

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910461258003321
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Titolo	Sons of hellenism, fathers of the church [[electronic resource]] : Emperor Julian, Gregory of Nazianzus, and the vision of Rome // Susanna Elm
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2012
ISBN	1-280-11261-1 9786613520715 0-520-95165-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (577 p.)
Collana	Transformation of the classical heritage ; ; 49
Disciplina	270.2092/2
Soggetti	Church and state - Rome Church history - Primitive and early church, ca. 30-600 Electronic books. Rome History Julian, 361-363 Rome Religion
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Abbreviations -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. Nazianzus and the Eastern Empire, 330-361 -- 2. Julian, from Caesar to Augustus: Paris to Constantinople, 355-362 -- 3. Philosopher, Leader, Priest: Julian in Constantinople, Spring 362 -- 4. On the True Philosophical Life and Ideal Christian Leadership: Gregory's Inaugural Address, Oration 2 -- 5. The Most Potent Pharmakon: Gregory the Elder and Nazianzus -- 6. Armed like a Hoplite-Gregory the Political Philosopher atWar: Eunomius, Photinus, and Julian -- 7. A Health-Giving Star Shining on the East: Julian in Antioch, July 362 to March 363 -- 8. The Making of the Apostate: Gregory's Oration 4 against Julian -- 9. A Bloodless Sacrifice of Words to the Word: Logoi for the Logos -- 10. Gregory's Second Strike, Oration 5 -- Conclusion: Visions of Rome -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	This groundbreaking study brings into dialogue for the first time the writings of Julian, the last non-Christian Roman Emperor, and his most outspoken critic, Bishop Gregory of Nazianzus, a central figure of

Christianity. Susanna Elm compares these two men not to draw out the obvious contrast between the Church and the Emperor's neo-Paganism, but rather to find their common intellectual and social grounding. Her insightful analysis, supplemented by her magisterial command of sources, demonstrates the ways in which both men were part of the same dialectical whole. Elm recasts both Julian and Gregory as men entirely of their times, showing how the Roman Empire in fact provided Christianity with the ideological and social matrix without which its longevity and dynamism would have been inconceivable.
