

Martin Friis

Image and Imitation

Josephus' Antiquities 1-11 and Greco-Roman Historiography

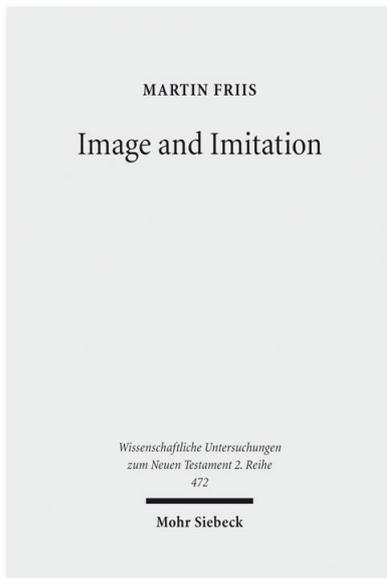
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Published in English.

Flavius Josephus ranks among the most influential and prolific ancient Jewish writers. His account of near-contemporary events in the *Jewish War* and the latter half of the *Jewish Antiquities* have often been subjected to critical scrutiny.

Josephus' writings, however, also include an account of the most remote past of the Jewish people in the first eleven books of the *Jewish Antiquities*. Yet, only rarely has this part of his authorship been subjected to a historiographically oriented analysis. Martin Friis offers such an analysis with emphasis on Josephus' various strategies of self-presentation. He provides numerous examples of the comprehensiveness of Josephus' self-presentational style, and shows how Josephus consistently presents himself as a capable and competent historian in a manner that is highly reminiscent of, and easily comparable to, that of some of the greatest ancient Greco-Roman historians.

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2018. XIII, 242 pages. WUNT II 472

ISBN 978-3-16-156466-6
sewn paper €89.00

ISBN 978-3-16-156467-3
DOI [10.1628/978-3-16-156467-3](https://doi.org/10.1628/978-3-16-156467-3)
eBook PDF €89.00

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