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ARC - GENDER AND POWER IN THE PREMODERN WORLD

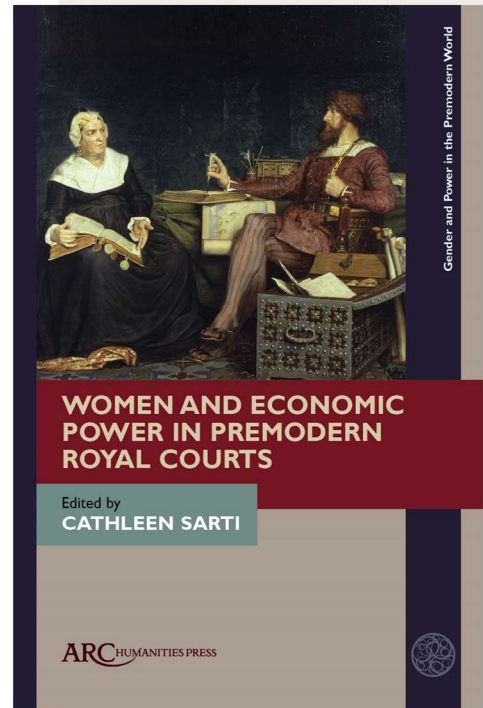
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ARC HUMANITIES PRESS

Edited by Cathleen Sarti

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
August 2020
108 pages
Hardback
ISBN 978 16 4189 272 8
e-ISBN 978 16 4189 273 5
€69.00 / £59.00 / \$79.00
€68.99 / £58.99 / \$78.99

ORDER

Available to order through your local bookseller or via aup.nl. Distribution outside North America through NBN International Ltd and available in North America through Baker & Taylor Publisher Services.

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