



## To excite or to appease?

Epic oration and tragic oration in Jean de la Taille and Pierre de Ronsard's *Remonstrances* (1562)

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Abstract: La Taille responded to Ronsard in the fight against civil war. The tragic register aims in La Taille's *Remonstrance* to subdue; the epic register in that of Ronsard aims to rally. First of all, the declarative structures differ (legitimizing *ethos*). The allegory then proceeds in a figurative style that is either tragic or epic (mobilizing *pathos*). Finally, Ronsard constructs an epic lexicon (enemy, reconquest), while La Taille constructs a tragic one (victims, prayer): unifying *logos*.

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