Eroticism in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance

Magic, Marriage, and Midwifery

edited by I. Moulton

DESCRIPTION:
Magic rings; seductive she-devils; satyrs bound and whipped on stage; a woman sexually coerced in the confessional; a boy caught masturbating over a midwifery manual; a marriage of true minds between two men; a prince led to repentance at the sight of a naked girl prepared to give her life for his. These varied manifestations of medieval and early modern sexuality—each at the center of one of the essays in this volume—suggest the ubiquity and diversity of eroticism in the period. The erotic is the stuff of legend, but also of daily life. It is inextricable from relations of power and subordination and it plays a fundamental role in the hierarchical social structures of the period. The erotic is also very much a part of the spiritual realm, often in morally ambiguous ways. The seven essays collected in this volume explore the role the erotic played in early modern notions of happiness or fulfillment, in clerical life, in Jewish legend, heretical magic and Christian marriage, in poetry, on the public stage, and in medical manuals.

TABLE OF CONTENTS:
Introduction: Magic, Marriage, Midwifery and More - IAN FREDERICK MOULTON
The Erotic and the Quest for Happiness in the Middle Ages: What Everybody Aspires To and Hardly Anyone Truly Achieves; Medieval Eroticism and Mysticism - ALBRECHT CLASSEN
The Erotic as Lewdness in Spanish and Mexican Religious Culture During the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries - ASUNCION LAVRIN
Disarticulating Lilith: Notions of God's Evil in Jewish Folklore - SHARONAH FREDRICK
Sex and the Satyr in the Pastoral Tradition: Isabella Andreini's La Mirtilla as Pro-Feminist Erotica - ROSALIND KERR
Erotic Magic: Rings, Engraved Precious Gems and Masculine Anxiety- LILIANA LEOPARDI
Figuring Marital Queerness in Shakespeare's Sonnets - DAVID L. ORVIS
Sexual Education and Erotica in the Popular Midwifery Manuals of Thomas Raynalde and Nicholas Culpeper - CHANTEILLE THAUVETTE
List of Contributors

ISBN: 9782503567884 (hb)
PRICE: $91.00 (hb)
PUBLICATION DATE: 31 May 2016 (hb)
BINDING: Hardback
PAGES: 171
ILLUSTRATIONS: 17 b/w illus.
PUBLISHER: Brepols Publishers
IMPRINT: Brepols Publishers
SERIES: Arizona Studies in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance
READER INTERESTS: Medieval Studies Renaissance Studies