The Iliad in a Nutshell: Visualizing Epic on the Tabulae Iliacae

By Michael Squire

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Where modern scholars have usually dismissed the *Tabulae Iliacae* as secondary "illustrations" and "tawdry gewgaws," Michael Squire advances a diametrically opposite thesis: that these epigrammatic tablets synthesize ancient ideas about visual-verbal interaction on the one-hand, and about the art and poetics of scale on the other. By reassessing the artistic and poetic aesthetics of the miniature, Squire's radical new appraisal shows how the tiny tablets encapsulate antiquity's grandest theories of originality, fiction, and replication. The book will be essential reading not just for classical philologists, art historians, and archaeologists, but for anyone interested in the intellectual history of western representation.

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The Iliad in a Nutshell: Visualizing Epic on the Tabulae Iliacae By Michael Squire Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #3466369 in Books
- Published on: 2012-05-04
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.70" h x 1.30" w x 9.80" l, 3.14 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 528 pages

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"This is a remarkable and challenging book, full of learning and imagination EL Squire successfully challenges much of the received wisdom about the Tabulae Iliacae, provoking us to look at them anew even when we may not agree with his take on them."--Fred W. Jenkins, Bryn Mawr Classical Review

About the Author

Dr. Michael Squire is Reader in Classical Art at King's College, London.

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