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Edited by Gil Raz and Anna Shields

Religion and Poetry in Medieval China

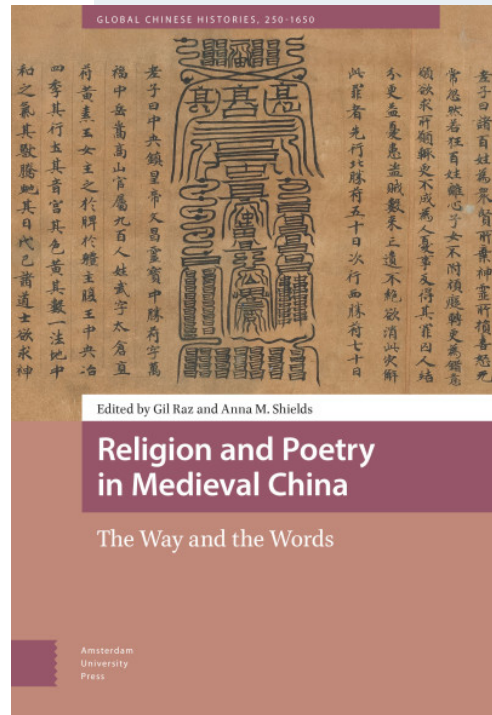
The Way and the Words

This volume of interdisciplinary essays examines the intersection of religion and literature in medieval China, focusing on the impact of Buddhism and Daoism on a wide range of elite and popular literary texts and religious practices in the 3rd-11th centuries CE. Drawing on the work of the interdisciplinary scholar Stephen Bokenkamp, the essays weave together the many cross-currents of religious, intellectual, and literary traditions in medieval China to provide vivid pictures of medieval Chinese religion and culture as it was lived and practiced. The contributors to the volume are all highly regarded experts in the fields of Chinese poetry, Daoism, Buddhism, popular religion, and literature. Their research papers cut across imagined disciplinary boundaries to show that the culture of medieval China can only be understood by close reading of texts from multiple genres, traditions, and approaches.

BIOGRAPHY

Gil Raz is Associate Professor of Religion at Dartmouth College of specializing in the study of medieval Chinese religion. His book *The Emergence of Daoism: Creation of Tradition* (2012) and many publications examine Daoist notions of space and time, sexual practices, and religious interactions in medieval China.

Anna M. Shields, Gordon Wu '58 Professor of Chinese Studies, Princeton University, specializes in the literary history of the Tang through Northern Song. Her most recent book is *One Who Knows Me: Friendship and Literary Culture in Mid-Tang China* (2015); current research examines the reception of Tang literature, 10th-11th centuries.



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