

21H.336

The Making of a Roman Emperor



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Prof. Will Broadhead

REGAL PERIOD

753 BC (April 21) - Foundation of Rome

REPUBLIC

509 BC – Birth of Republic

EMPIRE

27 BC - Augustus

LATE EMPIRE

AD 284 – Reforms of Diocletian

AD 476 – Deposition of Romulus Augustulus

Julio-Claudian Dynasty	• Augustus	27 BC – AD 14
	• Tiberius	14 – 37
	• Caligula	37 – 41
	• Claudius	41 – 54
	• Nero	54 – 68
	<i>Civil War</i>	
Flavian Dynasty	• Vespasian	69 – 79
	• Titus	79 – 81
	• Domitian	81 – 96
'Adoptive' Emperors	• Nerva	96 – 98
	• Trajan	98 – 117
	• Hadrian	117 – 138
	• Antoninus Pius	138 – 161
	• Marcus Aurelius	161 – 180
	• Lucius Verus	161 – 169
	• Commodus	180 – 192
	<i>Civil War</i>	
Severan Dynasty	• Septimius Severus	193 – 211
	• Caracalla	198 – 217
	• Geta	209 – 212
	• [Macrinus]	217 – 218
	• Elagabalus	218 – 222
	• Severus Alexander	222 – 235

Augustus

27 BC – AD 14



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Augustus of Prima Porta
Vatican Museums, Rome

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	<i>Civil War</i>	
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Nero

54-68



Agrippina crowns a young Nero
Museum of Aphrodisias

The Flavian Emperors



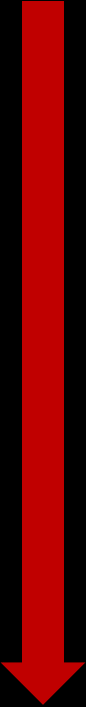
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Vespasian 69-79

Titus 79-81

Domitian 81-96

'Making' of a Roman Emperor

- 
1. Image-making by the emperor himself
 2. Endorsement/subversion by contemporaries
 3. Sympathetic/hostile reception by later Romans
 4. Reception in post-Antiquity
 5. Reception by us in 21H.336

Mussolini in *La Voce*, 1909



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- “Rome, as it was in the times of Augustus, remains the city towards which men of all nations turn – and whoever loves Rome, must love Italy... Italy is preparing a new epoch in the history of humanity.”

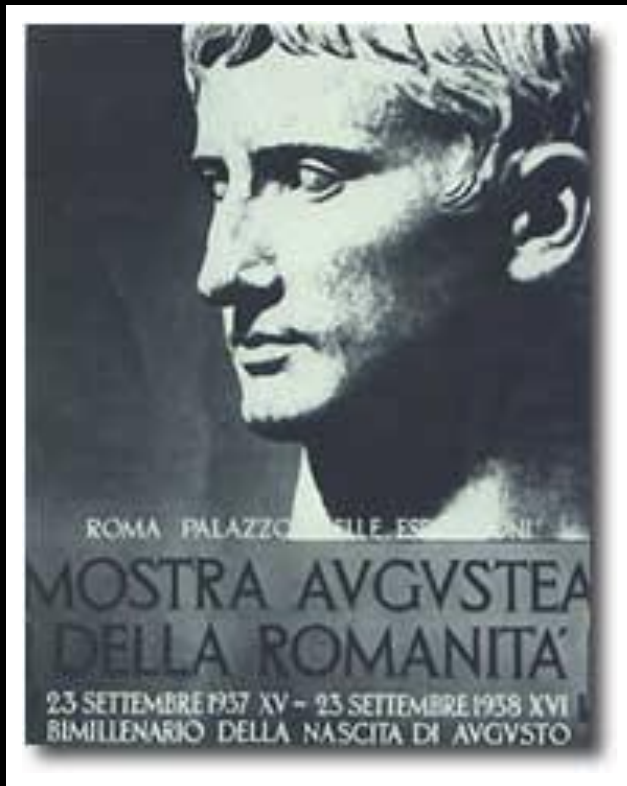
From speech in 1926...

- “Rome shall become such as to amaze the peoples of the world: vast, well-ordered, powerful as in the days of Augustus.”

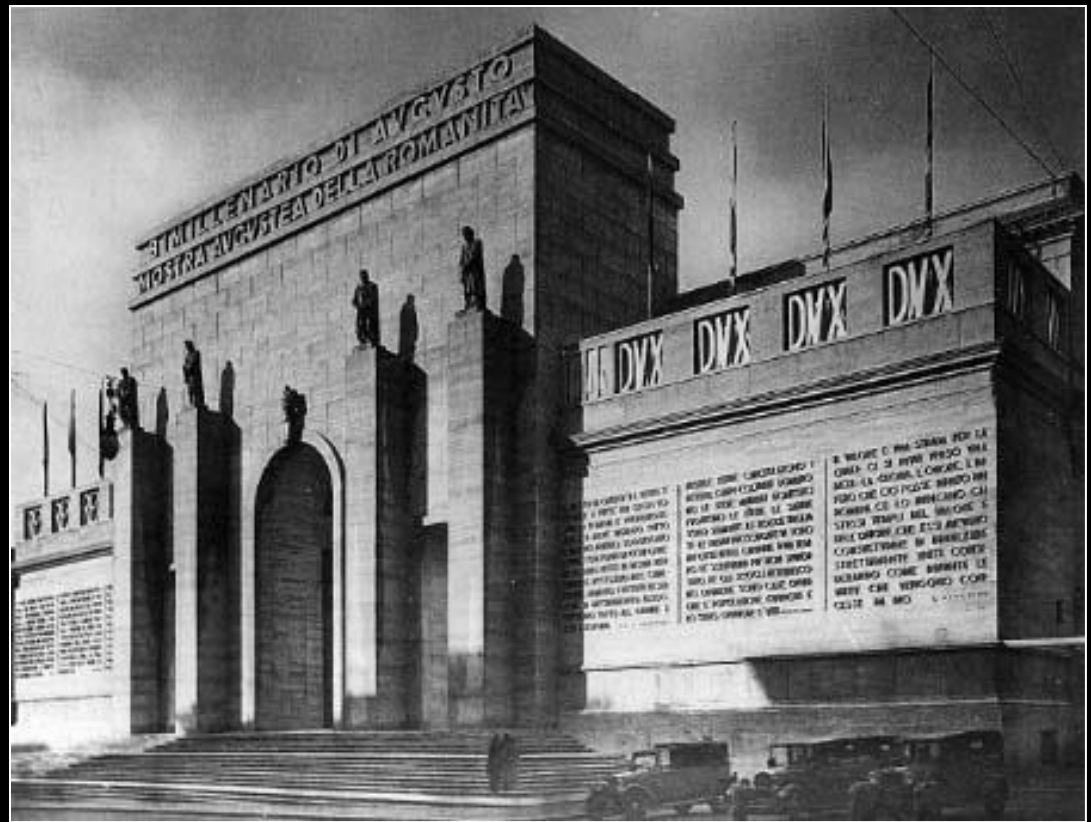


Bimillenary of Augustus's Birth

23 Sept. 1937 – 23 Sept. 1938



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HVNC LOCVM VBI AVGVSTI MANES VOLITANT PER AVRAS
POSTQVAM IMPERATORIS MAVSOLEVM EX SAECVLORVM TENEBRIS
EST EXTRACTVM ARAEQVE PACIS DISIECTA MEMBRA REFECTA
MYSSOLINI DVX VETERIBVS ANCVSTIIS DELETIS SPLENDIDIORIBVS
VIIS AEDIFICIIS AEDIBVS AD HYMANITATIS MORES APTIS
ORNANDVM CENSVIT ANNO MDCCLXIV A F R XVIII

Modern Neros

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<https://archive.triblive.com/opinion/featured-commentary/americas-nero-president-obama-fiddles-as-the-world-burns/>

<https://www.cagle.com/steve-nease/2018/11/nero-and-zero>



#DemConvention

**Nero fiddled while
Rome burned.
Trump golfs.**

— Sen. Bernie Sanders





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The Severan Emperors

Septimius Severus

193 – 211

Caracalla

198 – 211 – 217

Geta

209 – 211 – 212

[Macrinus]

217 – 218

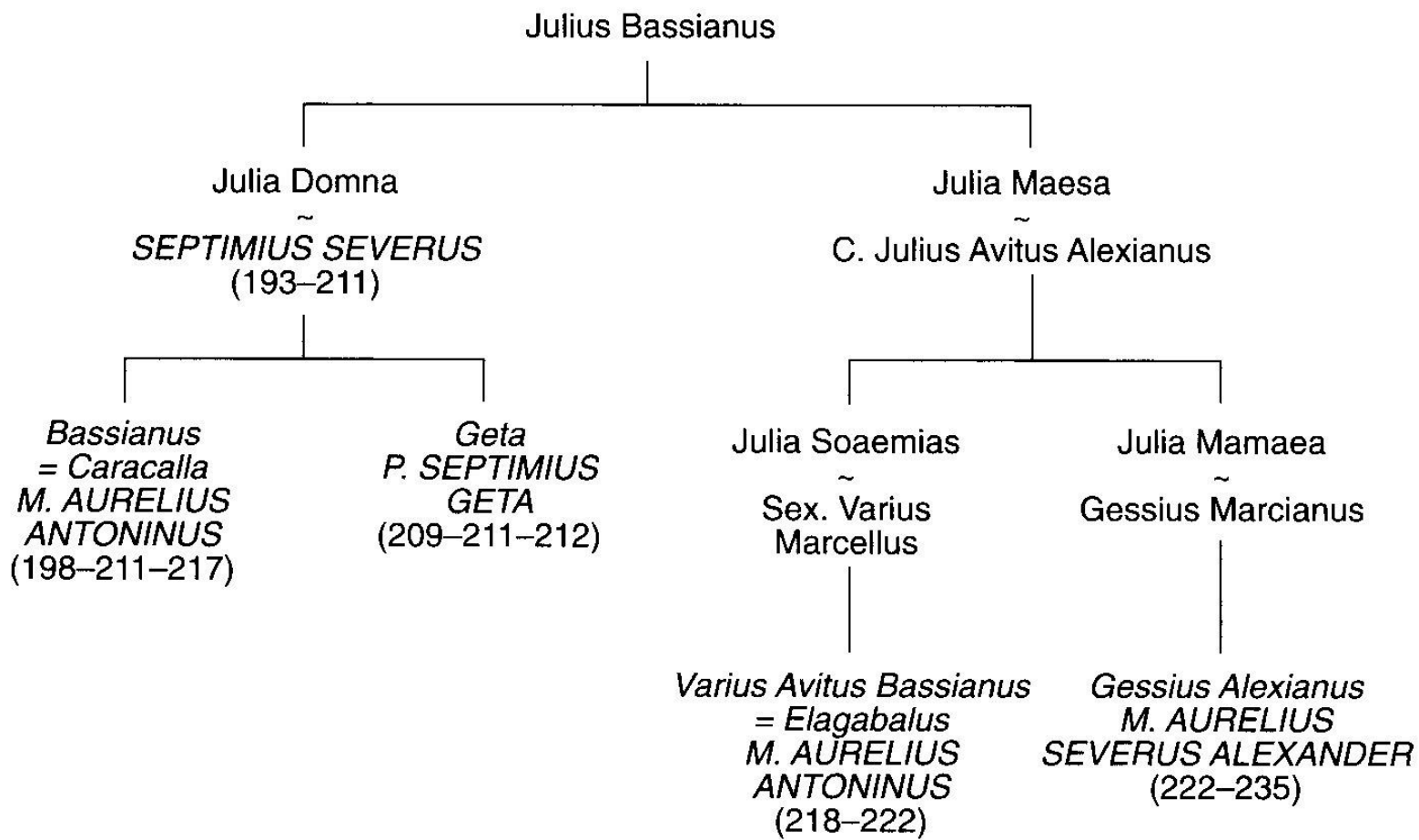
Elagabalus

218 – 222

Severus Alexander

222 – 235

Table 12.2 The dynasty of Septimius Severus



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