

Monthly Title Information

AI Sheets - August 2020

AUP Marketing; Lucia Dove (l.dove@aup.nl)

26/05/2020

Amsterdam University Press

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9789462989320	Gohain, <i>Imagined Geographies in the Indo-Tibetan Borderlands</i>
9789462983632	Lie, <i>Towards a Political Aesthetics of Cinema</i>
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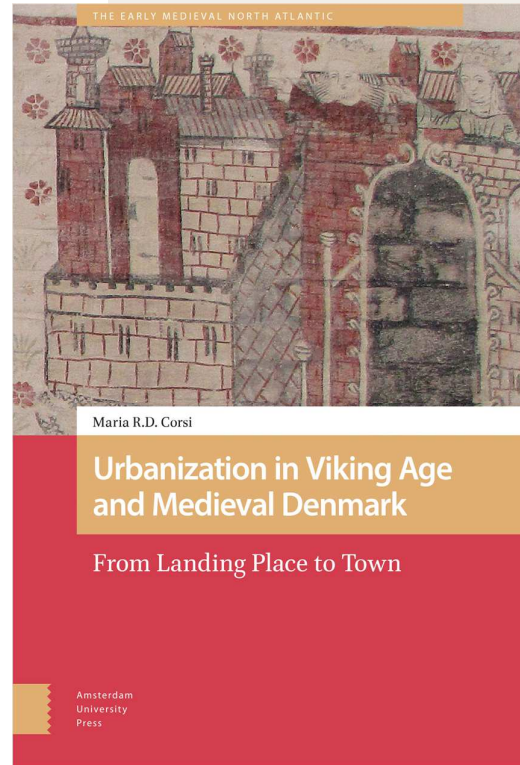
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Maria R.D. Corsi

Urbanization in Viking Age and Medieval Denmark

From Landing Place to Town

This study traces the history of urbanization in Denmark from c. 500-1350 and explores how interconnected political, religious, economic factors were instrumental in bringing about the growth of towns. Prior to urban development, certain specialized sites such as elite residences and coastal landing places performed many of the functions that would later be taken over by medieval towns. Fundamental changes in political power, the coming of Christianity, and economic development over the course of the Viking and Middle Ages led to the abandonment of these sites in favour of new urban settlements that would come to form the political, religious, and economic centres of the medieval kingdom. Bringing together both archaeological and historical sources, this study illustrates not only how certain cultural and economic shifts were crucial to the development of towns, but also the important role urbanization had in the transition from Viking to medieval Denmark.



Maria R. D. Corsi, Ph.D. (2014), currently works as an archivist for the Massad Family Research Center at the University of Houston.

The Early Medieval North Atlantic
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Chapter 3: New Forms of Urbanization (c. 950-c.1050)

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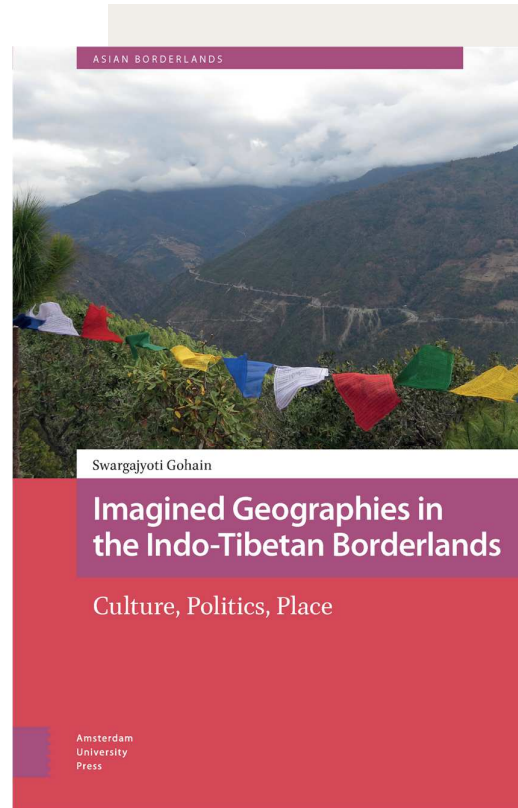
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Swargajyoti Gohain**Imagined Geographies in the
Indo-Tibetan Borderlands***Culture, Politics, Place*

This book is an ethnography of culture and politics in Monyul, a Tibetan Buddhist cultural region in west Arunachal Pradesh, Northeast India. For nearly three centuries, Monyul was part of the Tibetan state, and the Monpas, as the communities inhabiting this region are collectively known, participated in trans-Himalayan trade and pilgrimage. Following the colonial demarcation of the Indo-Tibetan boundary in 1914, the fall of the Tibetan state in 1951, and the India-China boundary war in 1962, Monyul was gradually integrated into India and the Monpas became one of the Scheduled Tribes of India. In 2003, the Monpas began a demand for autonomy, under the leadership of Tsona Gontse Rinpoche. This book examines the narratives and politics of the autonomy movement regarding language, place-names, and trans-border kinship, against the backdrop of the India-China border dispute. It explores how the Monpas negotiate multiple identities to imagine new forms of community that transcend regional and national borders.



Swargajyoti Gohain is Assistant Professor of Sociology and Anthropology in Ashoka University, India.

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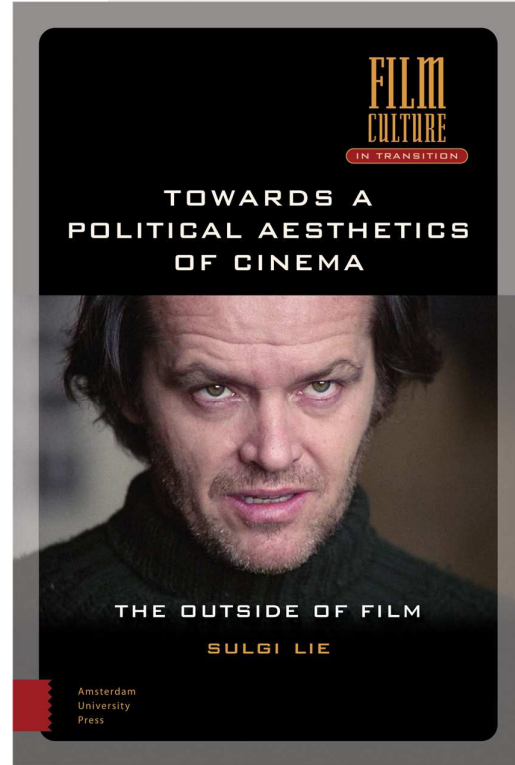
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Sulgi Lie

Towards a Political Aesthetics of Cinema

The Outside of Film

Towards a Political Aesthetics of Cinema: The Outside of Film is a contribution to an aesthetics of cinema rooted in Marxist theory. Rather than focusing on the role that certain films, or the cinema as an institution, might play in political consciousness, the book asks a different question: how can the subject of politics in film be thought? This problem is presented in a systematic-theoretical rather than historical manner. The main aim of this book is a retrospective film theoretical rehabilitation of the psychoanalytical concept of "suture," whose political core is progressively revealed. In a second step, this rereading of "suture"-theory is mediated with the Marxist aesthetics of Fredric Jameson. From the perspective of this reconfigured aesthetics of negativity, films by Hitchcock, Antonioni, Haneke and Kubrick are analyzed as articulations of a political unconscious.



Sulgi Lie is Visiting Professor in Film Studies at the Universität Bonn. He has co-edited a German anthology of Jacques Rancière's film writings and has recently completed a book on comedy and critical theory with the title *Gehend kommen. Adornos Slapstick* (Come Walking: Adorno's Slapstick).

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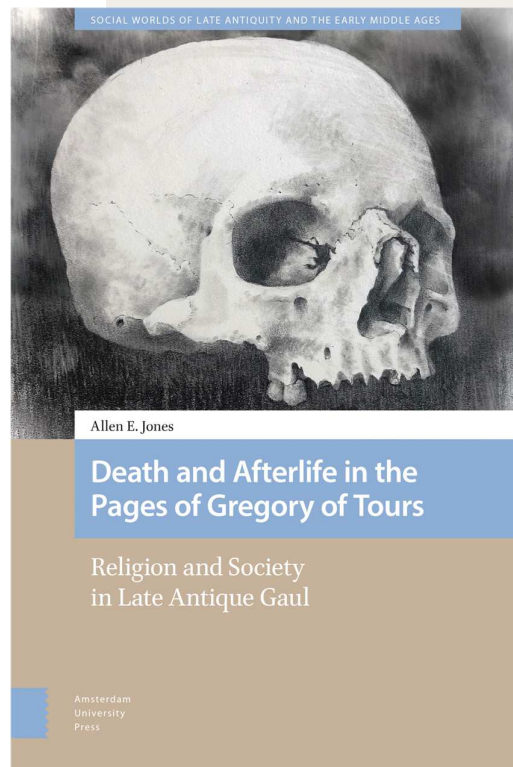
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Allen E. Jones

Death and Afterlife in the Pages of Gregory of Tours

Religion and Society in Late Antique Gaul

Gregory of Tours was a bishop of late antiquity who was famously devoted to promoting the efficacy of saintly powers. In his writings, both historical and hagiographical, Gregory depicted the saints and reprobates of his age. This book analyses Gregory's writings about death and the afterlife, thereby illuminating the bishop's pastoral imperative to save souls and revealing his opinions about the fates of Merovingian royals, among many others he mentions in his voluminous text. The study provides insight into Gallic peoples living at the dawning of the Middle Ages and their hopes and fears about the otherworld. It offers an original, nuanced interpretation of Gregory's motives for penning his works, particularly the *Historiae*, which remained unfinished upon the author's death.



Allen Jones is Professor and Chair of the
Department of History and Philosophy at Troy
University.

Social Worlds of Late Antiquity and the Early Middle
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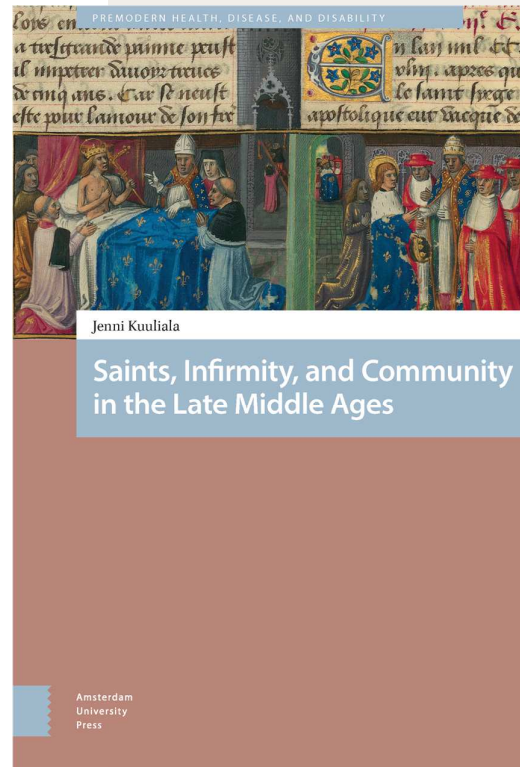
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Jenni Kuuliala

Saints, Infirmary, and Community in the Late Middle Ages

Bodily suffering and patient, Christlike attitudes towards that suffering were among the key characteristics of sainthood throughout the medieval period. Drawing on new work in medieval dis/ability studies, this book analyses the meanings given to putative saints' bodily infirmities in late medieval canonization hearings. How was an individual saint's bodily ailment investigated in the inquests, and how did the witnesses (re)construct the saintly candidates' ailments? What meanings were given to infirmity when providing proofs for holiness? This study depicts holy infirmity as an aspect of sanctity that is largely defined within the community, in continual dialogue with devotees, people suffering from doubt, the holy person, and the cultural patterns ascribed to saintly life. Furthermore, it analyses how the meanings given to saints' infirmities influenced and reflected society's attitudes towards bodily ailments in general.



Dr. Jenni Kuuliala is a post-doctoral research fellow at the University of Tampere, working on disability and healing in the late Middle Ages.

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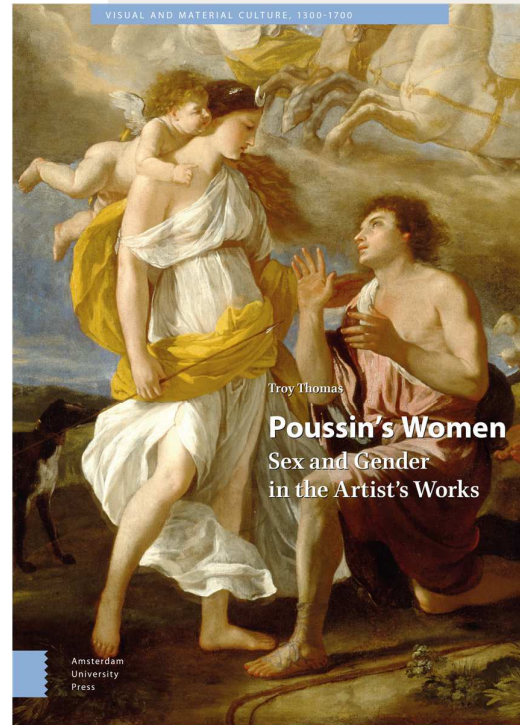
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Troy Thomas

Poussin's Women

Sex and Gender in the Artist's Works

This book examines the paintings and drawings of the well-known seventeenth-century French painter Nicolas Poussin (1594-1665) from a gender studies perspective, focusing on a critical analysis of his representations of women. The book's thematic chapters investigate Poussin's women in their roles as predators, as lustful or the objects of lust, as lovers, killers, victims, heroines, or models of virtue. Poussin's paintings reflect issues of gender within his social situation as he consciously or unconsciously articulated its conflicts and assumptions. A gender studies approach brings to light new critical insights that illuminate how the artist represented women, both positively and negatively, within the framework in his seventeenth-century culture. This book covers the artist's works from Classical mythology, Roman history, Tasso, and the Bible. It serves as a good overview of Poussin as an artist, discussing the latest research and including new interpretations of his major works.



Troy Thomas is Associate Professor of Art History at Penn State University, Harrisburg.

Visual and Material Culture, 1300-1700

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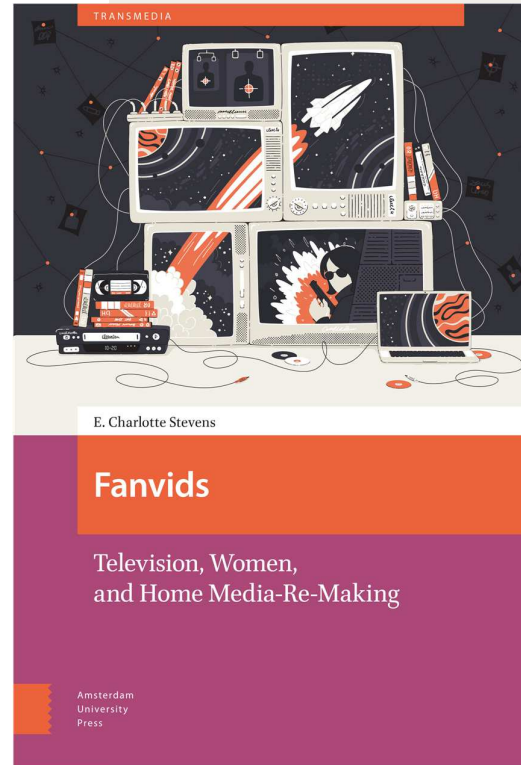
E. Charlotte Stevens

Fanvids

Television, Women, and Home Media Re-Use

Fanvids, or vids, are short videos created in media fandom. Made from television and film sources, they are neither television episodes nor films; they resemble music videos but are non-commercial fanworks that construct creative and critical analyses of existing media. The creators of fanvids-called vidders-are predominantly women, whose vids prompt questions about media historiography and pleasures taken from screen media. Vids remake narratives for an attentive fan audience, who watch with a deep knowledge of the source text(s), or an interest in the vid form itself.

Fanvids: Television, Women, and Home Media Re-Use draws on four decades of vids, produced on videotape and digitally, to argue that the vid form's creation and reception reveals a mode of engaged spectatorship that counters academic histories of media audiences and technologies. Vids offer an answer to the prevalent questions, What happens to television after it's been aired? How and by whom is it used and shared? Is it still television?



Charlotte Stevens earned her PhD in the Department of Film and Television Studies, University of Warwick, where she is now an Associate Fellow. She is also a Research Assistant with the Birmingham Centre for Media and Cultural Research, Birmingham City University.

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Larissa Hjorth

Digital Media Practices in Households

Kinship through Data

How are intergenerational relationships playing out in the digital rhythms of the household? Through extensive fieldwork in Tokyo, Shanghai and Melbourne, this book ethnographically explores how households are being understood, articulated and defined by digital media practices. It explores the rise of self-tracking, quantified self and informal practices of care at distance as part of contemporary household dynamics.



Digital Media Practices in Households

Kinship through Data

Amsterdam
University
Press

Distinguished Professor Larissa Hjorth is an artist and digital ethnographer. Hjorth has two decades experience working in cross-cultural, interdisciplinary, collaborative creative practice and socially innovative digital media research. Hjorth is currently the Design & Creative Practice ECP Platform Director at RMIT University and visiting Professor at University of Osaka co*design center.

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*Melbourne

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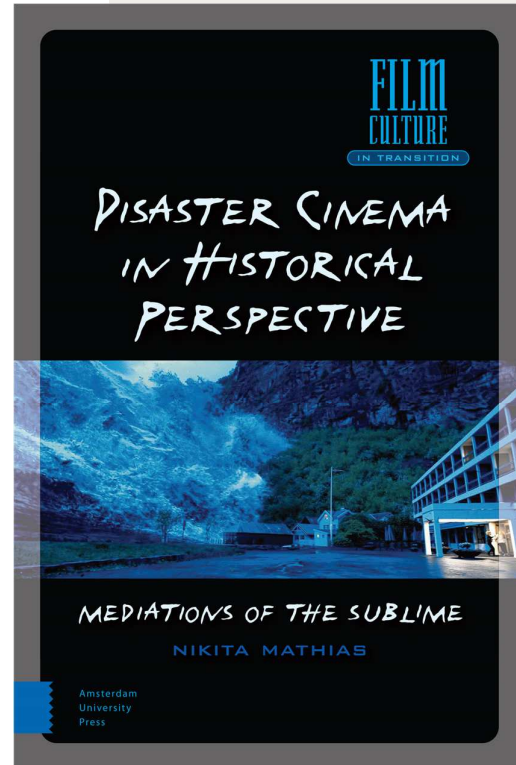
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Nikita Mathias**Disaster Cinema in Historical Perspective***Mediations of the Sublime*

"*Disaster Cinema in Historical Perspective: Mediations of the Sublime* is a genuine and original contribution to the fields of art history and cinema studies as well as to discussions on the concept of the sublime in the field of aesthetics. It is well-organized, well-informed, and lucidly written and draws on an impressive body of empirical and theoretical materials. As importantly, it is critical and nuanced in its claims and assertions, leaving ample room for discussion and counter-argument."

Ina Blom, University of Chicago, University of Oslo



Holding a PhD from the University of Tübingen, Germany, Nikita Mathias's main research interests lie within the fields of art history, media studies, aesthetics, and literary studies. Besides his academic career, he has worked as a journalist and in various positions in the cultural sector. In his current occupation, he holds the position of Senior Concept Developer at the Munch Museum in Oslo, Norway, which involves creating meaningful and engaging art experiences as well as publications and research.

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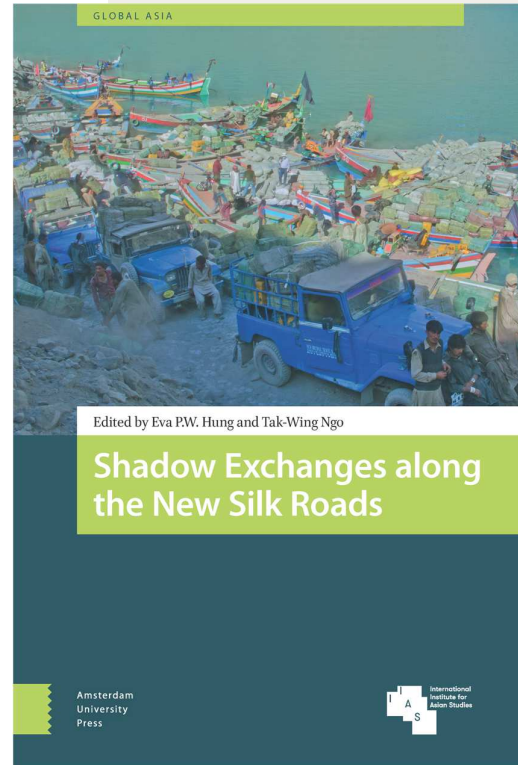
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Edited by Eva P. W. Hung and Tak-Wing Ngo

Shadow Exchanges along the New Silk Roads

Long before China promulgated the official One Belt One Road initiatives, vast networks of cross-border exchanges have already existed across Asia and Eurasia. The dynamics of such trade and resource flow have largely been outside state control, and are pushed to the realm of the shadow economy. The official initiative is a state-driven attempt to enhance the orderly flow of resources across countries along the Belt-Road, hence extending the reach of the states to the shadow economies. This volume offers a bottom-up view of the trans-border informal exchanges across Asia and Eurasia, and analyses its clash and mesh with the state-orchestrated Belt-Road cooperation. By undertaking a comparative study of country cases along the new silk roads, the book underlines the intended and unintended consequences of such competing routes of connectivity on the socio-economic conditions of local communities.



Eva P. W. Hung is an Associate Professor at the Department of Social Science, the Hang Seng University of Hong Kong.

Tak-Wing Ngo is Professor of Political Science at the University of Macau.

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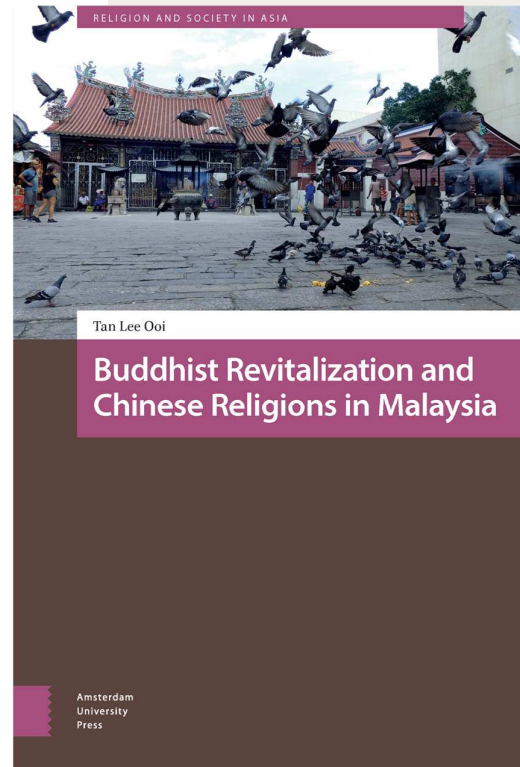
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Tan Lee Ooi**Buddhist Revitalization and Chinese Religions in Malaysia**

This book tells the story of how a minority community comes to grip with the puzzling drama of modernity, history, globalization, and cultural assertion in an ever changing Malaysia. It captures the religious connection, transformation, and tension within a complex traditional belief system in a multi-religious society. In particular, the book revolves around a discussion on the religious revitalization of Chinese Buddhism in modern Malaysia. This Buddhist revitalization movement is intertwined with various forces, such as colonialism, religious transnationalism, and global capitalism. Reformist Buddhists have helped to remake Malaysia's urban-dwelling Chinese community and have provided an exit option in the Malay and Muslim majority nation state. As Malaysia modernizes, there are growing concerns by certain segments of the country's ethnic Chinese Buddhist population to separate Buddhism from popular Chinese religions. Nevertheless, these reformist groups face counterforces from traditional Chinese religionists within the context of the cultural complexity of the Chinese belief system.



Lee Ooi Tan is Head of the Department of Maas Communication at KDU Penang University College in Malaysia.

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Chen Ajiang, Cheng Pengli, and Luo Yajuan

Chinese "Cancer Villages"

Rural Development, Environmental Change and Public Health

In the process of industrialization and urbanization, the phenomenon of cancer villages appears in many places of China. Although the relationship between pollution and cancer is hard to distinguish in most of those cancer villages, villagers, media and local government all agree that high incidence of cancer is related to environmental pollution, and especially and mostly with industrial pollution. Cancer villages already exist as a fact of social life and affect the lives of villagers, prompting action by government. The authors comprehensively analyse the relationship of cancer incidence, environmental pollution and lifestyle habits of villagers, drawing on sociological theory and method. They present the phenomenon of cancer villages in the particular current Chinese social, economic and cultural contexts and provide a wealth of informed analysis. It is of particular interest to those concerned with the impact of the environment on health.



Chen Ajiang, Cheng Pengli, and Luo Yajuan

Chinese "Cancer Villages"

Rural Development, Environmental Change and Public Health

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Chen Ajiang is the Director of the Research Centre for Environment and Society at Hohai University and Chair of the Association of Environmental Sociology, Chinese Sociological Association.

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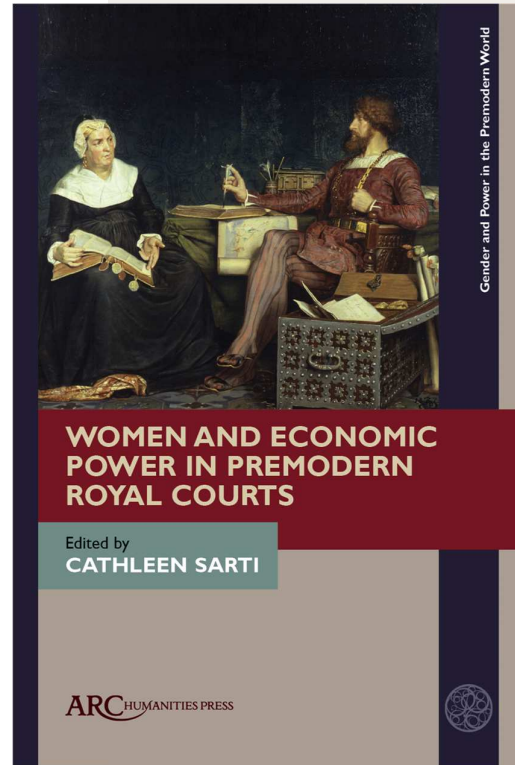
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Women and Economic Power in Premodern Royal Courts

Premodern kings and queens had splendid courts to show their God-given power. But where did the money for these come from? Following the money trail back often leads to unexpectedly savvy women who knew how to deal with money, and how to manage huge estates, treasuries, or accounts. This volume focuses on the economic and financial dimensions of the premodern royal court, and especially on the women using money as an instrument of power. Methodological and theoretical reflections on an economic history of royal courts frame case studies from medieval England to early modern Denmark and the Holy Roman Empire. Empresses and queens, but also mistresses and favourites are discussed, including considerations of their spheres of influence, their financial strategies and means, and their successes and failures.



Cathleen Sarti teaches Early Modern History at the University of Mainz. She publishes about political culture in Northern Europe.

ARC - Gender and Power in the Premodern World

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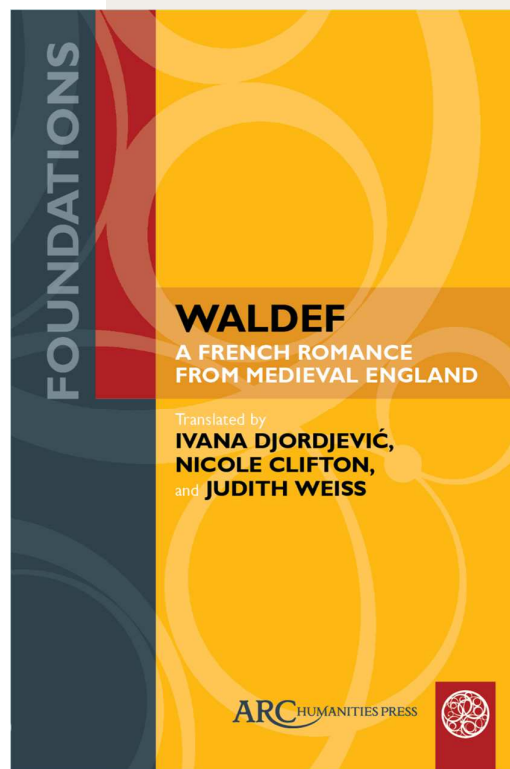
Translated by Ivana Djordjevic, Nicole Clifton
and Judith Weiss

Waldef

A French Romance from Medieval England

This first English translation of *Le Roman de Waldef* makes a significant representative of the French literature of medieval England accessible for the first time. Its wide-ranging content provides an ideal introduction to a number of themes in medieval literature, making it suitable for a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses.

The fast-moving romance plot of this early thirteenth-century tale recounts the ancestry and exploits of Waldef and his two sons, set against a history of pre-Conquest England. The narrative shares themes and incident types with other important insular romances, including the *Lai of Haveloc*, *Boeve de Haumtone*, and *Gui de Warewic*. *Waldef's* scope, interest in battle, and political stratagems bear reading alongside medieval chronicles, while secret love affairs connect it with other romance literature of the period, and adventures across a wide area of the known world provide affinities with medieval travel narrative.



Prof. Nicole Clifton, Department of English at the University of Northern Illinois.

Associate Professor Ivana Djordjevic, Liberal Arts College at Concordia University, Montreal.

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