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## **KEY=DEFENCE - BROOKLYNN MAURICE**

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## **CHRISTINE DE PIZAN AND THE MORAL DEFENCE OF WOMEN**

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## **READING BEYOND GENDER**

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Cambridge University Press The first book-length study of a seminal 'feminist' text from the Middle Ages.

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## **COMPTE-RENDU DE :**

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## **ROSALIND BROWN-GRANT. CHRISTINE DE PIZAN AND THE MORAL DEFENSE OF WOMEN READING BEYOND GENDER**

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## **CHRISTINE DE PIZAN**

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## **A CASEBOOK**

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Routledge Christine de Pizan wrote voluminously, commenting on various aspects of the late-medieval society in which she lived. Considered by many to be the first French woman of letters, Christine and her writing have been difficult to place ever since she began putting her thoughts on the page. Although her work was neglected in the eighteenth and nineteenth century, there has been a eruption of Christine studies in recent decades, making her the perfect subject for a casebook. This volume serves as a useful guide to contemporary research exploring Christine's life and work as they reflected and influenced her socio-political milieu.

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## **WOMEN AND GENDER IN MEDIEVAL EUROPE**

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## **AN ENCYCLOPEDIA**

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Routledge From women's medicine and the writings of Christine de Pizan to the lives of market and tradeswomen and the idealization of virginity, gender and social status dictated all aspects of women's lives during the middle ages. A cross-disciplinary resource, *Women and Gender in Medieval Europe* examines the daily reality of medieval women from all walks of life in Europe between 450 CE and 1500 CE, i.e., from the fall of the Roman Empire to the discovery of the Americas. Moving beyond biographies of famous noble women of the middles ages, the scope of this important reference work is vast and provides a comprehensive understanding of medieval women's lives and experiences. Masculinity in the middle ages is also addressed to provide important context for understanding women's roles. Entries that range from 250 words to 4,500 words in length thoroughly explore topics in the following areas: · Art and Architecture · Countries, Realms, and Regions · Daily Life · Documentary Sources · Economics · Education and Learning · Gender and Sexuality · Historiography · Law · Literature · Medicine and Science · Music and Dance · Persons · Philosophy · Politics · Political Figures · Religion and Theology · Religious Figures · Social

Organization and Status Written by renowned international scholars, *Women and Gender in Medieval Europe* is the latest in the Routledge Encyclopedias of the Middle Ages. Easily accessible in an A-to-Z format, students, researchers, and scholars will find this outstanding reference work to be an invaluable resource on women in Medieval Europe.

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### **DOMINANT CULTURE AND THE EDUCATION OF WOMEN**

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Cambridge Scholars Publishing Women's access to education over the centuries has been determined by many factors, including class, race, religion, and nationality. Although women's experiences are marked by a rich diversity, women are in many ways united by their struggle to gain access to education. While previous essay collections that study this topic have tended to be more limited in scope, *Dominant Culture and the Education of Women* addresses the educational experiences of women from the fourth to the twenty-first century in Europe and the Americas. Because of its inclusive nature, this collection demonstrates not only that women have made great strides in education but also that certain challenges have yet to be overcome. While medieval women faced cloistering and severe restrictions, modern women have gained entry into previously all-male universities and male dominated professions. However, women under totalitarian regimes or from marginalized communities continue to struggle against patriarchal conceptions of women's roles and use of the tools of literacy. This volume will appeal to all who seek new insights into the many subjects related to female education, including women's studies, education, comparative cultural and literary studies, and history.

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### **STRONG VOICES, WEAK HISTORY**

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### **EARLY WOMEN WRITERS & CANONS IN ENGLAND, FRANCE, & ITALY**

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University of Michigan Press *Strong Voices, Weak History* presents the first comparative history of major medieval and Renaissance European women writers in their relationship to national canons of literature. Challenging the notion of an oppressive patriarchy that discouraged women from writing and publishing, the fifteen essays collected here examine women's participation in fashionable male literary modes, trace their creation of female canons, and explore the history of their reception, from the fifteenth century to the present.

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### **FRENCH ROMANCE OF THE LATER MIDDLE AGES**

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### **GENDER, MORALITY, AND DESIRE**

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Oxford University Press This book will be of interest not only to students and scholars of medieval French literature but also to students and specialists of other medieval European languages, as well as to medieval historians, and those working in gender studies."--BOOK JACKET.

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### **A WOMAN WHO DEFENDS ALL THE PERSONS OF HER SEX**

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### **SELECTED PHILOSOPHICAL AND MORAL WRITINGS**

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University of Chicago Press During the oppressive reign of Louis XIV, Gabrielle Suchon (1632-1703) was the most forceful female voice in France, advocating women's freedom and self-determination, access to knowledge, and assertion of authority. This volume collects Suchon's writing from two works—*Treatise on Ethics and Politics* (1693) and *On the Celibate Life Freely Chosen; or, Life without Commitments* (1700)—and demonstrates her to be an original philosophical and moral thinker and writer. Suchon argues that both women and men have inherently similar intellectual, corporeal, and spiritual capacities, which entitle them equally to essentially human prerogatives, and she displays her breadth of knowledge as she harnesses evidence from biblical, classical, patristic, and contemporary secular sources to bolster her claim. Forgotten over the centuries, these writings have been gaining increasing attention from feminist historians, students of philosophy, and scholars of seventeenth-century French literature and culture. This translation, from Domna C. Stanton and Rebecca M. Wilkin, marks the first time these works will appear in English.

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### **VIRTUE ETHICS FOR WOMEN 1250-1500**

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Springer Science & Business Media This book locates Christine de Pizan's argument that women are virtuous members of the political community within the context of earlier discussions of the relative virtues of men and women. It is the first to explore how women were represented and addressed within medieval discussions of the virtues. It introduces readers to the little studied *Speculum Dominarum* (Mirror of Ladies), a mirror for a princess, compiled for Jeanne of Navarre, which circulated in the courtly milieu that nurtured



light on subjects ranging from pilgrim processions within Chartres Cathedral, to polyphonic song, and the 'rhetoric of silence' perfected by the Cistercians. Rhetoric is defined broadly in this book to encompass its relationship to its sister arts of music, architecture, and painting, all of which use materials and media in addition to words, sometimes altogether without words. Contributors have concentrated on those aspects of formal rhetoric that are performative in nature, the sound, gesture, and facial expressions of persuasive speech in action. Delivery (performance) is shown to be at the heart of rhetoric, that aspect of it which is indeed beyond words.

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### **JEWISH POET AND INTELLECTUAL IN SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY VENICE**

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#### **THE WORKS OF SARRA COPIA SULAM IN VERSE AND PROSE ALONG WITH WRITINGS OF HER CONTEMPORARIES IN HER PRAISE, CONDEMNATION, OR DEFENSE**

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University of Chicago Press The first Jewish woman to leave her mark as a writer and intellectual, Sarra Copia Sulam (1600?-41) was doubly tainted in the eyes of early modern society by her religion and her gender. This remarkable woman, who until now has been relatively neglected by modern scholarship, was a unique figure in Italian cultural life, opening her home, in the Venetian ghetto, to Jews and Christians alike as a literary salon. For this bilingual edition, Don Harrán has collected all of Sulam's previously scattered writings—letters, sonnets, a Manifesto—into a single volume. Harrán has also assembled all extant correspondence and poetry that was addressed to Sulam, as well as all known contemporary references to her, making them available to Anglophone readers for the first time. Featuring rich biographical and historical notes that place Sulam in her cultural context, this volume will provide readers with insight into the thought and creativity of a woman who dared to express herself in the male-dominated, overwhelmingly Catholic Venice of her time.

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### **THE WOMAN READER**

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Yale University Press This lively story has never been told before: the complete history of women's reading and the ceaseless controversies it has inspired. Belinda Jack's groundbreaking volume travels from the Cro-Magnon cave to the digital bookstores of our time, exploring what and how women of widely differing cultures have read through the ages. Jack traces a history marked by persistent efforts to prevent women from gaining literacy or reading what they wished. She also recounts the counter-efforts of those who have battled for girls' access to books and education. The book introduces frustrated female readers of many eras—Babylonian princesses who called for women's voices to be heard, rebellious nuns who wanted to share their writings with others, confidantes who challenged Reformation theologians' writings, nineteenth-century New England mill girls who risked their jobs to smuggle novels into the workplace, and women volunteers who taught literacy to women and children on convict ships bound for Australia. Today, new distinctions between male and female readers have emerged, and Jack explores such contemporary topics as burgeoning women's reading groups, differences in men and women's reading tastes, censorship of women's on-line reading in countries like Iran, the continuing struggle for girls' literacy in many poorer places, and the impact of women readers in their new status as significant movers in the world of reading.

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### **REPRESENTATIONS OF EVE IN ANTIQUITY AND THE ENGLISH MIDDLE AGES**

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Routledge As the first woman, Eve was the pattern for all her daughters. The importance of readings of Eve for understanding how women were viewed at various times is a critical commonplace, but one which has been only narrowly investigated. This book systematically explores the different ways in which Eve was understood by Christians in antiquity and in the English Middle Ages, and it relates these understandings to female social roles. The result is an Eve more various than she is often depicted by scholars. Beginning with material from the bible, the Church Fathers and Jewish sources, the book goes on to look at a broad selection of medieval writing, including theological works and literary texts in Old and Middle English. In addition to dealing with famous authors such as Augustine, Aquinas, Dante and Chaucer, the writings of authors who are now less well-known, but who were influential in their time, are explored. The book allows readers to trace the continuities and discontinuities in the way Eve was portrayed over a millennium and a half, and as such it is of interest to those interested in women or the bible in the Middle Ages.

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### **BYZANTINE AND RENAISSANCE PHILOSOPHY**

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#### **A HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY WITHOUT ANY GAPS, VOLUME 6**

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Oxford University Press Peter Adamson presents an engaging and wide-ranging introduction to two great intellectual cultures: Byzantium and the Italian Renaissance. First he tells the story of philosophy in the Eastern Christian world, from the 8th century to the 15th century, then he explores the rebirth of philosophy in Italy in the era of Machiavelli and

Galileo.

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## **CHRISTINE DE PIZAN**

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### **A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL GUIDE. SUPPLEMENT 2**

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Boydell & Brewer

#### **DEBATE OF THE ROMANCE OF THE ROSE**

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University of Chicago Press In 1401, Christine de Pizan (1365-1430?), one of the most renowned and prolific woman writers of the Middle Ages, wrote a letter to the provost of Lille criticizing the highly popular and widely read Romance of the Rose for its blatant and unwarranted misogynistic depictions of women. The debate that ensued, over not only the merits of the treatise but also of the place of women in society, started Europe on the long path to gender parity. Pizan's criticism sparked a continent-wide discussion of issues that is still alive today in disputes about art and morality, especially the civic responsibility of a writer or artist for the works he or she produces. In Debate of the "Romance of the Rose," David Hult collects, along with the debate documents themselves, letters, sermons, and excerpts from other works of Pizan, including one from City of Ladies—her major defense of women and their rights—that give context to this debate. Here, Pizan's supporters and detractors are heard alongside her own formidable, protofeminist voice. The resulting volume affords a rare look at the way people read and thought about literature in the period immediately preceding the era of print.

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#### **DEBATING THE ROMAN DE LA ROSE**

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#### **A CRITICAL ANTHOLOGY**

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Routledge Around the year 1400, the poet Christine de Pizan initiated a public debate in France over the literary "truth" and merit of the Roman of the Rose, perhaps the most renowned work of the French Middle Ages. She argued against what she considered to be misrepresentations of female virtue and vice in the Rose. Her bold objections aroused the support and opposition of some of the period's most famous intellectuals, notable Jean Gerson, whose sermons on the subject are important literary documents. "The Quarrel of the Rose" is the name given by modern scholars to the collection of these and other documents, including both poetry and letters, that offer a vivid account of this important controversy. As the first dual-language version of the "Quarrel" documents, this volume will be of great interest to medievalists and an ideal addition to the Routledge Medieval Texts series. Along with translations of the actual debate epistles, the volume includes several relevant passages from the Romance of the Rose, as well as a chronology of events and ample biography of source materials.

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#### **WANDERING WOMEN AND HOLY MATRONS**

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#### **WOMEN AS PILGRIMS IN THE LATER MIDDLE AGES**

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BRILL Women commonly became pilgrims in Latin Christendom in the later Middle Ages, despite the opposition of contemporary critics. This book explores women's participation in many forms of pilgrimage, and also their construction of positive interpretations of that participation.

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#### **HANDBOOK OF RESEARCH ON TRANSLATING MYTH AND REALITY IN WOMEN IMAGERY ACROSS DISCIPLINES**

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IGI Global Women have been represented in art, literature, music, and more for decades, with the image of the woman changing through time and across cultures. However, rarely has a multidisciplinary approach been taken to examine this imagery and challenge and possibly reinterpret old women-related myths and other taken-for-granted aspects (e.g., grammatically inclusive gender). Moreover, this approach can better place the ideologies as myth creators and propagators, identify and deconstruct stereotypes and prejudices, and compare them across cultures with the view to spot universal vs. culturally specific approaches as far as women's studies and interpretations are concerned. It is important to gather these perspectives to translate and unveil new interpretations to old ideas about women and the feminine that are universally accepted as absolute, impossible to challenge, and invalidated truths. The Handbook of Research on Translating Myth and Reality in Women Imagery Across Disciplines is a comprehensive reference book that provides an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary perspective on the perception and reception of women across time and space. It tackles various perspectives: gender studies, linguistic

studies, literature and cultural studies, discourse analysis, philosophy, anthropology, sociology, etc. Its main objective is to present new approaches and propose new answers to old questions related to gender inequalities, stereotypes, and prejudices about women and their place in the world. Covering significant themes that include the ethics of embodiment, myth of motherhood at the crossroad of ideologies, translation of women's experiences and ideas across cultures, and discourses on women's rehabilitation and dignification across centuries, this book is critical for linguists, professionals, researchers, academicians, and students working in the fields of women's studies, gender studies, cultural studies, and literature, as well as other related categories such as political studies, education studies, philosophy, and the social sciences.

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#### **WOMEN AND LEARNING: OXFORD BIBLIOGRAPHIES ONLINE RESEARCH GUIDE**

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Oxford University Press, USA This ebook is a selective guide designed to help scholars and students of Islamic studies find reliable sources of information by directing them to the best available scholarly materials in whatever form or format they appear from books, chapters, and journal articles to online archives, electronic data sets, and blogs. Written by a leading international authority on the subject, the ebook provides bibliographic information supported by direct recommendations about which sources to consult and editorial commentary to make it clear how the cited sources are interrelated related. This ebook is a static version of an article from Oxford Bibliographies Online: Renaissance and Reformation, a dynamic, continuously updated, online resource designed to provide authoritative guidance through scholarship and other materials relevant to the study of European history and culture between the 14th and 17th centuries. Oxford Bibliographies Online covers most subject disciplines within the social science and humanities, for more information visit [www.oxfordbibliographies.com](http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com).

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#### **HISTORIANS ON CHAUCER**

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##### **THE 'GENERAL PROLOGUE' TO THE CANTERBURY TALES**

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Oxford University Press, USA While literary scholars have insisted on the need to understand works of medieval literature in their historical context, medieval historians themselves have rarely contributed to modern attempts to show how works of imaginative literature engaged with the conflicts and controversies of their own day. This volume brings together 25 experts in the history of fourteenth-century England and asks them to discuss one of the most famous works of Middle English literature- -Geoffrey Chaucer's 'General Prologue' to the Canterbury Tales--in relation to the economic change, social issues, and religious controversies of the period. Beginning with a survey of recent debates about the social meaning of Chaucer's work, the volume then discusses each of the Canterbury pilgrims in turn. The book should be of interest to all scholars and students of medieval culture whether they are specialists in literature or history.

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#### **THE POLITICAL THEORY OF CHRISTINE DE PIZAN**

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Taylor & Francis Few medieval or Renaissance political writers, male or female, wrote more works on politics than Christine de Pizan; none of them addressed audiences so varied in class or gender. Yet until now there has been no comprehensive full-length study of Christine de Pizan's political thought. With *The Political Theory of Christine de Pizan*, Kate Forhan rectifies this oversight, situating de Pizan in the history of political thought while discussing traditional concerns of political theorists, such as justice, obligation, law, equality, and just war. Forhan also addresses the question of whether Pizan's work is original or derivative; whether she is a theorist or "merely" a political writer. Between 1400 and 1429, at a time of great civil strife in France, Christine de Pizan wrote ten books for the instruction and guidance of those engaged in political life. Her theory is focused on a "politics of inclusion," which validates the essential contribution of each member of the body politic to the whole, despite socially and politically mandated difference of class, nationality, and gender-ideas not without significance to the modern era. As Forhan demonstrates through analysis of her work, the thought of Christine de Pizan has true relevance for modern times. First, hers was a society in transition: new class structures, new occupations, and new aspirations were appearing behind the crumbling structures of the late medieval world. Secondly, Christine de Pizan was an outsider; a woman in a world dominated by men, an Italian in France, a member of the "meritocracy" at a court that was rigidly hierarchical. Her "difference" gave her the perspective to observe her society objectively. Her personal vulnerability allowed her to see politics more clearly, as those who are most vulnerable might see our own. Thirdly, she was a shrewd observer in a country that was emerging as a nation-state, where new concepts and practices of law, justice, administration, and politics in general were in the process of development. This book will be of interest to political theorists and political scientists; medieval historians; historians of women and gender; and scholars of comparative literature.

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## **THE COMPLETE POEMS**

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### **THE 1554 EDITION OF THE "RIME," A BILINGUAL EDITION**

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University of Chicago Press Gaspara Stampa (1523?-1554) is one of the finest female poets ever to write in Italian. Although she was lauded for her singing during her lifetime, her success and critical reputation as a poet emerged only after her verse was republished in the early eighteenth century. Her poetry runs the gamut of human emotion, ranging from ecstasy over a consummated love affair to despair at its end. While these tormented works and their multiple male addressees have led to speculation that Stampa may have been one of Venice's famous courtesans, they can also be read as a rebuttal of typical assumptions about women's roles. Championed by Rainer Maria Rilke, among others, she has more recently been celebrated by feminist scholars for her distinctive and original voice and her challenge to convention. The first complete translation of Stampa into English, this volume collects all of her passionate and lyrical verse. It is also the first modern critical edition of her poems, and in restoring the original sequence of the 1554 text, it allows readers the opportunity to encounter Stampa as she intended. Jane Tylus renders Stampa's verse in precise and graceful English translations, allowing a new generation of students and scholars of poetry, Renaissance literature, and music history to rediscover this incipiently modern Italian poet.

### **MEDITATIONS ON THE INCARNATION, PASSION, AND DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST**

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University of Chicago Press Read by Protestants and Catholics alike, Catharina Regina von Greiffenberg (1633-94) was the foremost German woman poet and writer in the seventeenth-century German-speaking world. Privileged by her social station and education, she published a large body of religious writings under her own name to a reception unequalled by any other German woman during her lifetime. But once the popularity of devotional writings as a genre waned, Catharina's works went largely unread until scholars devoted renewed attention to them in the twentieth century. For this volume, Lynne Tatlock translates for the first time into English three of the thirty-six meditations, restoring Catharina to her rightful place in print. These meditations foreground women in the life of Jesus Christ—including accounts of women at the Incarnation and the Tomb—and in Scripture in general. Tatlock's selections give the modern reader a sense of the structure and nature of Catharina's devotional writings, highlighting the alternative they offer to the male-centered view of early modern literary and cultural production during her day, and redefining the role of women in Christian history.

### **A HANDBOOK TO THE RECEPTION OF CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY**

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John Wiley & Sons A Handbook to the Reception of Classical Mythology presents a collection of essays that explore a wide variety of aspects of Greek and Roman myths and their critical reception from antiquity to the present day. Reveals the importance of mythography to the survival, dissemination, and popularization of classical myth from the ancient world to the present day Features chronologically organized essays that address different sets of myths that were important in each historical era, along with their thematic relevance Features chronologically organized essays that address different sets of myths that were important in each historical era, along with their thematic relevance Offers a series of carefully selected in-depth readings, including both popular and less well-known examples

### **ETHICS AND ENJOYMENT IN LATE MEDIEVAL POETRY**

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#### **LOVE AFTER ARISTOTLE**

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Cambridge University Press Jessica Rosenfeld provides a history of the ethics of medieval vernacular love poetry by tracing its engagement with the late medieval reception of Aristotle. Beginning with a history of the idea of enjoyment from Plato to Peter Abelard and the troubadours, the book then presents a literary and philosophical history of the medieval ethics of love, centered on the legacy of the Roman de la Rose. The chapters reveal that 'courtly love' was scarcely confined to what is often characterized as an ethic of sacrifice and deferral, but also engaged with Aristotelian ideas about pleasure and earthly happiness. Readings of Machaut, Froissart, Chaucer, Dante, Deguileville and Langland show that poets were often markedly aware of the overlapping ethical languages of philosophy and erotic poetry. The study's conclusion places medieval poetry and philosophy in the context of psychoanalytic ethics, and argues for a re-evaluation of Lacan's ideas about courtly love.

### **ETHICS AND POWER IN MEDIEVAL ENGLISH REFORMIST WRITING**

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Cambridge University Press The late medieval Church obliged all Christians to rebuke the sins of others, especially those who had power to discipline in Church and State: priests,

confessors, bishops, judges, the Pope. This practice, in which the injured party had to confront the wrong-doer directly and privately, was known as fraternal correction. Edwin Craun examines how pastoral writing instructed Christians to make this corrective process effective by avoiding slander, insult, and hypocrisy. He explores how John Wyclif and his followers expanded this established practice to authorize their own polemics against mendicants and clerical wealth. Finally, he traces how major English reformist writing - Piers Plowman, Mum and the Sothsegger, and The Book of Margery Kempe - expanded the practice to justify their protests, to protect themselves from repressive elements in the late Ricardian and Lancastrian Church and State, and to urge their readers to mount effective protests against religious, social, and political abuses.

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### **TEXTS FROM THE QUERELLE, 1521-1615**

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Ashgate Publishing, Ltd. Misogyny and its opposite, philogyny, have been perennial topics in Western literature from its earliest days to the present day, but only at certain historic periods have pro-woman authors challenged fundamental negative assumptions about women by engagi

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### **WHO IS MARY?**

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### **THREE EARLY MODERN WOMEN ON THE IDEA OF THE VIRGIN MARY**

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University of Chicago Press For women of the Italian Renaissance, the Virgin Mary was one of the most important role models. Who Is Mary? presents devotional works written by three women better known for their secular writings: Vittoria Colonna, famed for her Petrarchan lyric verse; Chiara Matraini, one of the most original poets of her generation; and the wide-ranging, intellectually ambitious polemicist Lucrezia Marinella. At a time when the cult of the Virgin was undergoing a substantial process of redefinition, these texts cast fascinating light on the beliefs of Catholic women in the Renaissance, and also, in the cases of Matraini and Marinella, on contemporaneous women's social behavior, prescribed for them by male writers in books on female decorum. Who Is Mary? testifies to the emotional and spiritual relationships that women had with the figure of Mary, whom they were required to emulate as the epitome of femininity. Now available for the first time in English-language translation, these writings suggest new possibilities for women in both religious and civil culture and provide a window to women's spirituality, concerning the most important icon set before them, as wives, mothers, and Christians.

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### **EXEMPLARY TALES OF LOVE AND TALES OF DISILLUSION**

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University of Chicago Press At the height of María de Zayas's popularity in the mid-eighteenth century, the number of editions in print of her work was exceeded only by the novels of Cervantes. But by the end of the nineteenth century, Zayas had been excluded from the Spanish literary canon because of her gender and the sociopolitical changes that swept Spain and Europe. Exemplary Tales of Love and Tales of Disillusion gathers a representative sample of seven stories, which features Zayas's signature topics—gender equality and domestic violence—written in an impassioned tone overlaid with conservative Counter-Reformation ideology. This edition updates the scholarship since the most recent English translations, with a new introduction to Zayas's entire body of stories, and restores Zayas's author's note and prologue, omitted from previous English-language editions. Tracing her slow but steady progress from notions of ideal love to love's treachery, Exemplary Tales of Love and Tales of Disillusion will restore Zayas to her rightful place in modern letters.

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### **THE NEW WORLD HISTORY**

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### **A FIELD GUIDE FOR TEACHERS AND RESEARCHERS**

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Univ of California Press The New World History is a comprehensive volume of essays selected to enrich world history teaching and scholarship in this rapidly expanding field. The forty-four articles in this book take stock of the history, evolving literature, and current trajectories of new world history. These essays, together with the editors' introductions to thematic chapters, encourage educators and students to reflect critically on the development of the field and to explore concepts, approaches, and insights valuable to their own work. The selections are organized in ten chapters that survey the history of the movement, the seminal ideas of founding thinkers and today's practitioners, changing concepts of world historical space and time, comparative methods, environmental history, the "big history" movement, globalization, debates over the meaning of Western power, and ongoing questions about the intellectual premises and assumptions that have shaped the field.

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## FRENCH WOMEN AUTHORS

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### THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SPIRITUAL (1400-2000)

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Rowman & Littlefield This book examines the role of the spiritual in the lives and works of selected French women writers from the Middle Ages to the (post)modern age. With chapters covering eleven different authors, it highlights the important contribution made by women writers to French literature in spiritual growth, evolution, and reflection, over the centuries.

### WOMEN IN CHRISTIAN TRADITIONS

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NYU Press Women in Christian Traditions offers a concise and accessible examination of the roles women have played in the construction and practice of Christian traditions, revealing the enormous debt that this major world religion owes to its female followers. It recovers forgotten and obscured moments in church history to help us to realize a richer and fuller understanding of Christianity. This text provides an overview of the complete sweep of Christian history through the lens of feminist scholarship. Yet it also departs from some of the assumptions of that scholarship, raising questions that challenge our thinking about how women have shaped beliefs and practices during two thousand years of church history. Did the emphasis on virginity in the early church empower Christian women? Did the emphasis on marriage during the Reformations of the sixteenth century improve their status? These questions and others have important implications for women in Christianity in particular, and for women in religion in general, since they go to the heart of the human condition. This work examines themes, movements, and events in their historical contexts and locates churchwomen within the broader developments that have been pivotal in the evolution of Christianity. From the earliest disciples to the latest theologians, from the missionaries to the martyrs, women have been instrumental in keeping the faith alive. Women in Christian Traditions shows how they did so. Instructor's Guide Additional Resources

### URBAN SPACE IN THE MIDDLE AGES AND THE EARLY MODERN AGE

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Walter de Gruyter Although the city as a central entity did not simply disappear with the Fall of the Roman Empire, the development of urban space at least since the twelfth century played a major role in the history of medieval and early modern mentality within a social-economic and religious framework. Whereas some poets projected urban space as a new utopia, others simply reflected the new significance of the urban environment as a stage where their characters operate very successfully. As today, the premodern city was the locus where different social groups and classes got together, sometimes peacefully, sometimes in hostile terms. The historical development of the relationship between Christians and Jews, for instance, was deeply determined by the living conditions within a city. By the late Middle Ages, nobility and bourgeoisie began to intermingle within the urban space, which set the stage for dramatic and far-reaching changes in the social and economic make-up of society. Legal-historical aspects also find as much consideration as practical questions concerning water supply and sewer systems. Moreover, the early modern city within the Ottoman and Middle Eastern world likewise finds consideration. Finally, as some contributors observe, the urban space provided considerable opportunities for women to carve out a niche for themselves in economic terms.

### OLD AGE IN THE MIDDLE AGES AND THE RENAISSANCE

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### INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO A NEGLECTED TOPIC

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Walter de Gruyter After an extensive introduction that takes stock of the relevant research literature on Old Age in the Middle Ages and the early modern age, the contributors discuss the phenomenon of old age in many different fields of late antique, medieval, and early modern literature, history, and art history. Both Beowulf and the Hildebrandslied, both Wolfram von Eschenbach's Parzival and Titarel, both the figure of Merlin and the trans-European tradition of Perceval/Peredur/Parzival, then the figure of the vetula in a variety of medieval French, English, and Spanish texts, and of the Old Man in The Stricker's Daniel, both the treatment of old age in Langland's Piers the Plowman and in Jean Gerson's sermons are dealt with. Other aspects involve late-antique epistolary literature, early modern French farce in light of Disability Studies, the social role of old, impotent men in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Netherlandish paintings, and the scientific discourse of old age and health since the 1500s. The discourse of Old Age proves to have been of central importance throughout the ages, so the critical examination of the issues involved sheds intriguing light on the cultural history from late antiquity to the seventeenth century.

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**SELECTED PHILOSOPHICAL AND SCIENTIFIC WRITINGS**

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University of Chicago Press Though most historians remember her as the mistress of Voltaire, Emilie Du Châtelet (1706-49) was an accomplished writer in her own right, who published multiple editions of her scientific writings during her lifetime, as well as a translation of Newton's Principia Mathematica that is still the standard edition of that work in French. Had she been a man, her reputation as a member of the eighteenth-century French intellectual elite would have been assured. In the 1970s, feminist historians of science began the slow work of recovering Du Châtelet's writings and her contributions to history and philosophy. For this edition, Judith P. Zinsser has selected key sections from Du Châtelet's published and unpublished works, as well as related correspondence, part of her little-known critique of the Old and New Testaments, and a treatise on happiness that is a refreshingly uncensored piece of autobiography—making all of them available for the first time in English. The resulting volume will recover Châtelet's place in the pantheon of French letters and culture.