

The Classics Program of Saint Joseph's University cordially invites you to a lecture:

## Catullus and Horace on Roman Women Poets

Presented by

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The ancient Roman poets Catullus (ca. 84-54 BCE) and Horace (65-8 BCE) were celebrated in their own time and have been renowned ever since for their lyrics on the power of love and the pleasures of sophisticated living. Catullus' immortal lines include *ave atque vale* ("hail and farewell"); Horace's *carpe diem* ("seize the day"). Both poets also acknowledged their literary debt to the late 7<sup>th</sup> century BCE Greek female poet Sappho. Catullus in fact referred to his female beloved as Lesbia, paying homage to Sappho's native island of Lesbos as well as her distinctive literary and erotic sensibilities. Each, moreover, acknowledges the presence and activity of female erotic poets in his own milieu, but in strikingly different ways. This talk will examine a variety of ancient Roman texts, in Latin and in English translation, many of them on the Advanced Placement Latin Literature syllabus, to explore how each represents poetic efforts by Roman women, particularly in view of our evidence from a female love poet contemporary with Horace, the elegist Sulpicia.

**Thursday, February 26, 2004**

**3:00 PM**

**President's Lounge, Campion Center**

Post-lecture refreshments will be served at 4:00 PM