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9781641892087 Sufi Masters and the Creation of Saintly Spheres in Medieval Syria
9781641894258 Recreating the Medieval Globe
Edited by Marie Gibert-Flutre and Heide Imai

Asian Alleyways
An Urban Vernacular in Times of Globalization

Alleyways are an urban form historically shared by most cities in Asia, yet understudied. Our book critically explores “Global Asia” and the metropolization process, specifically from its alleyways, which are understood as ordinary neighbourhood landscape providing the setting for everyday urban life and place-based identities being shaped by varied everyday practices, collective experiences and forces. This turns the traditional approach of “global cities” upside-down and contributes to a renewed conception of metropolization as a highly situated process, where forces at play locally, in each alleyway neighbourhood, are both intertwined and labile. Beyond the mainstream, standardising vision of the metropolization process, the book offers a nuanced overview of urban production in Asia at a time of great changes. As such, the book will be welcomed by an array of scholars, students, and all those interested in the modern transformation of Asian cities and their urban cultures, including new approaches to social life, urban change and urban governance.

“This dynamic collection brings to life the hidden veins of contemporary urbanity by focusing on an array of alleyways across different cities in Asia. In interweaving colourful sensory aspects of these passages with both granular insights and broad structural critique, Gibert-Flutre and Imai have assembled a multidisciplinary arsenal of chapters that opportunistically punctuate and challenge state-of-the-art debates on urbanization in the region and beyond. A must-read and a valuable resource for researchers and students of urban studies, sustainability and everyday life.”

Dr Kelvin E.Y. Low, Associate Professor/ Deputy Head of Department, Department Of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences National University of Singapore

Marie Gibert-Flutre is Assistant Professor of Geography in the Department of East Asia Studies (LCAO) at the University of Paris.

Dr. Heide Imai is Associate Professor at Senshu University, Faculty of Intercultural Communication, Tokyo Japan.

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Ulrike Strasser
Missionary Men in the Early Modern World

German Jesuits and Pacific Journeys

How did gender shape the expanding Jesuit enterprise in the early modern world? What did it take to become a missionary man? And how did missionary masculinity align itself with the European colonial project? This book highlights the central importance of male affective ties and masculine mimesis in the formation of the Jesuit missions, as well as the significance of patriarchal dynamics. Focussing on previously neglected German figures, Strasser shows how stories of exemplary male behavior circulated across national boundaries, directing the hearts and feet of men throughout Europe towards Jesuit missions in faraway lands. The sixteenth-century Iberian exemplars of Ignatius of Loyola and Francis Xavier, disseminated in print and visual media, inspired late seventeenth-century Jesuits from German-speaking lands to bring Catholicism and European gender norms to the Spanish-controlled Pacific. As Strasser demonstrates, the age of global missions hinged on the reproduction of missionary manhood in print and real life.

BIOGRAPHY

Ulrike Strasser is a professor of history at the University of California, San Diego. She is the author of the award-winning monograph State of Virginity (Michigan, paperback 2007) and a co-editor of Cultures of Communication, Theologies of Media (Toronto, 2017).

To pre-order this book visit www.aup.nl

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Early modern masculinities, gender, missions, Jesuits, German
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Edited by Maja Bondestam

Exceptional Bodies in Early Modern Culture

Concepts of Monstrosity Before the Advent of the Normal

Drawing on a rich array of textual and visual primary sources—including medicine, satire, play script, dictionaries, natural philosophy, and texts on collecting wonders—this book provides a fresh perspective on monstrosity in early modern European culture. The essays explore how exceptional bodies challenged social, religious, sexual and natural structures and hierarchies in the sixteenth-, seventeenth- and early eighteenth centuries and contributed to its knowledge, virtue and emotional repertoire. Prodigious births, maternal imagination, hermaphrodites, collections of extraordinary things, powerful women, disabilities, controversial exercise, shapeshifting phenomena, and hybrids of different kinds are examined in a period before all deviances became normalized, in the sense, close and relative to a homogenous standard. The historicizing of exceptional bodies is central in the volume since it brings out the early modern culture and deepen our knowledge of its specific ways of conceptualizing singularities, rare examples, paradoxes, rules and conventions in nature and society.

BIography

Maja Bondestam is an Associate Professor in History of Science and Ideas at Uppsala University. Her research is focused on the body in the shift from the early modern to the modern period and on medicine and natural history.

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Afterword (Kathleen Long)

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Edited by Zef Segal and Bram Vannieuwenhuyze

Motion in Maps, Maps in Motion

Mapping Stories and Movement through Time

This volume argues that the mapping of stories, movement and change should not be understood as an innovation of contemporary cartography, but rather as an important aspect of human cartography with a longer history than might be assumed. The authors in this collection reflect upon the main characteristics and evolutions of story and motion mapping, from the figurative news and history maps that were mass-produced in early modern Europe, through the nineteenth- and twentieth-century flow maps that appeared in various atlases, up to the digital and interactive motion and personalised maps that are created today. Rather than presenting a clear and homogeneous history from the past up until the present, this book offers a toolbox for understanding and interpreting the complex interplays and links between narrative, motion and maps.

BIOGRAPHY

Zef Segal is a lecturer of history, mathematics and digital humanities at the Open University of Israel.

Bram Vannieuwenhuyze studied history at Ghent University, where he obtained his PhD in 2008.

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Decoding the Sino-North Korean Borderlands

In the past decade, the Chinese-North Korean border region has undergone a gradual transformation into a site of intensified cooperation, competition, and intrigue. These changes have prompted a significant volume of critical scholarship and media commentary across multiple languages and disciplines. Drawing on existing studies and new data, this volume brings much of this literature into concert by pulling together a wide range of insight on the region’s economics, security, social cohesion, and information flows. Drawing from multilingual sources and transnational scholarship, the volume is enhanced by the extensive fieldwork undertaken by the editors and contributors in their quest to decode the borderland. In doing so, the volume emphasizes the link between theory, methodology, and practice in the field of Area Studies and social science more broadly.

BIOGRAPHY

Adam Cathcart is a lecturer in Chinese History at Leeds University and the editor of the European Journal of Korean Studies.

Christopher Green is a lecturer at Leiden University in the Netherlands and a senior advisor for the Korean Peninsula at International Crisis Group.

Steven Denney is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto.

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Robert Wiśniewski

Christian Divination in Late Antiquity

In Late Antiquity, people commonly sought to acquire knowledge about the past, the present, and the future, using a variety of methods. While early Christians did not doubt that these methods worked effectively, in theory they were not allowed to make use of them. In practice, people responded to this situation in diverse ways. Some simply renounced any hope of learning about the future, while others resorted to old practices regardless of the consequences. A third option, however, which emerged in the fourth century, was to construct divinatory methods that were effective yet religiously tolerable. This book is devoted to the study of such practices and their practitioners, and provides answers to essential questions concerning this phenomenon. How did it develop? How closely were Christian methods related to older, traditional customs? Who used them and in which situations? Who offered oracular services? And how were they treated by the clergy, intellectuals, and common people?

Robert Wiśniewski (University of Warsaw) researches the religious transformations of Late Antiquity, and particularly the cult of saints and relics, clergy, demonology, and divination. He is the author of The Beginnings of the Cult of Relics, Oxford University Press 2018.

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Edited by Sara Polak and Daniel Trottier

Violence and Trolling on Social Media

History, Affect, and Effects of Online Vitriol

'Trolls for Trump', virtual rape, fake news - social media discourse, including forms of virtual and real violence, has become a formidable, yet elusive, political force. What characterizes online vitriol? How do we understand the narratives generated, and also address their real-world - even life-and-death - impact? How can hatred, bullying, and dehumanization on social media platforms be addressed and countered in a post-truth world? This book unpicks discourses, metaphors, media dynamics, and framing on social media, to begin to answer these questions. Written for and by cultural and media studies scholars, journalists, political philosophers, digital communication professionals, activists and advocates, this book makes the connections between theoretical approaches from cultural and media studies and practical challenges and experiences 'from the field', providing insight into a rough media landscape.

BIOGRAPHY

Sara Polak (Leiden University Centre for the Arts in Society) is assistant professor in American Studies, focusing on US presidents and their media.

Daniel Trottier is an Associate Professor of Global Digital Media in the Department of Media and Communication at Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

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Daphna Ephrat  

Sufi Masters and the Creation of Saintly Spheres in Medieval Syria

This study explores the creation of saintly spheres surrounding Sufi masters who functioned as embodiments of Islamic sainthood and imprinted their tangible mark on the land. Situated in the Syrian milieu of the counter-crusader period that was marked by intense religious excitement and re-sanctification of the landscape, the study centres on the role of Sufi saints as revivers of the prophetic legacy and as patrons of fellow believers, and their association with the glorious history of ancient Syrian cities and the expanding sacred landscape. Based upon a variety of literary sources, including hitherto unexplored saintly vitas, the investigation aims to contribute to an understanding of the process through which the religious and charismatic leadership of the venerated shaykhs was sustained and diffused, and their holiness emplaced and commemorated.

BIOGRAPHY

Daphna Ephrat is an Associate Professor of Islamic and Near Eastern History at the Open University of Israel. Her research focuses on religious and charismatic leadership in the medieval period.

KEYWORDS

Mysticism, Shaykh, Medieval Sufi Masters, Medieval Syria, Charismatic religious teaching
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Conclusion
Edited by Joseph Shack and Hannah Weaver

Recreating the Medieval Globe
Acts of Recycling, Revision, and Relocation

The creative reuse of materials, texts, and ideas was a common phenomenon in the medieval world. The seven chapters offer here a synchronic and diachronic consideration of the receptions and meanings of events and artifacts, analyzing the processes that allowed medieval works to remain relevant in sociocultural contexts far removed from those in which they originated. In the process, they elucidate the global valences of recycling, revision, and relocation throughout the interconnected Middle Ages, and their continued relevance for the shaping of modernity. The essays examine cases in the Arab and Muslim world, China and Mongolia, and the Prussian-Lithuanian frontier of eastern Europe.

BIOGRAPHY
Joseph Shack is a researcher in English and Celtic Languages and Literatures at Harvard University.

Hannah Weaver is an Assistant Professor in the Department of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University.
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