

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996209836103316
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Titolo	Spectacular power in the Greek and Roman city [[electronic resource] /] / Andrew Bell
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford, : Oxford University Press, 2004
ISBN	0-19-929827-0 1-280-75352-8 9786610753529 0-19-152930-3 1-4237-5314-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (298 p.)
Disciplina	320.850937
Soggetti	Power (Social sciences) - Rome Power (Social sciences) - Greece Municipal government - Rome Municipal government - Greece Prestige Electronic books.
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 (p. [252]-279) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; 1 Looking at the Powerful; 2 Looking at Caesar; 3 The Affections of the Athenians; 4 Kings and Elephants; 5 Elephants and Citizens; 6 Ciceronian Consensus; Afterword; References; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Andrew Bell's analysis of the power of prestige in civic communities of the ancient world demonstrates the importance of crowds' aesthetic and emotional judgement upon leaders and their ambitious claims for immediate and lasting significance; and also finds consideration of this dynamic still to be valuable for modern citizens. An initial discussion of the fall of Ceausescu in 1989 prompts theoretical considerations about the inseparability of authority and its manifestation; and scrutiny of Julius Caesar's gestures towards self-definition introduces the complexity of ancient political relation

