Felix Heinzer

Gold in the Sanctuary: Reassessing Notker of St Gall’s Liber Ymnorum

“In this rich study of the Liber Ymnorum of Notker Balbulus, Felix Heinzer explores the quality of Notker as a poet composing for the liturgy, using textual and theological analysis to illuminate a major instance of Carolingian creativity. In a first part, Heinzer examines this poetry in its own time, arguing that Notker envisioned his labours as an emulation of the biblical psalms. In a second part, Heinzer traces the long afterlife of the Liber Ymnorum, far beyond the Abbey of St Gall and reaching into the early modern period. At the heart of Heinzer’s broad-ranging contextualization of Notker’s work is his conviction that Notker’s sequences must be considered ‘a valuable part of the premodern literary and religious culture of the Latin West.’ Heinzer is sure-footed in his recognition of musical structures as fundamental to Notker’s creative ideas, while the vividness of his philological and theological analyses offers remarkable new insights.”

Susan Rankin, University of Cambridge

Jeffrey F. Hamburger

The Birth of the Author: Pictorial Prefaces in Glossed Books of the Twelfth Century

“This is a brilliant study of illuminated manuscripts of authoritative writers which moves beyond specific author-portraits to explore a wider interpretive context, including representations of the writers of commentaries on auctores and indeed imagery which leaves the human form behind. Monastic illuminators constructed perspectives both narrative and allegorical, which did not merely exemplify or parallel, but did much to shape, ideas of authorship then becoming current in literature. Those artists were prominently present at ‘the birth of the author.’ Jeffrey Hamburger establishes the significance of their genre of the ‘pictorial preface’ and explores the ways in which it shaped readers’ perception of texts, and of those to whom their authorship was attributed, with sensitivity and brio. His methodology throughout is intellectually convincing and aesthetically appealing, and his command of the primary images and texts, along with secondary literature in several European languages, impeccable. Elegantly and enthusiastically written, The Birth of the Author is the very model of what interdisciplinary research should be. It demonstrates superbly well that images which functioned as avatars of authorship and authority could, in their own right, serve as vessels of truth and vehicles of complex, self-conscious argumentation.”

Alastair J. Minnis, Yale University
Jennifer Lynn Kostoff-Kaard

The Early Glossed Ecclesiastes:
A Critical Edition with Introduction

“The Glossa ordinaria on Ecclesiastes is an important exegetical landmark of the twelfth century. It exists in two versions, with the earlier version differing significantly from the one published by Adolph Rusch, which appeared in 1480/81 and was reprinted in 1992 and is now usually cited by scholars. This makes Jennifer Kostoff-Kaard’s edition of the earlier version a welcome contribution to the history of twelfth-century exegesis; it is a delight to have this text now available in an edition that is a model of its kind.”

Frans van Liere, Calvin University

The Early Glossed Ecclesiastes is the inaugural volume in The Glossed Bible: Editions and Studies of the Medieval Sacra pagina, edited by Alexander Andrée (University of Toronto), Mark J. Clark (The Catholic University of America), Joseph Goering (University of Toronto), and Timothy B. Noone (The Catholic University of America)

Catalogus Translationum et Commentariorum

Volume XII: Ovid, Metamorphoses

Greti Dinkova-Bruun, Editor in Chief
Julia Haig Gaisser and James Hankins, Associate Editors

“As it embarks on its second half-century, the Catalogus Translationum et Commentariorum continues to provide scholars of the reception of classical Greek and Roman texts with thoroughly researched documentation on Latin commentaries and translations into European languages up to roughly 1600. A worthy and welcome addition to the series, the twelfth volume also exhibits several important innovations. It is the first to be devoted to a single work by a single author, and given that the work is Ovid’s Metamorphoses, the field covered is vast, illustrating the manifold ways generations of students and readers understood and then drew fresh inspiration from the poem’s repertoire of story and character, all the more challenging in Christian Europe as Ovid’s mythic world is populated by pagan gods and the Roman poet celebrates no passion more than erotic love. The enumeration of the commentaries and the explication of the range of interpretive and pedagogical approaches they display is the culmination of Frank Coulson’s life’s work on these texts, while the exhaustive accounting of the translations is the contribution of Harald Anderson. Credit is also given to Harry Levy, who worked on the printed commentaries on the Metamorphoses before his death.”

Ralph Hexter, University of California, Davis
David R. Carlson

Gower and Anglo-Latin Verse

“Gower’s Latin has received attention and admiration, but this is the first full length study that treats his Latin writing, not in the context of his English or French works, but as the apogee of fourteenth-century Anglo-Latin poetry. In this deeply informed study, David Carlson animates for his readers Gower’s ‘vivid, varied Anglo-Latin,’ and offers a compelling portrait of its idiosyncratic, impassioned, yet controlled style. For Carlson, Gower writes verses that are not in thrall to classical precedent, but ‘retain contemporary shapes.’ Gower and Anglo-Latin Verse models fresh attention to a medieval Latin that is a living poetic language: confident, experimental, and prestigious.”

Ardis Butterfield, Yale University

“Of latine and of othire lare”

Essays in Honour of David R. Carlson

Edited by Richard Firth Green and R.F. Yeager

Unsurprisingly, in view of the remarkable diversity of David R. Carlson’s own scholarship, the eighteen essays gathered here in his honour represent a corresponding variety of subjects across a broad range of countries and periods, but all drawing inspiration from his deep learning. Many are linked by their interest in Rome’s intellectual legacy to the Middle Ages. Some illuminate various aspects of Anglo-Latin works, while others investigate the Latin discourse of fifteenth-century London and of the great abbeys of St Albans, Glastonbury, and Canterbury. Several authors reflect Carlson’s own interest in the social contexts of vernacular literary discourse, both English and French. The collection concludes with two bibliographic studies and with a brief life of the American editor of John Lydgate.

Contributors

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Oltre la mer salee
Proceedings of the 21st International Congress of the Société Rencesvalds pour l’étude des épopées romanes, Toronto, 13–17 August 2018
Edited by Dorothea Kullmann and Anthony Fredette

Oltre la mer salee collects revised versions of twenty-eight papers originally presented during the 21st International Congress of the Société Rencesvalds pour l’étude des épopées romanes. It includes studies by an international group of specialists in medieval vernacular epic, divided among four major themes: family relations, manuscripts, French epic in England, and travel and exchanges. Their work covers a variety of Old French and Old Occitan epics, as well as adaptations and related texts in Italian, Castilian, Brasilian Portuguese, English, and Greek. It also includes reflections on the interactions between Romance epic, the Latin language, and even the fine arts. This volume convincingly demonstrates one of the key elements of the enduring appeal of medieval Romance epic: its astonishingly international quality, both in the Middle Ages and today.

Regino of Prüm
Two Books on Synodal Causes and Ecclesiastical Disciplines
Translated with an introduction by Giulio Silano

Regino of Prüm (ca. 840–915), after being deposed as abbot of Prüm, became a musical theorist, historical chronicler, and student of the canons. His Two Books have generally been seen as practical handbooks to be used in the decision of synodal cases, but they are not to be read as limited to such use. They are to be regarded primarily as a pedagogical tool, intended to remedy an ignorance of the canonical tradition by the clerics in his part of the world. They are brilliantly arranged around the device of questionnaires which fosters a case-based and tentative approach to the resolution of problems while avoiding abstraction and striving to mitigate legalism. The work was influential in its own region, but obtained much greater resonance through its eventual absorption into the Decretum of Burchard of Worms, thus affecting the whole Western canonical tradition.
Peter Comestor

Lectures on the *Glossa ordinaria*

*Edited from Troyes, Médiathèque du Grand Troyes, MS 1024*

by David M. Foley and Simon Whedbee

Edited for the first time from the late twelfth-century manuscript Troyes, Médiathèque du Grand Troyes, MS 1024, the prefatory material of Comestor’s lecture courses on the four glossed Gospels offers a unique glimpse into the classroom of one of Paris’s preeminent masters at the height of the renaissance of the twelfth century. Peter Comestor’s oral lectures on the *Glossa ordinaria* were originally delivered at the cathedral school of Paris around the year 1160 and survive in the form of student transcripts. As one of the period’s pioneering masters, Comestor lectured using the newly-fashioned biblical Gloss as his textbook, meticulously weaving its component glosses into his teaching to distil its richly varied patristic exegesis. While at times elegant and consciously rhetorical, Comestor’s lectures are preserved in vividly conversational Latin, bearing traces of the master’s direct address to his students and lively examples drawn from contemporary life in the schools.

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**Contributors**

Alastair Bennett • Michael Benskin • Emily Corran

Greti Dinkova-Bruun • Roberto Lambertini and Chris Schabel

R. James Long • František Novotný • Glending Olson • Siegfried Wenzel
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Inbar Graiver


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