

**Abstract:** In the modern versions, the masculine heroes are Roman political men (Britannicus, J. Caesar, Caligula, Claudius), while the feminine are Greek mythological women (Iphigenia, Medea, Phaedra). From an ethical point of view, some of them are victims (Britannicus, J. Caesar, Iphigenia), some are executioners (Medea, Phaedra, Caligula). Their images are constructed in correspondence with the canon and the literary rules of the modern times as well as their manner of speaking.

**Keywords:** history, myth, ancient, modern, truth, imagination