This volume presents a series of papers which cover the general theme of the reception of antiquity, a topic which has in recent years become a discipline in itself, or what some might call a ‘cross-discipline’. Indeed the Nachleben of the (culture of) classical antiquity, and of antiquity as a whole, manifests in a number of diverse domains, opening up the field of reception studies to scholars from disciplines other than Classics. This collection of papers illustrates this diversity, uniting as it does original research by scholars from a variety of disciplines: classicists, historians, theatre historians, architectural historians, psychologists, archaeologists, artists, and more, all of whom have treated some aspect of the so-called ‘classical tradition’ by means of their own individual approaches, leading to a volume rich and dense in themes and methodologies.

Receptions of Antiquity has been written by friends of Freddy Decreus, in honour of his career, and in celebration of his thought. It is their creation, but reflects the spirit in which Freddy, the one for whom the book has been conceived, always operates: one of open, critical, self-conscious but at the same time highly auto-critical, free, non-dogmatic, and above all incessantly renewing, curiosity. May this spirit live on in Freddy’s own continuing quest for meaningfulness, and in those whom he has inspired.

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