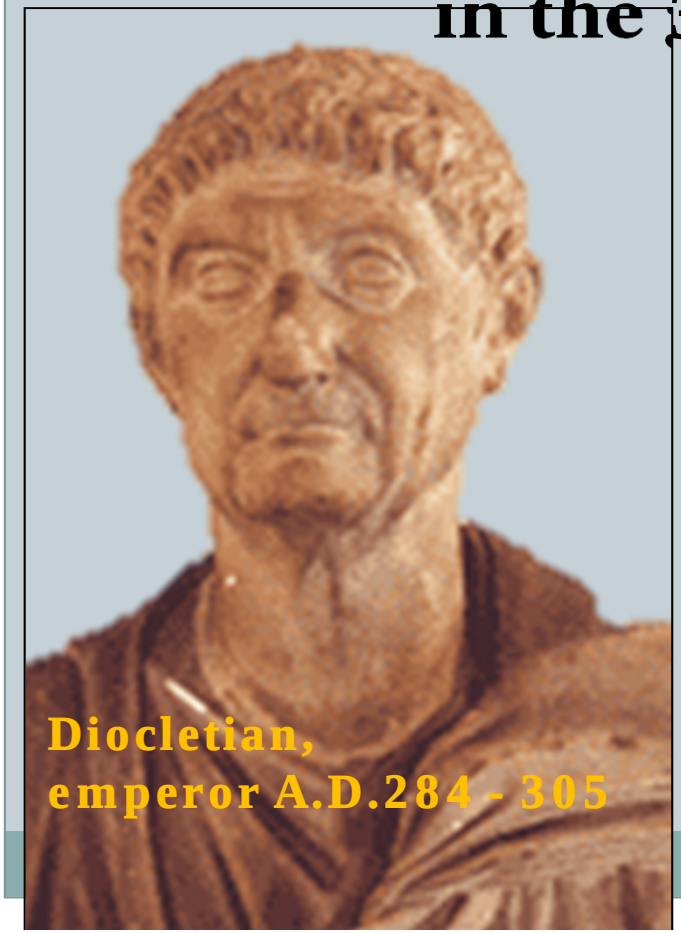
Culture and religion across the empire



Schedule

- Theme V (36-39):

The transformation of the Empire in the 3rd-4th centuries A.D.



Diocletian, emperor A.D.284 - 305



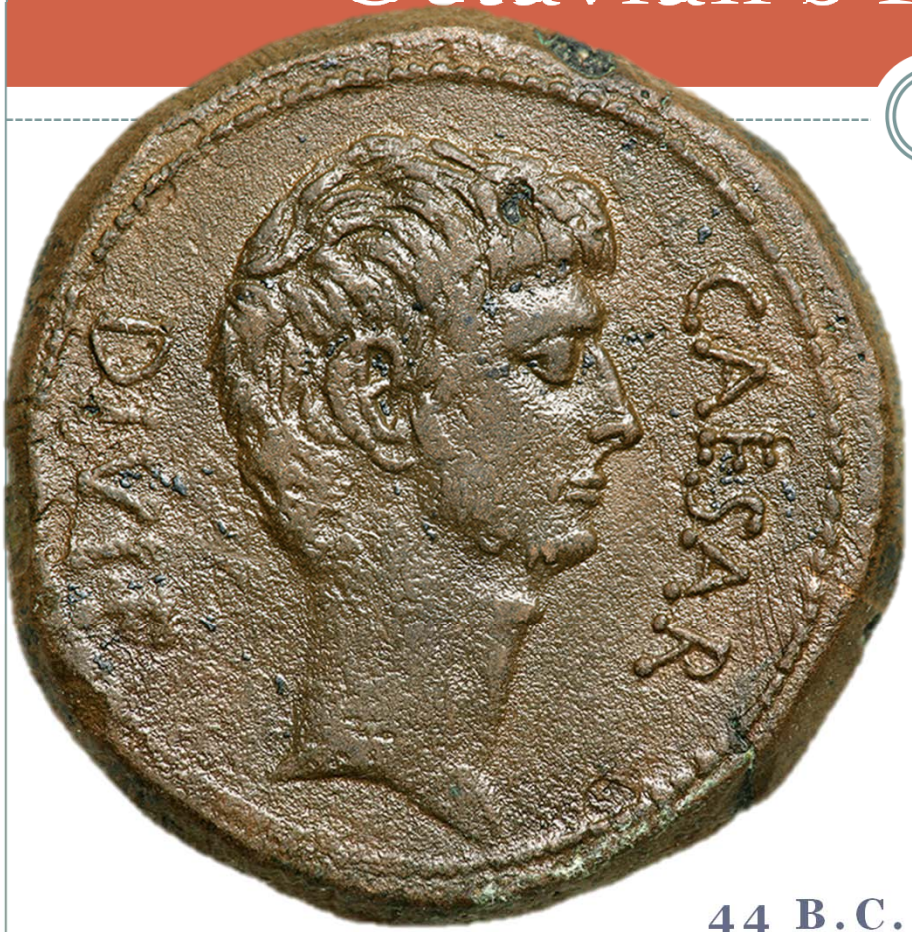
Constantine emperor A.D. 306 - 337

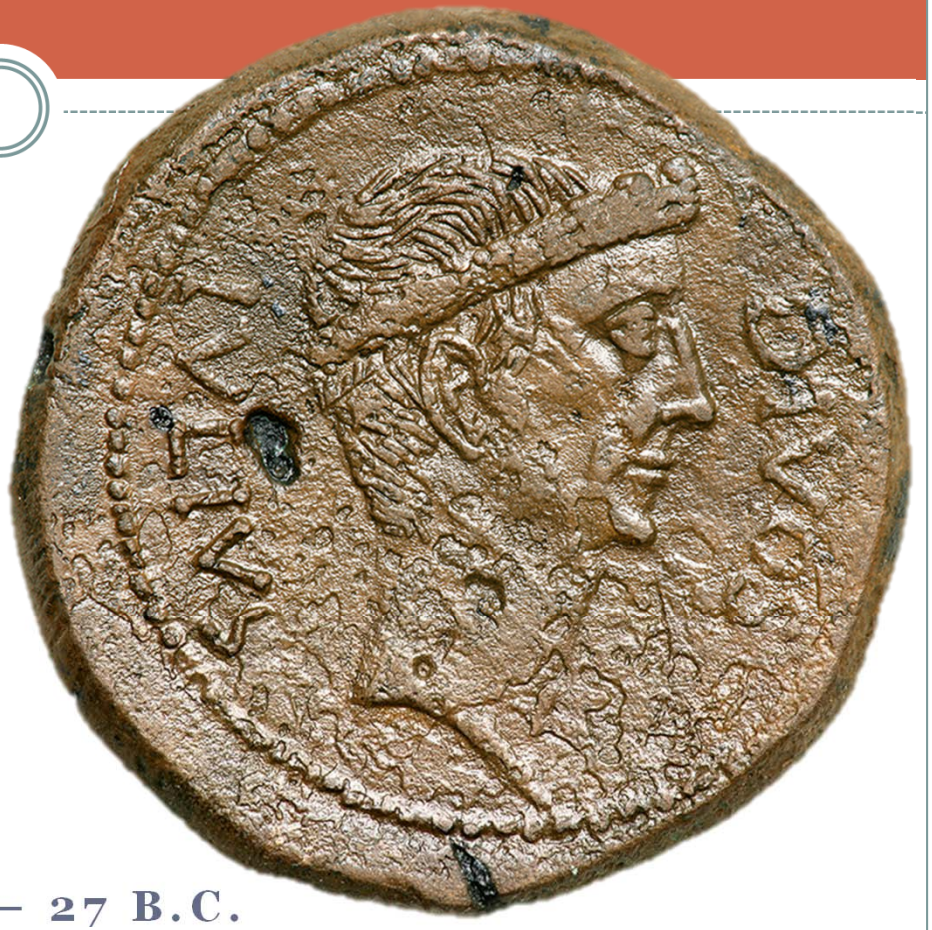
Schedule

Theme I (lectures 21-25):
Augustus
and the establishment of the Principate

- Theme II (26-28): **Roman imperialism**
- Theme III (29-30):
Trade and economy in the Roman empire
- Theme IV (31-35):
Culture and religion across the empire
- Theme V (36-39):
The transformation of the Empire in the 3rd-4th centuries A.D.
- lecture 40: revision for exam

Octavian's Rise to Power



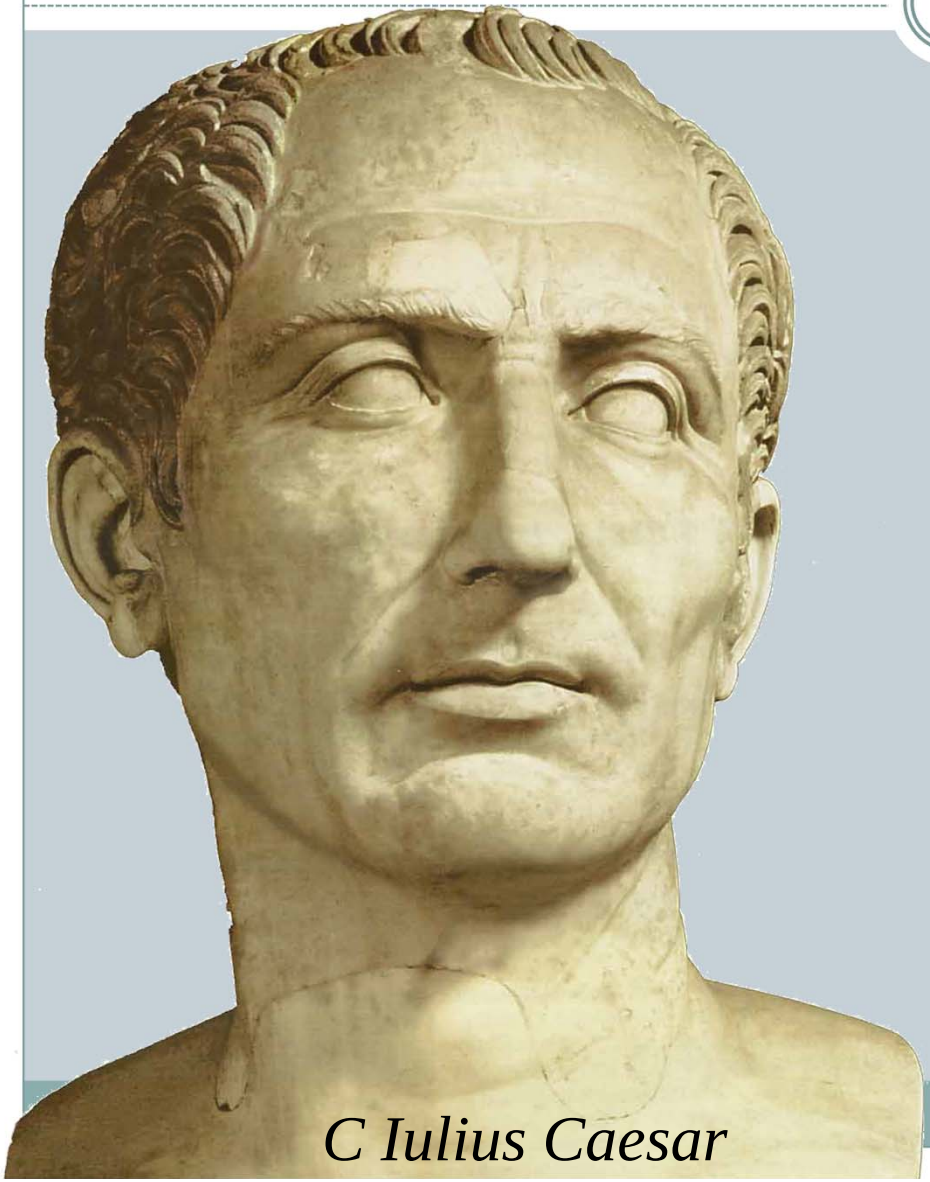


44 B.C. – 27 B.C.

C IVLIVS CAESAR OCTAVIANVS, CAESAR'S ADOPTIVE SON

Caesar's assassination 44 B.C.

- Caesar

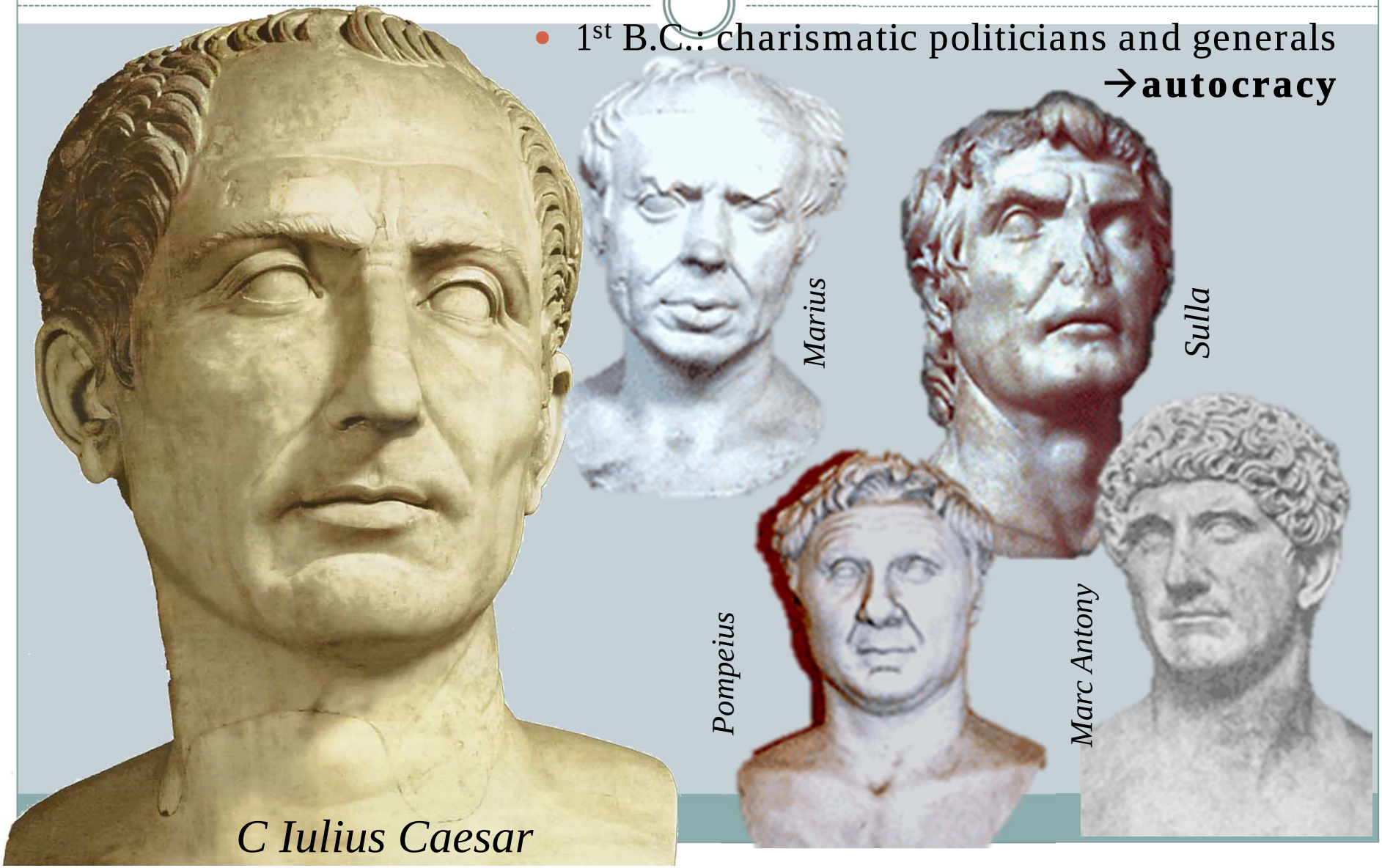


C Iulius Caesar



Caesar's assassination 44 B.C.

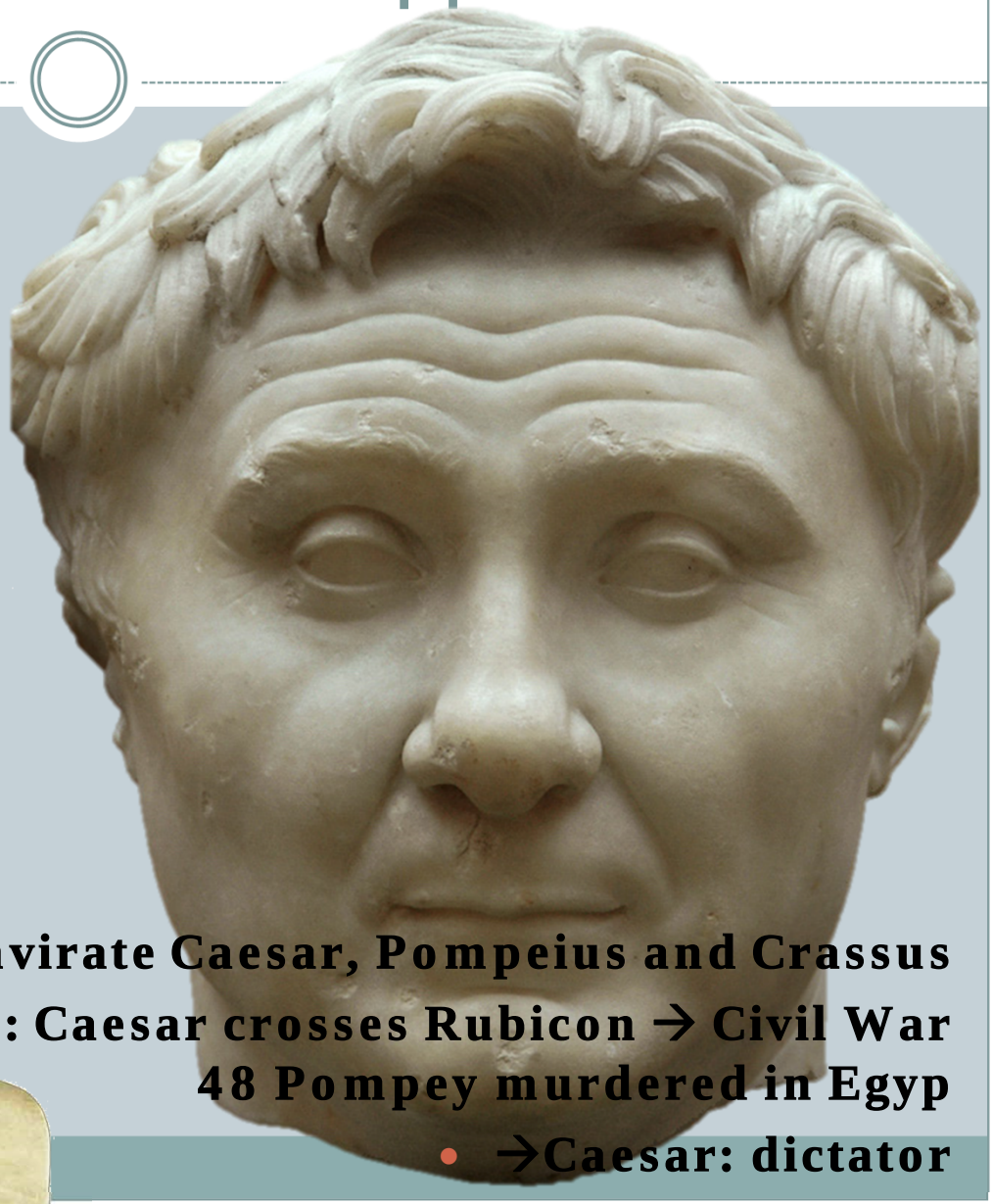
- 1st B.C.: charismatic politicians and generals
  →**autocracy**



Caesar's assassination 44 B.C.



C Iulius Caesar

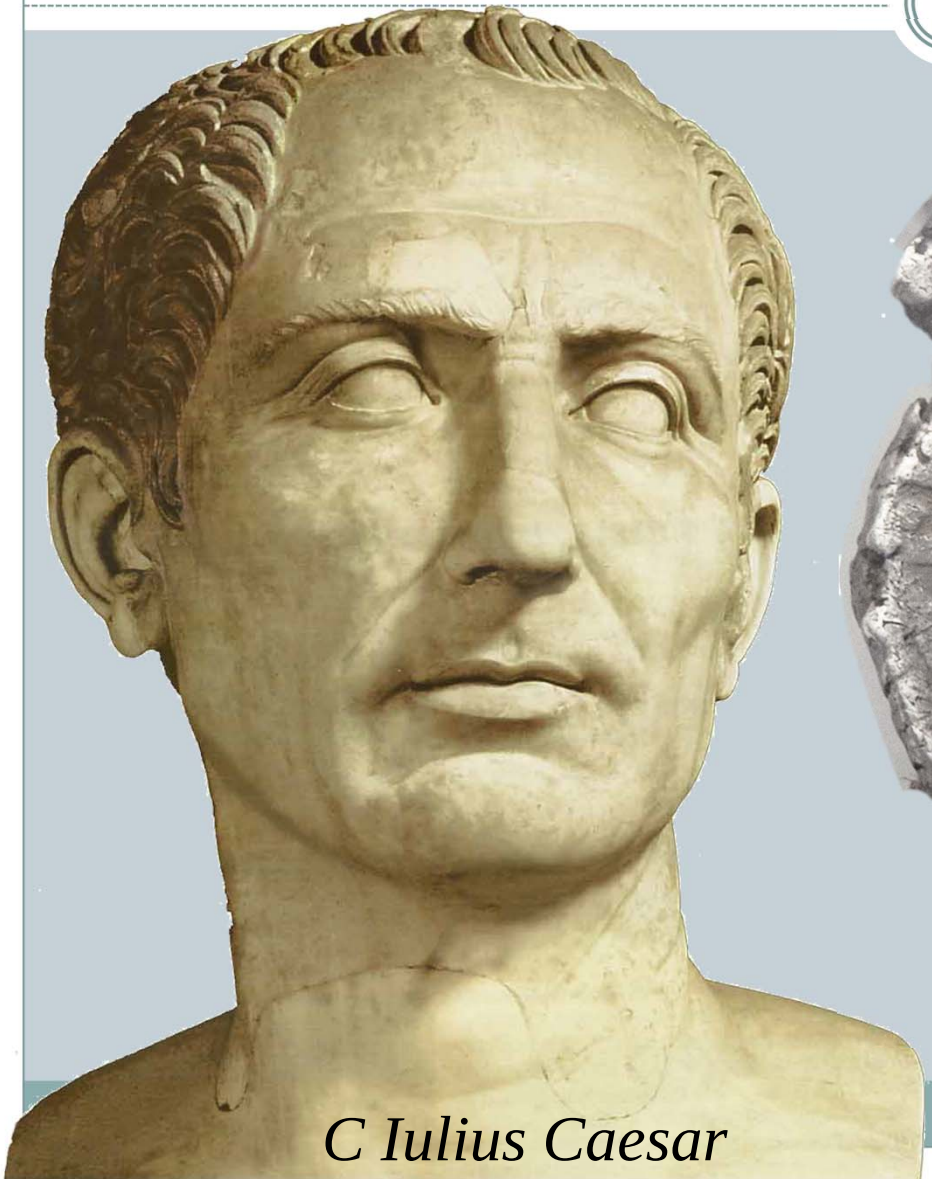


- **First Triumvirate Caesar, Pompeius and Crassus**
- **49 BC: Caesar crosses Rubicon → Civil War**

48 Pompey murdered in Egyp

- **→Caesar: dictator**

Caesar's assassination 44 B.C.

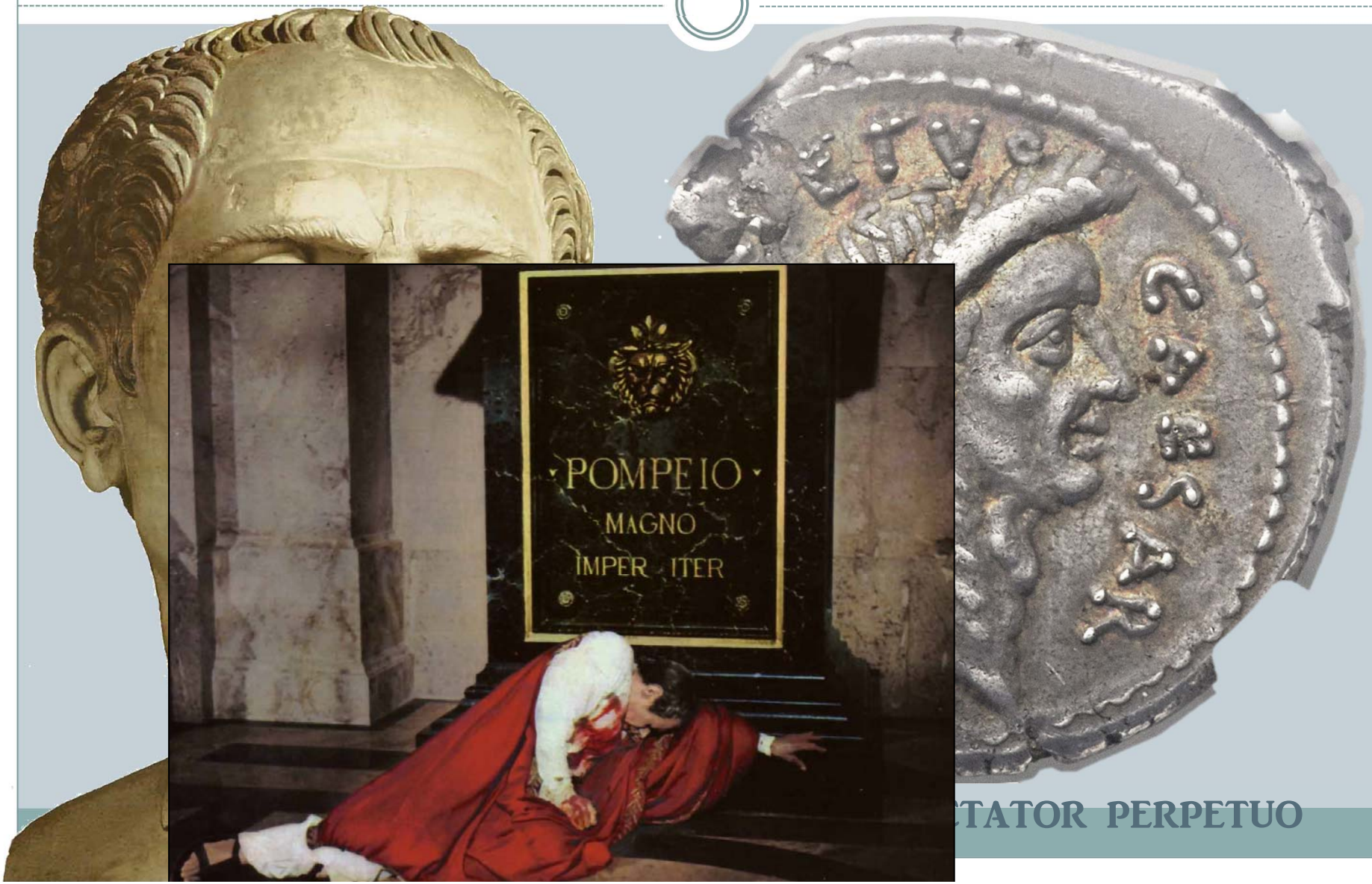


C Iulius Caesar

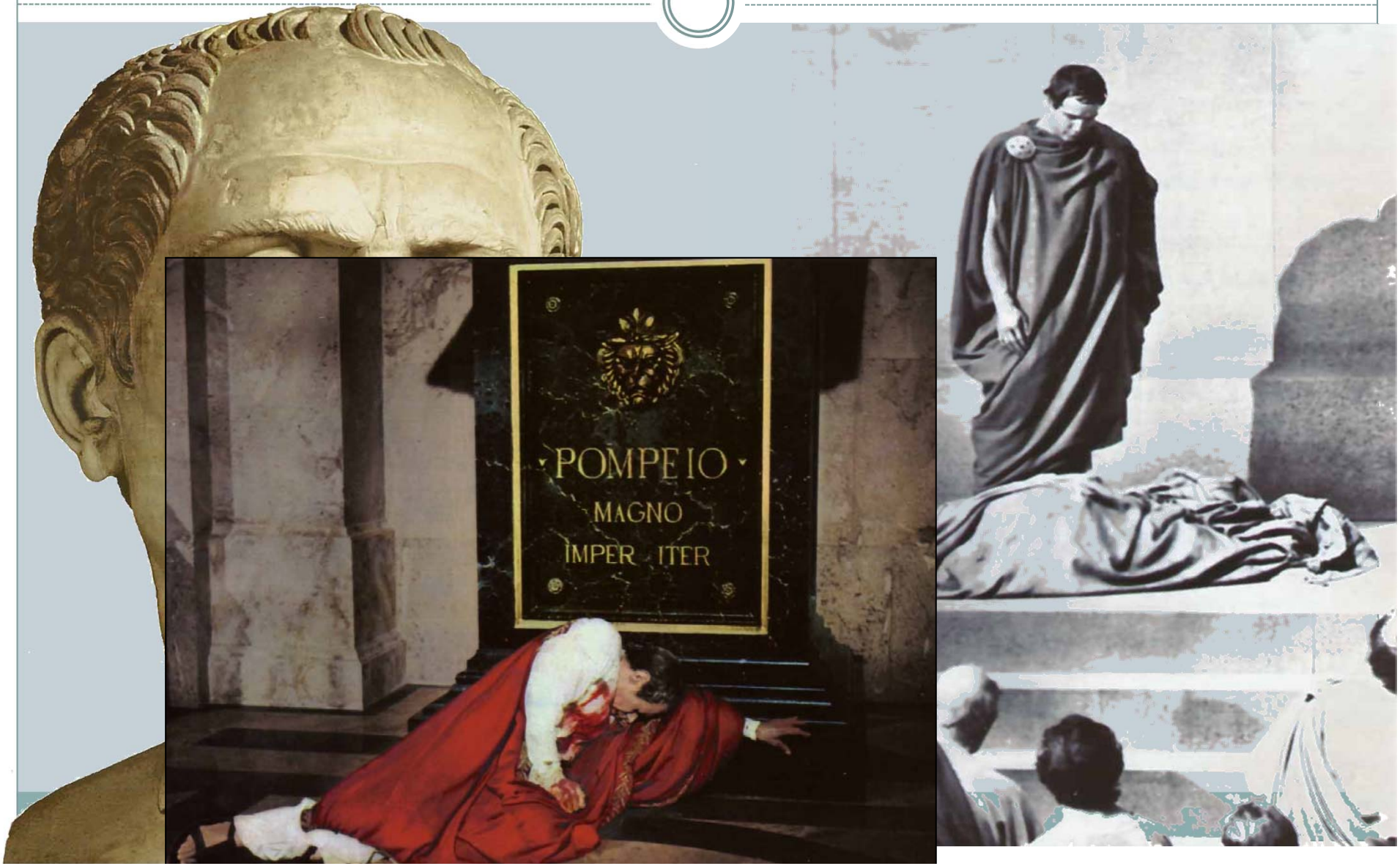


CAESAR DICTATOR PERPETUO

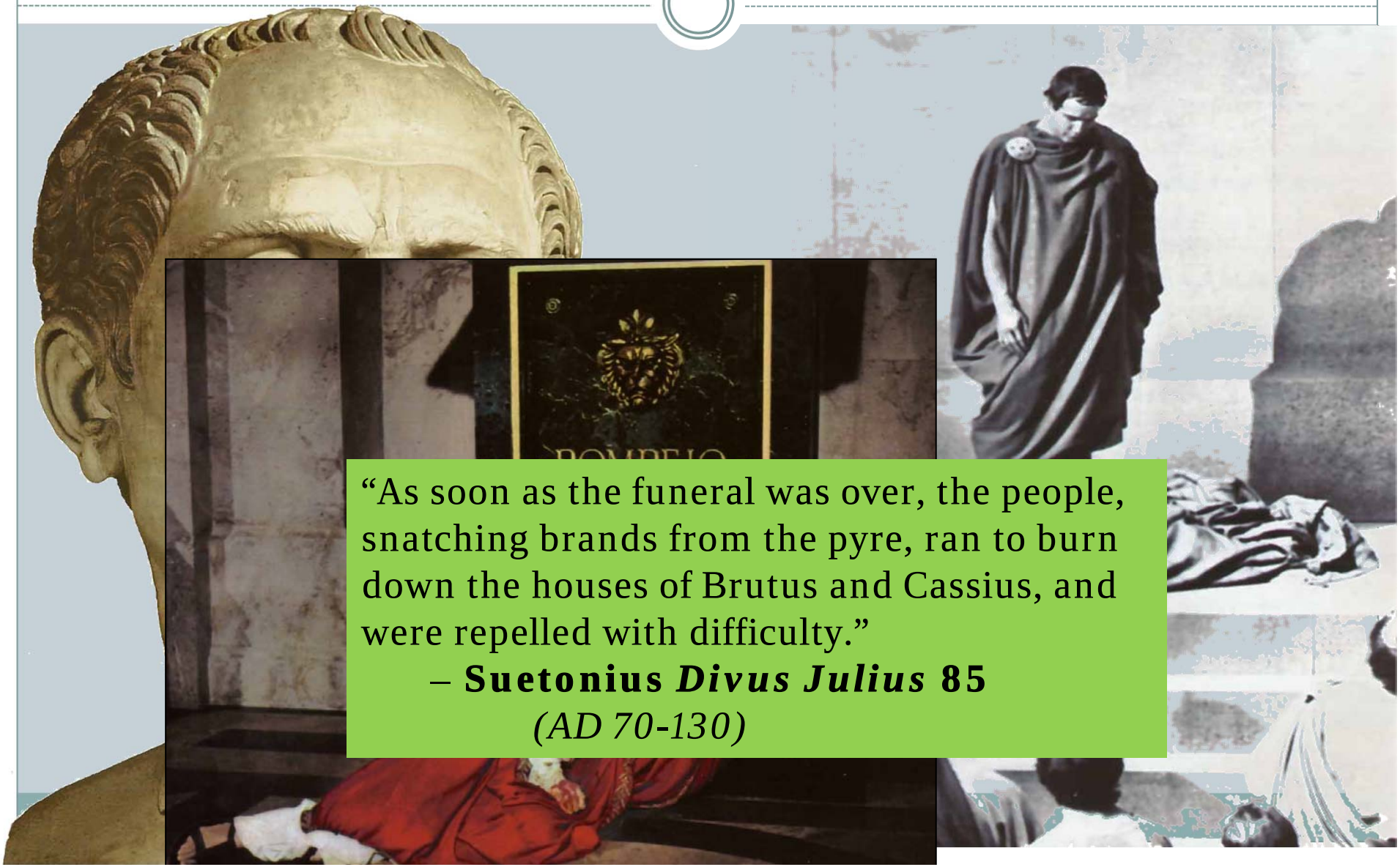
Caesar's assassination 44 B.C.



Caesar's assassination 44 B.C.



Caesar's assassination 44 B.C.

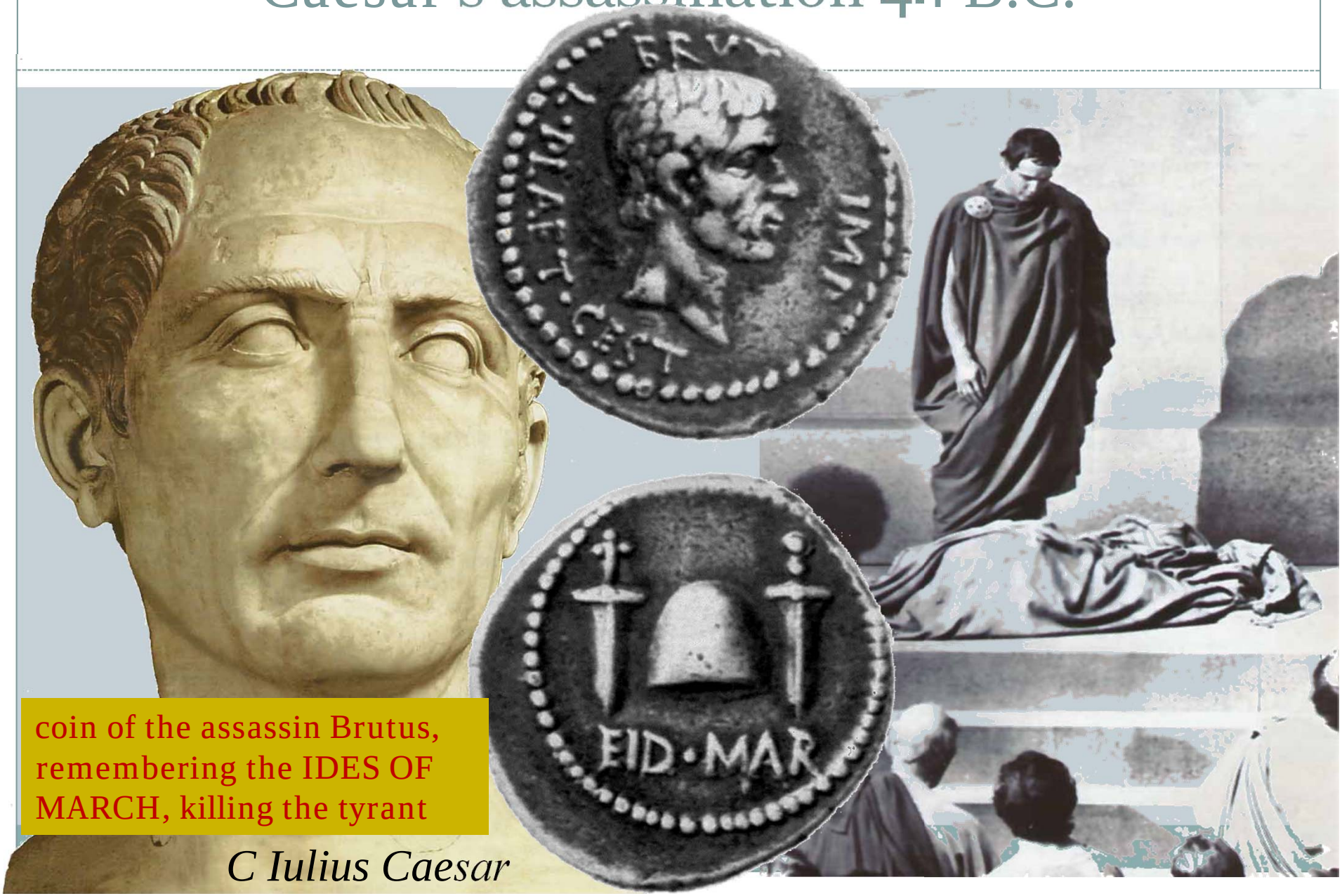


"As soon as the funeral was over, the people, snatching brands from the pyre, ran to burn down the houses of Brutus and Cassius, and were repelled with difficulty."

– Suetonius *Divus Julius* 85

(AD 70-130)

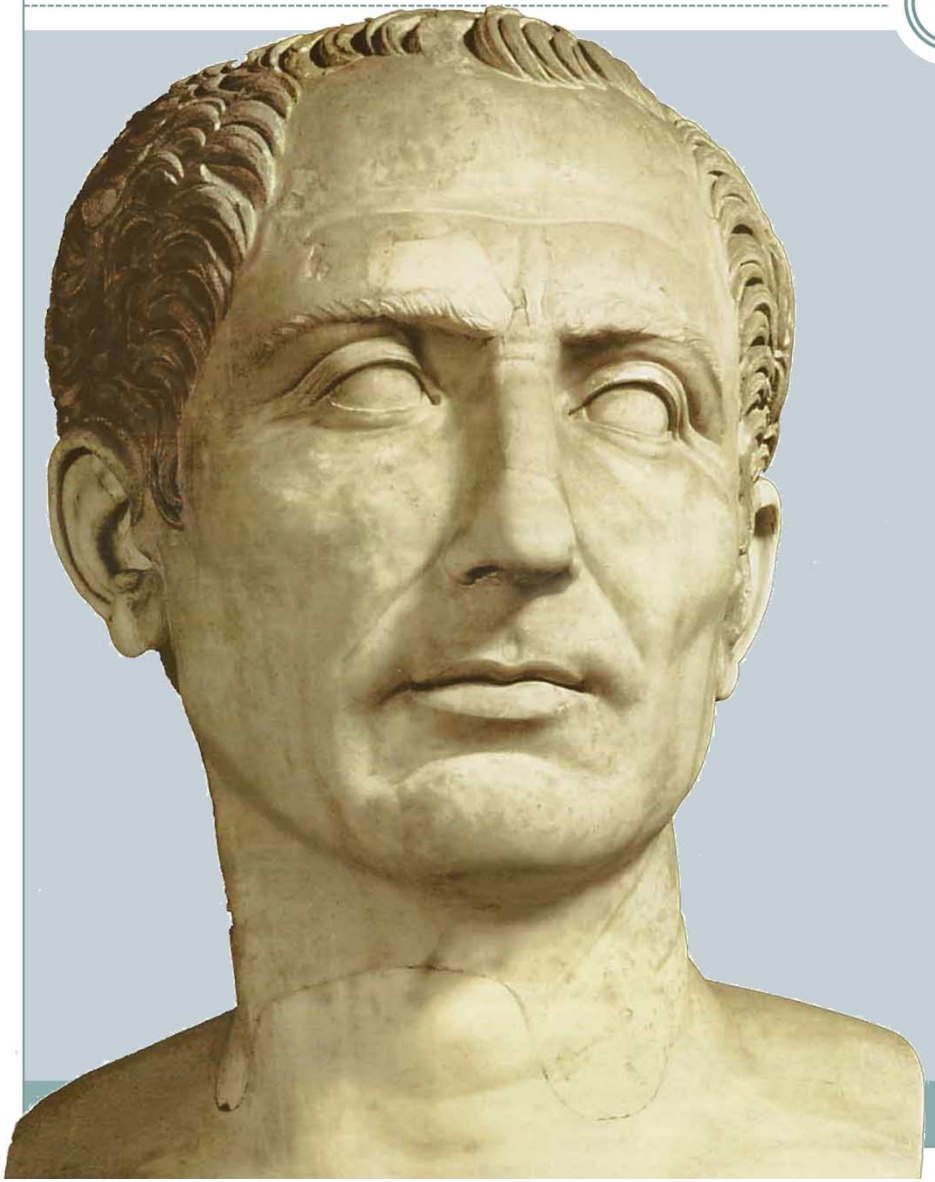
Caesar's assassination 44 B.C.

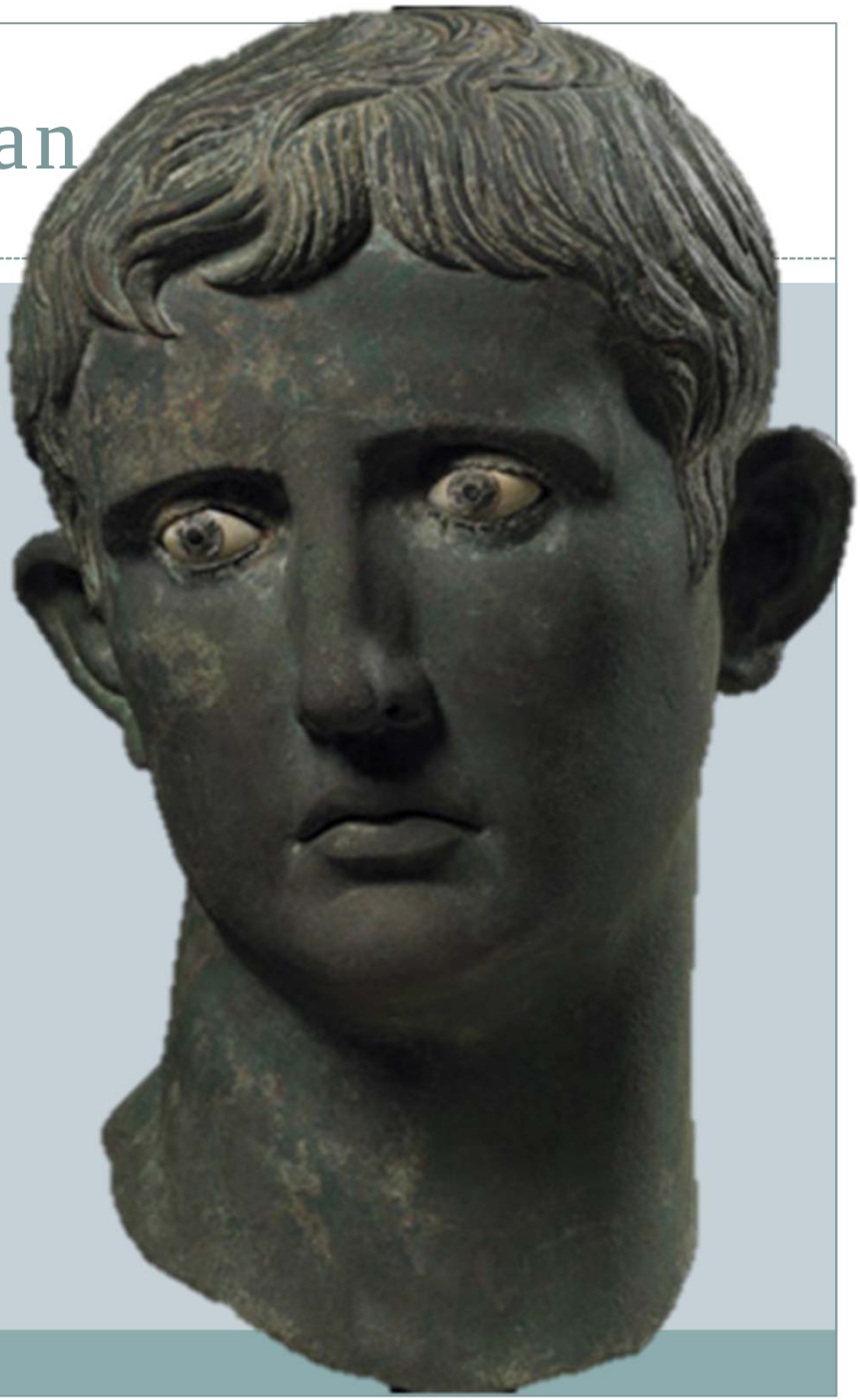


coin of the assassin Brutus, remembering the IDES OF MARCH, killing the tyrant

C Iulius Caesar

Octavian



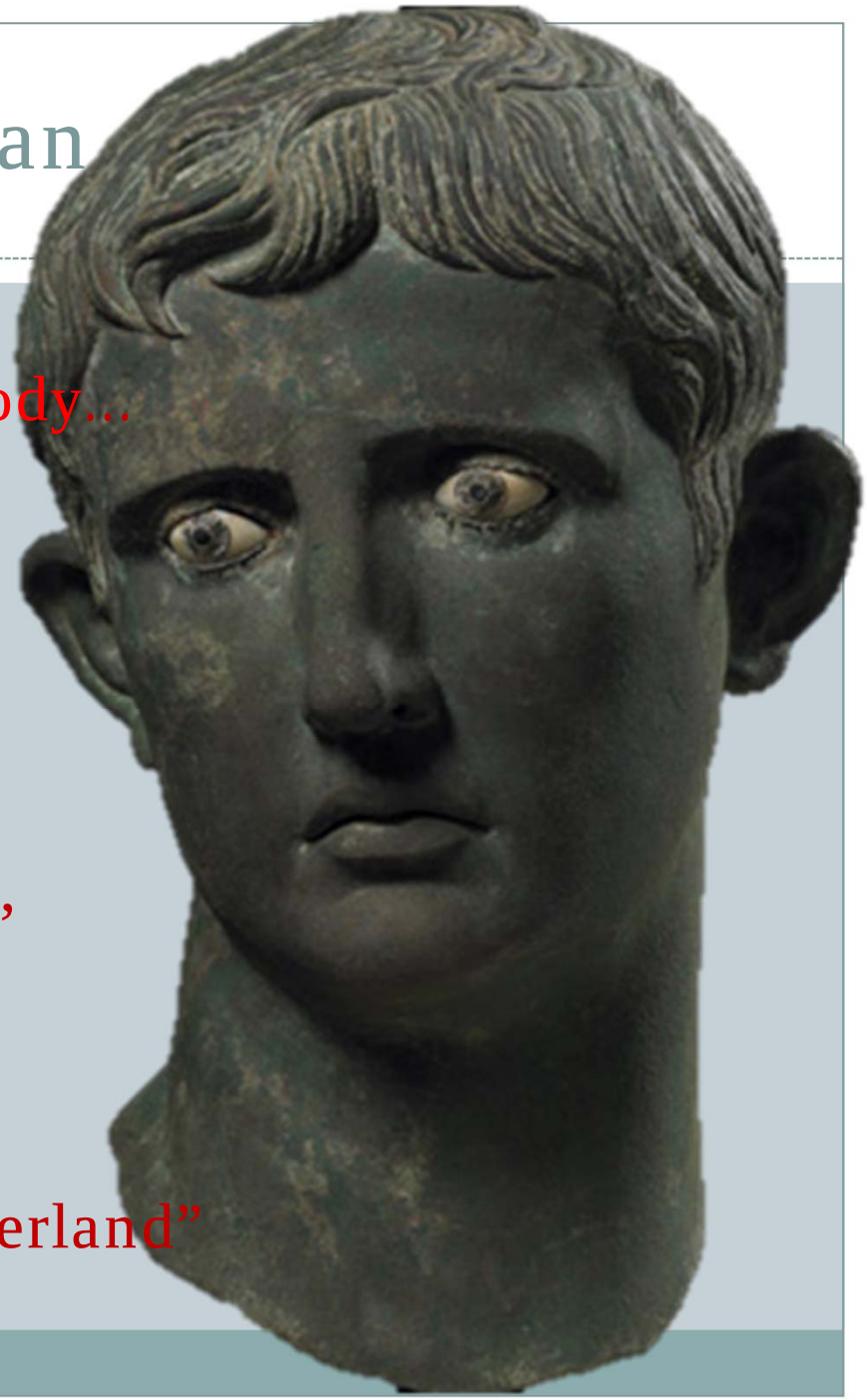


Octavian

- 23rd September 63 BC
  born as **Gaius Octavius**
  - mother Atia, niece of Caesar
- 45 BC: Octavius, aged 17,
  campaigns in Spain with Caesar
- 44 BC: Caesar's will
  names Octavius as principal heir
  and adopted son:
  →**Gaius Iulius Caesar Octavianus**



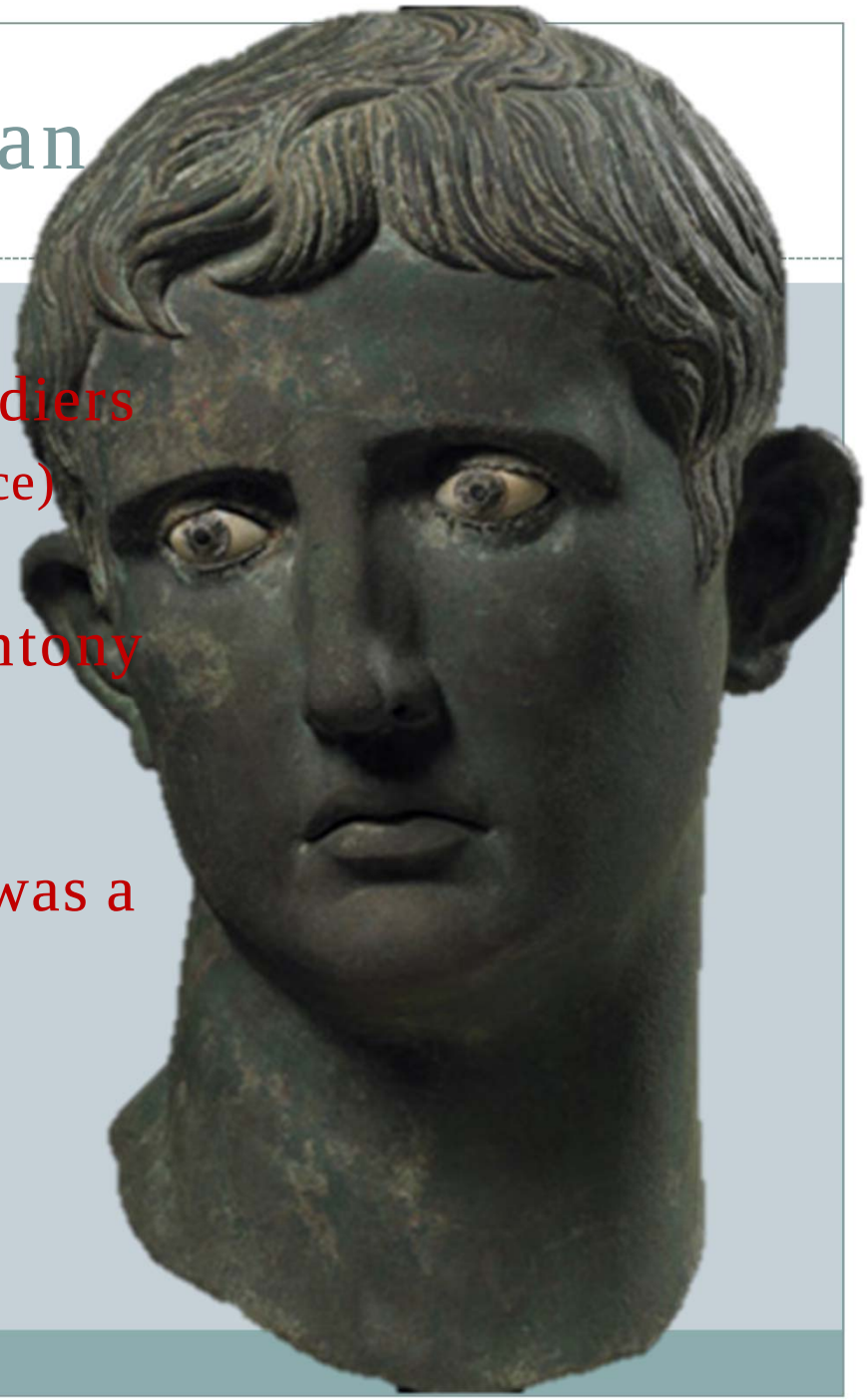
Octavian



- 6th May 44 BC:
  Octavian arrived in Rome as nobody…
  In the same year, he became
  senator & consul at age of 19!
- And from 31 B.C., he ruled the
  whole of the Roman empire
  until his death in A.D. 14
- he was the (adopted) son of a god,
  received divine honours,
  even worshipped as a god
- *Pontifex Maximus* "High priest"
- *Pater Patriae* "Father of the Fatherland"

Octavian

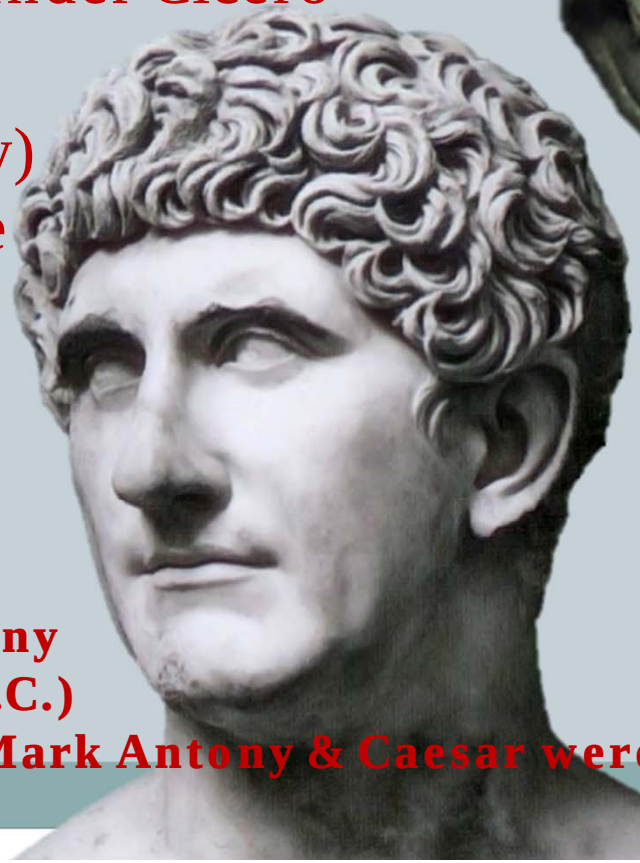
- 44 BC: Brindisi – Octavian is welcomed by Caesar's veteran soldiers
  - 700,000 sesterces ('part' of inheritence)
  - raising an army
- in Rome: in conflict with Mark Antony Octavian: working together with Optimates, Caesar's enemies
- Cicero argued that Mark Antony was a threat to the Republican order



Octavian

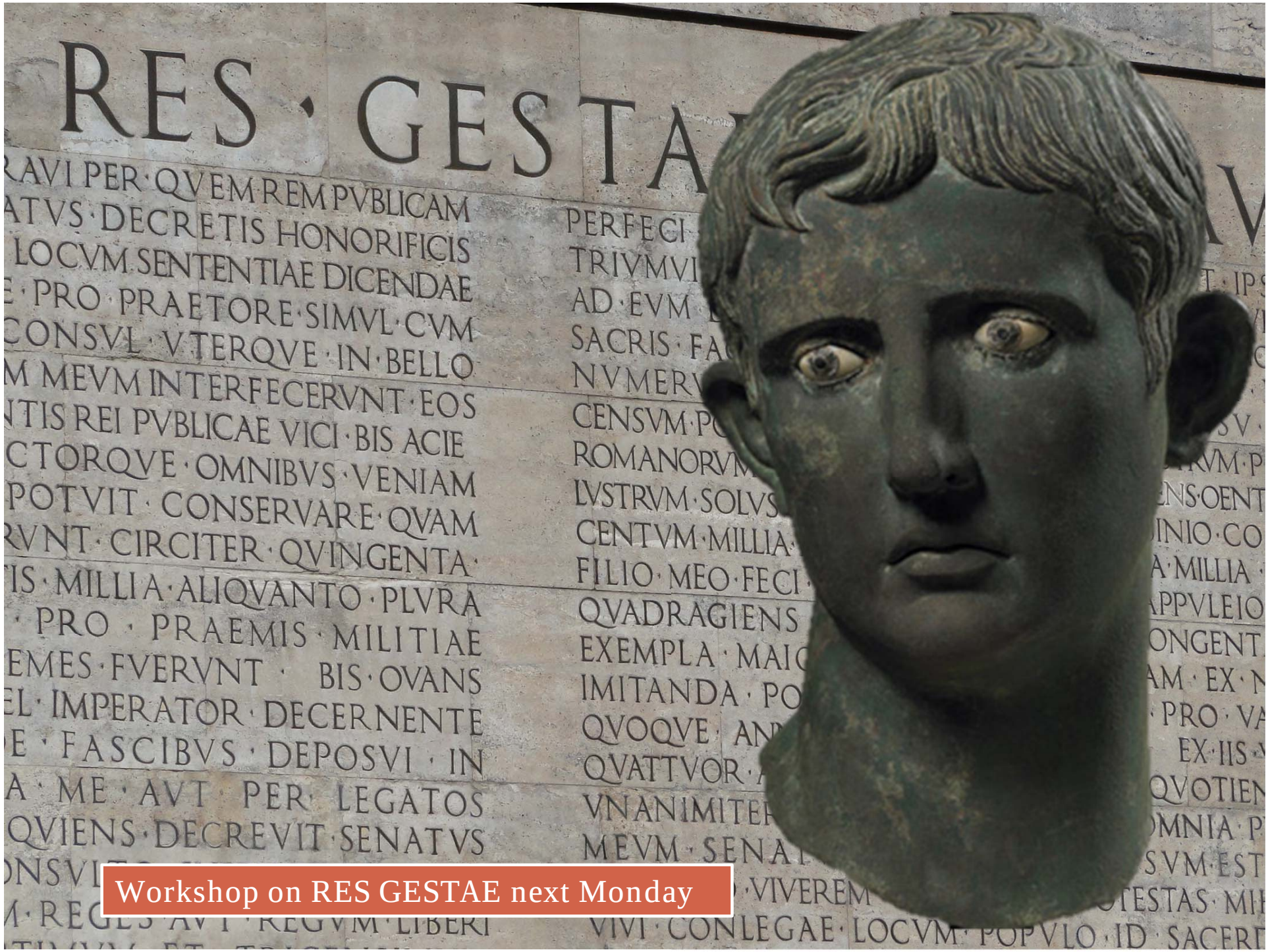
- 1st January 43: Senate granted Octavian ***imperium*** to fight Antony who was declared "public enemy" by the Senate under Cicero

- Mutina (N Italy) – siege & battle

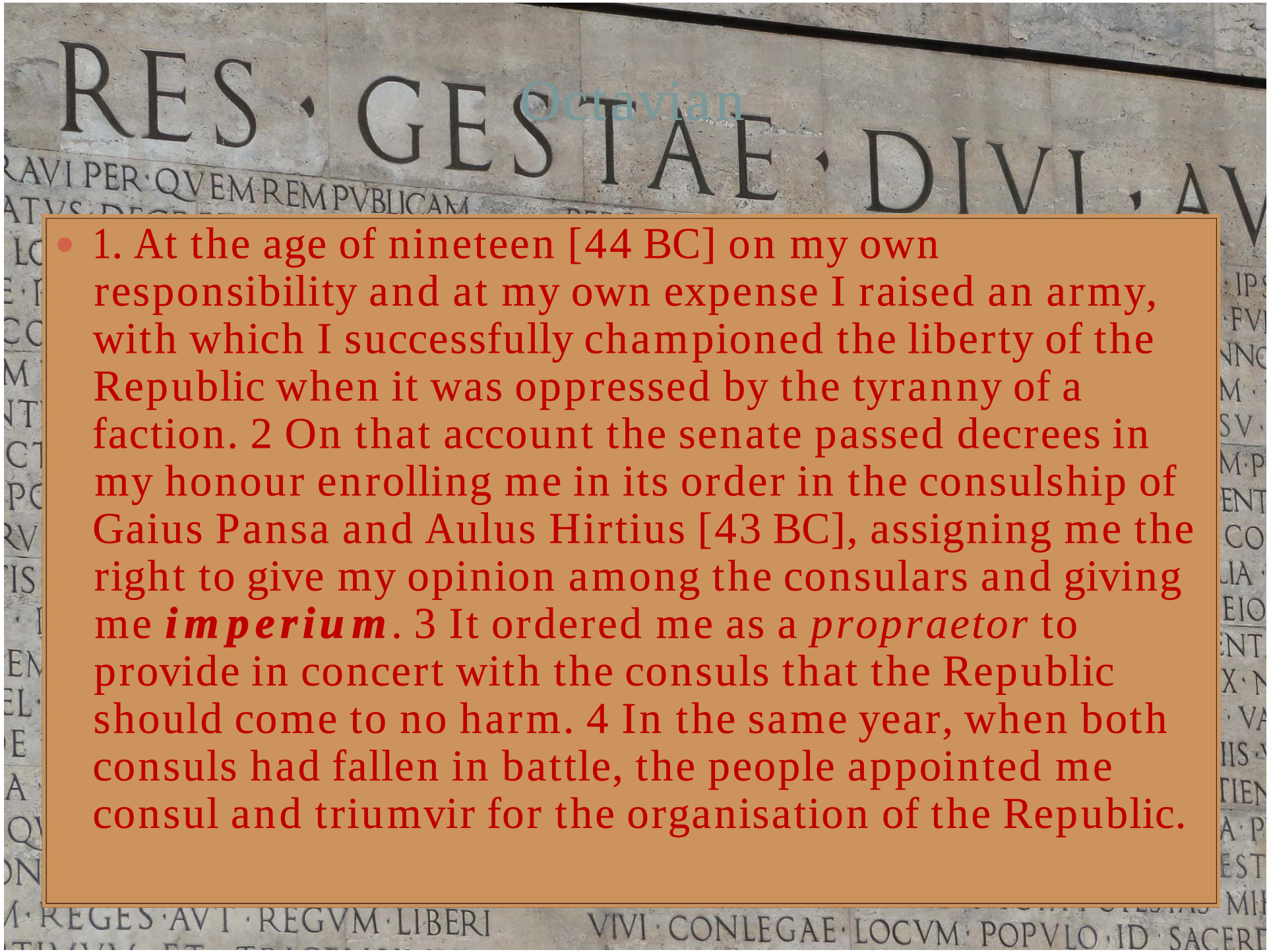




Mark Antony
(83 – 30 B.C.)
44 B.C. – Mark Antony & Caesar were consuls

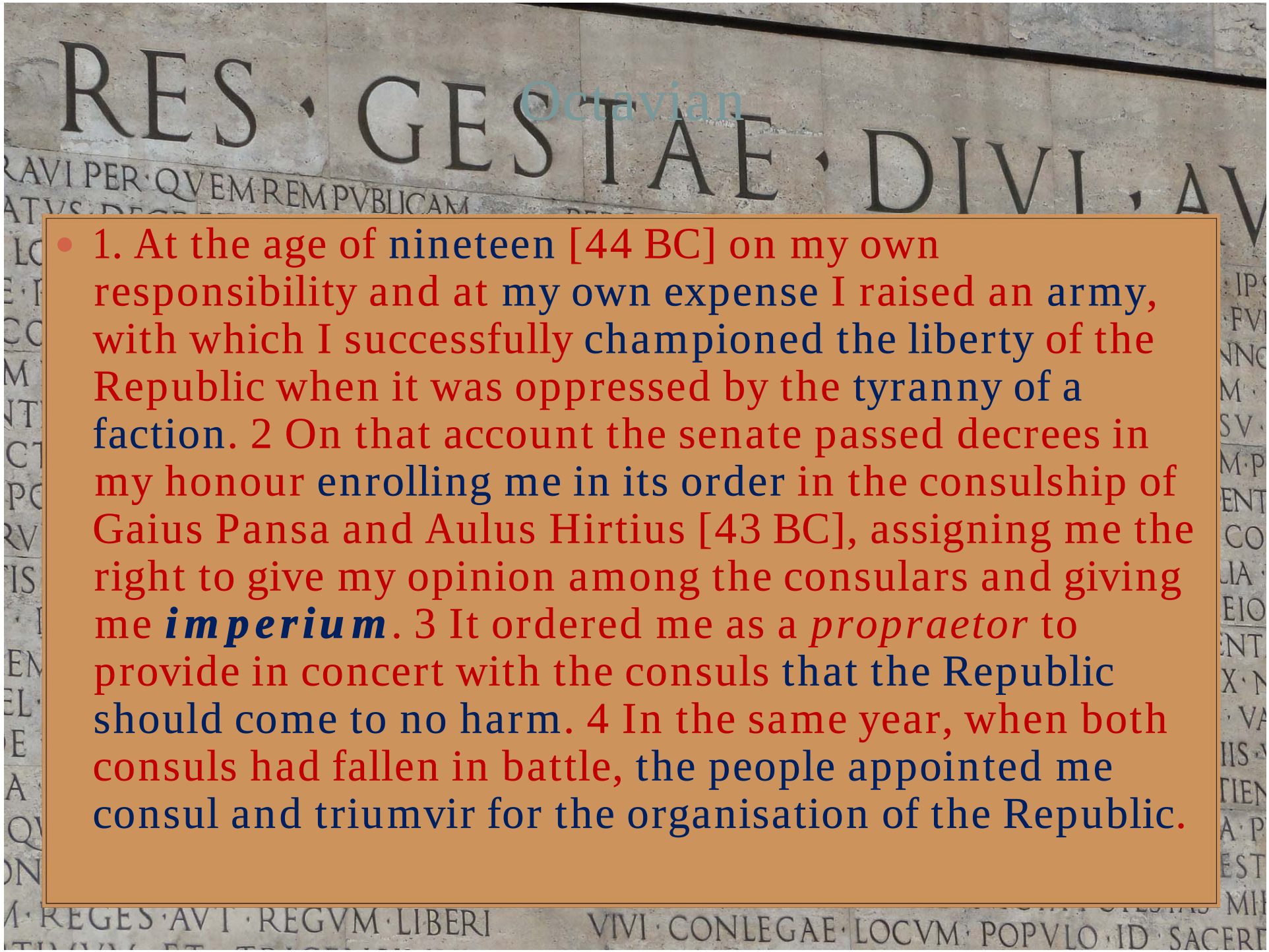


Workshop on RES GESTAE next Monday

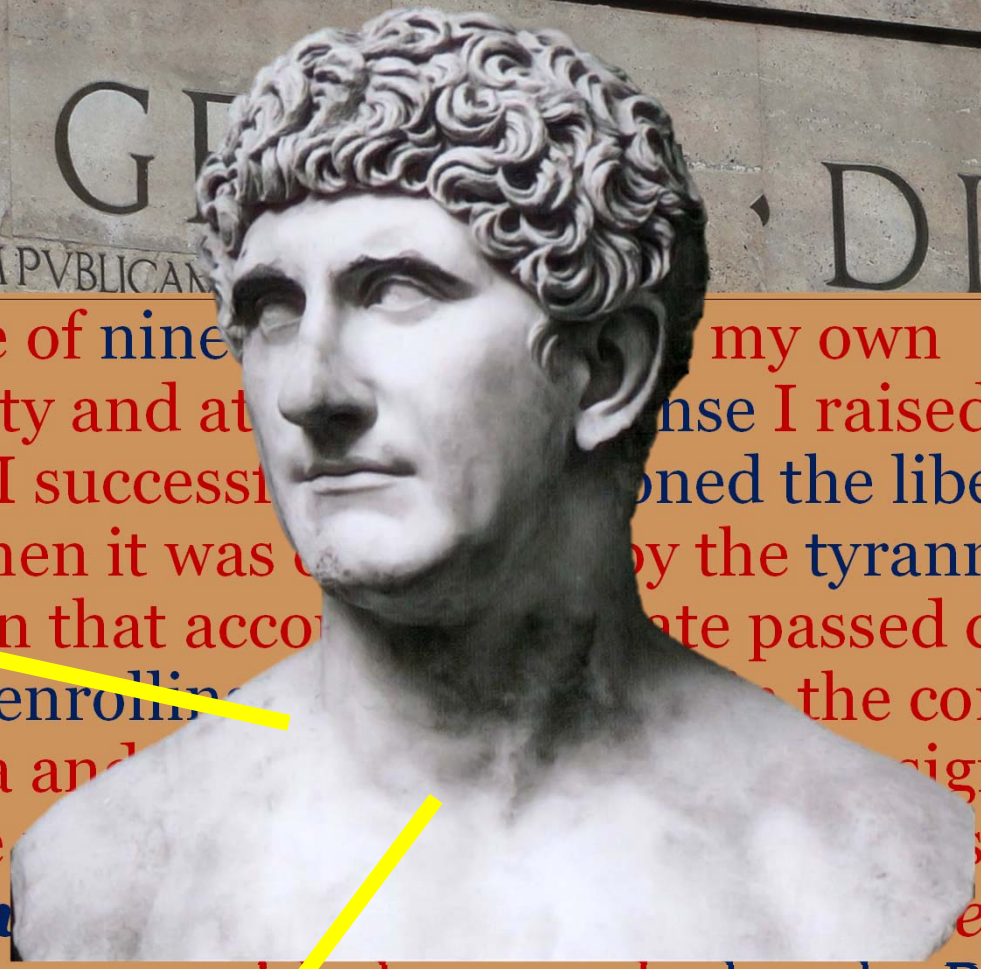


Octavian

- 1. At the age of nineteen [44 BC] on my own responsibility and at my own expense I raised an army, with which I successfully championed the liberty of the Republic when it was oppressed by the tyranny of a faction. 2 On that account the senate passed decrees in my honour enrolling me in its order in the consulship of Gaius Pansa and Aulus Hirtius [43 BC], assigning me the right to give my opinion among the consulars and giving me ***imperium***. 3 It ordered me as a *propraetor* to provide in concert with the consuls that the Republic should come to no harm. 4 In the same year, when both consuls had fallen in battle, the people appointed me consul and triumvir for the organisation of the Republic.



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Triumvirate



- The “Second Triumvirate”
- 11th November 43 BC - *lex Titia* for 5 years, renewed
  Octavian, Mark Antony and Lepidus
- “*tresviri* rei publicae constituendae consulari potestate”
  triumvirate for constituting the res publica

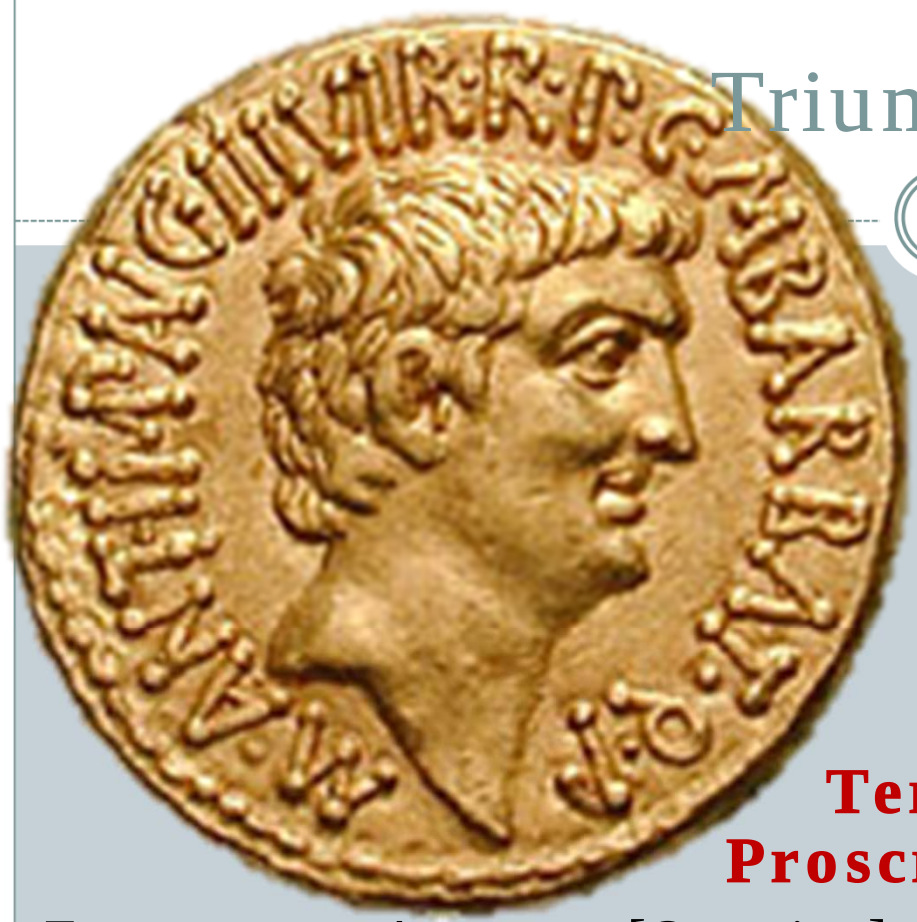
Triumvirate

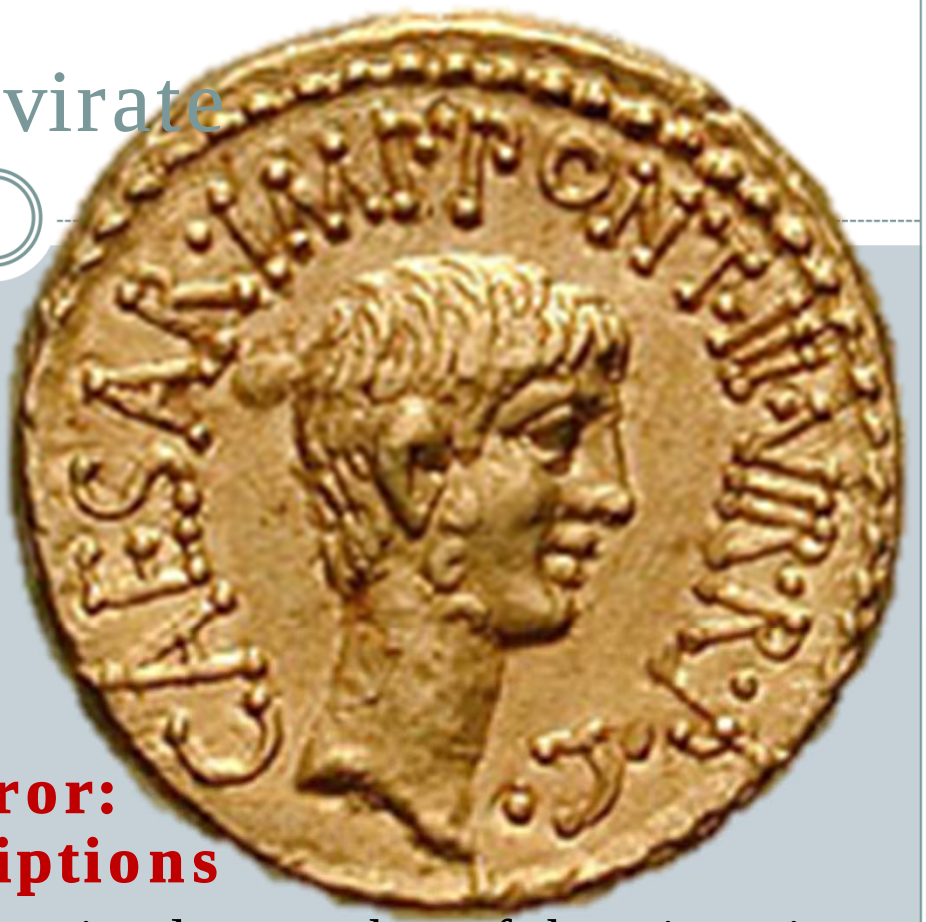




- **The “Second Triumvirate”**
- **11th November 43 BC - *lex Titia* for 5 years, renewed**
  Octavian, Mark Antony and Lepidus
- **“*tresviri* rei publicae constituendae consulari potestate”**
  triumvirate for constituting the res publica

Triumvirate





Terror: Proscriptions

For ten years Augustus [Octavian] remained a member of the triumvirate commissioned to organize the *res publica*, and though at first opposing his colleagues' plan for a proscription, yet once this had been decided upon he carried it out more ruthlessly than either of them... Augustus alone demanded that no one be spared..."

Suetonius, *Divus Augustus* 27

(200 senators, 2,000 knight killed!)

Triumvirate



Triumvirate

- Mark Antony & Cleopatra
  - marriage 36 B.C.



Political Propaganda

- July 44 B.C.:
  - appearance of comet interpreted as Julius Caesar's apotheosis
- January 42 B.C.:
  - Caesar was declared a god
  - institution of a state cult
  - Octavian:
    son of a god





19-18 B.C.

Political Propaganda

- July 44 B.C.:
  - appearance of comet interpreted as Julius Caesar's apotheosis
- January 42 B.C.:
  - Caesar was declared a god
  - institution of a state cult
  - Octavian:
    son of a god
  - Temple of
    Divus Iulius
    (42 – 29 B.C.)



Political Propaganda

- Octavian vs. Mark Antony



Octavian / Augustus
and Apollo
(here: mint Lyon)

Mark Antony and
Dionysius/Bacchus
(cistophorus)
(mint: Ephesos)

Political Propaganda

- Octavian vs. Mark Antony







- Octavian reads out Mark Antony's testament in Senate
→ War against Egypt (32-30 B.C.)



Political Propaganda

- Battle of Actium, 2nd Sep. 31 B.C.





Political Propaganda

- Suicide of Cleopatra & Mark Antony
- 3rd August 30 B.C.



Political Propaganda

- Egypt - Roman province
- Augustus - Pharao

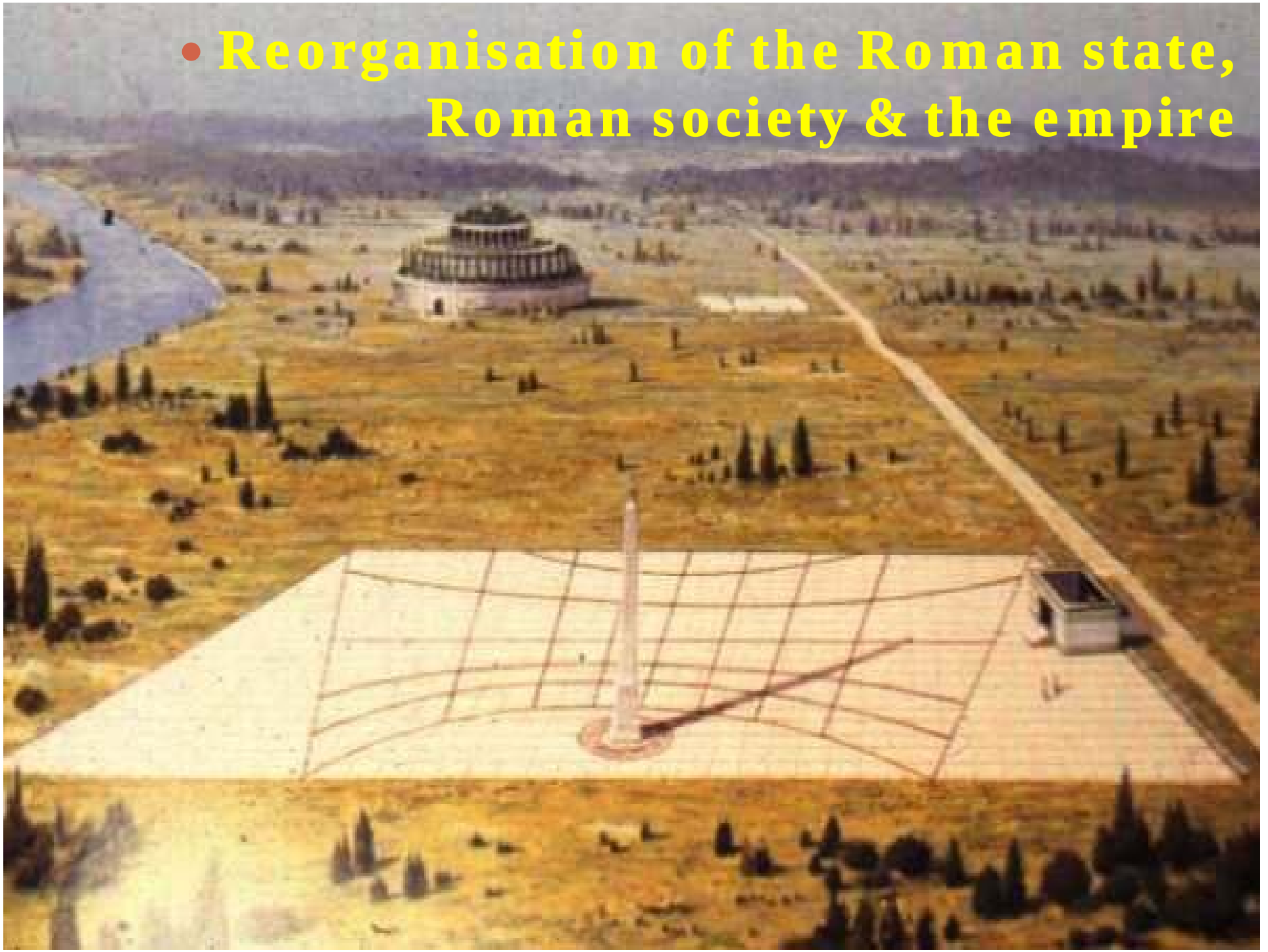



Autocracy of Octavian
Who was left to challenge Octavian?
any senators or knights ?
the people of Rome ?
...?

Return to Rome, 29 BC

- As for Caesar's return to Italy and to Rome — the procession which met him, the enthusiasm of his reception by men of all classes, ages, and ranks, and the **magnificence of his triumphs and of the spectacles** which he gave — all this it would be impossible adequately to describe even within the compass of a formal history, to say nothing of a work so circumscribed as this. There is nothing that man can desire from the gods, nothing that the gods can grant to a man, nothing that wish can conceive or good fortune bring to pass, which Augustus on his return to the city did not bestow upon the republic, the Roman people, and the world. **The civil wars were ended after twenty years, foreign wars suppressed, peace restored, the frenzy of arms everywhere lulled to rest; validity was restored to the laws, authority to the courts, and dignity to the senate; the power of the magistrates was reduced to its former limits (...). The old traditional form of the Republic was restored.**"

– ***Velleius Paterculus*** **2.89.1-3** (19 BC – AD 31)


• Reorganisation of the Roman state,
Roman society & the empire



End of Lecture 1, 27th January 2014