

Short Notices

Arany, Krisztina, *Florentine Families in Hungary in the First Half of the Fifteenth Century: A Prosopographic Study of their Economic and Social Strategies*, Kiel, Solivagus, 2020; hardback; pp. 400; R.R.P. €58.00; ISBN 9783943025453.

In this monograph, Krisztina Arany presents an in-depth study of the economic and social strategies of Florentine families in the Kingdom of Hungary during the first half of the fifteenth century. The study is based on a prosopographic database developed by the author from Hungarian and Florentine records, particularly the Florentine Catasto of 1427.

Through quantitative analysis and in-depth case studies of several families, Arany shows that Florentines had a significant social and economic presence in both the financial administration and commercial life of the Kingdom, particularly during the reign of Sigismund of Luxembourg (1387–1437). Furthermore, Arany explores their social and economic relations in Florence, and the extended family networks that were involved in pursuing economic opportunities in Hungary.

The book is divided into seven chapters and is supplemented by rich appendices consisting of the above mentioned prosopographic database and lists of transactions found in the Catasto. Chapters 1 and 2 introduce the study, its limitations, and historiographical context. Chapter 3 explores the business activity of Florentine merchants in Hungary, including their trading and banking techniques, and commercial partnerships in Buda, as well as their role in the financial administration of the Kingdom, particularly in ‘the salt, mining and minting chambers and the customs of the thirtieth’ (p. 53). Chapter 4 examines the socio-economic patterns of Florentine merchants across East Central Europe through a comparative context, as well as with other trading communities in Hungary, particularly South Germans.

Chapters 5 and 6 focus on Florence, particularly the social and economic background of those merchant families involved in Hungary as well as the presence of Germans and Hungarians in the city as documented in the Catasto.

In the final chapter, Arany concludes that despite the limited economic development of Hungary, it was a key area of economic activity for Florentine merchants, evident through their extensive participation in the financial administration of the Kingdom and their trading and crediting activity, particularly in Buda. Furthermore, Arany calls for a re-assessment of Buda and consideration of the city in a wider regional economic context.

Arany’s study successfully sheds light on a region that has been largely overlooked in the past, adding to our understanding of how Florentine merchants adapted their economic practices in different regional contexts.

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Bilotta, Maria Alessandra, ed., *Medieval Europe in Motion: The Circulation of Artists, Images, Patterns and Ideas from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic Coast (6th–15th centuries)* (OSMlab laboratorio di idee, 2), Palermo, Officina di Studi Medievali, 2018; paperback; pp. xviii, 441; R.R.P. €28.00; ISBN 9788864851068.

This conference volume, published by the Officina di Studi Medievali in Sicily, collects papers on Western medieval cultural exchange from an eponymous 2013 conference at the Institute of Medieval Studies at the NOVA University of Lisbon, Portugal. Abstracts, acknowledgments, three indexes (of names, places, and manuscripts), and five papers are in English. A Spanish introduction by Gerardo Boto Varela, a French conclusion by Xavier Barral i Altet, and eighteen papers are in Portuguese (eleven), Italian (three), or French (four). The table of contents with authors and titles is on the publisher's website. The papers contribute broadly to research on circulation, mobility, and conceptions of art, artisans and hence culture in the later Middle Ages in Western Europe, with six thematic sub-sections. The research of the editor and other hosts supports several contributions on the circulation of manuscripts and artistic models between Portugal and elsewhere in Western Europe. The majority of all papers concern the later end of the time scale, the early modern era and Renaissance from the later twelfth to the fifteenth centuries, and relations between travelling artisans and patrons on the Iberian Peninsula.

The first section, 'The Phenomenon of Circulation and Mobility in Medieval Europe', considers how Western European medieval communities and courts were shaped by the circulation of books, music, fashion, and other tangible and intangible cultural goods via royal marriages, migrant artisans, or itinerant troubadours. Under 'Patrons and Promoters' are more royal women, Petrarch, and a thirteenth-century French illuminated Bible in Portugal. 'Artists and Material Authors' spans Gothic and Romanesque architectural elements, while 'Circulation of Works' includes Afro-Portuguese ivories, Romanesque sculpture and mobile manuscripts. 'Causes and Driving Forces of Artistic and Cultural Movement in the Middle Ages' has one paper on Aristotelian and medieval philosophical theories of movement, and another on thirteenth-century manuscript images of Great Britain, itineraries, and medieval perceptions of space. 'The Circulation of Models' includes theoretical approaches to models; Catalanian, French, and one-volume Latin Bibles; and legal manuscripts, draftsmen's travel sketchbooks and twelfth-century apse sculpture in northeastern Spain. Scholars of all these areas with a reading knowledge of the relevant languages will doubtless find current research of interest among these papers.

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Notes on Contributors

Hugh Chevis is an Honorary Research Fellow at The University of Western Australia (UWA), where he completed his PhD in 2018. His thesis *Innovations in Cloth Manufacture in Early Modern England: The Demise of English Fine Wools and the Rise of Spanish Merino Wool* is available online through the UWA Library. He is also soon publishing a journal article on why Spanish merino wool was adopted by English clothiers.

Kirk Essary is Senior Lecturer in History and Classics at The University of Western Australia, and Director of the ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions. His research focuses on humanism and religion in Northern Europe during the long sixteenth century. He is author of *Erasmus and Calvin on the Foolishness of God: Reason and Emotion in the Christian Philosophy* (University of Toronto Press, 2017).

Jaechol Kim is an Associate Professor of English at Yonsei University. He was born in South Korea and studied there until he went to the US to pursue his PhD. He received his doctorate from SUNY at Buffalo in 2011. His research foci include early modern English drama, cultural studies, and postcolonialism. He has published widely on early modern English drama and postcolonial literature. His essays on postcoloniality in early modern English drama have recently been published in *English Studies*, *Studies in English Literature 1500–1900*, *Studies in Philology*, and *Comparative Drama*. His research interests have evolved toward biopolitics and political theology in the English Renaissance, and he is currently writing a monograph on early modern medicine, the plague, and biopolitics.

Alicia Marchant is a historian and archivist in Libraries Tasmania, in the State Library and Archive Service, and an Honorary Research Fellow in the ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions at The University of Western Australia. Her research focuses on the histories of emotions and heritage, archives and material cultures, and she has published widely in these areas. Her monograph, *The Revolt of Owain Glyndŵr in Medieval English Chronicles*, was published by York Medieval Press (Boydell & Brewer) in 2014. She is the editor of *Historicising Heritage and Emotions: The Affective Histories of Blood, Stone and Land* (Routledge, 2019), and co-editor (with Jane-Héloïse Nancarrow) of a *Parergon* Special Issue on ‘Practice, Performance, and Emotions in Medieval and Early Modern Cultural Heritage’ (36.2 (2019)).

Anna Milne-Tavendale is an early career researcher situated in Wellington, NZ. She received her PhD in History from the University of Canterbury, NZ, in 2018. Her research interests include medieval devotional culture, religious communities, gender, and the colonization of Aotearoa New Zealand. She is currently employed as Senior Historian at the Waitangi Tribunal Unit.

Jane-Héloïse Nancarrow's career spans academic research and public policy; with specialist experience in health and social policy, emerging digital technologies, and history and digital cultural heritage. Dr Nancarrow has led several state-wide strategic projects for the Western Australian Government; applying her research background to leverage tertiary-sector expertise, forge beneficial partnerships across government and non-government, and undertake high-level stakeholder engagement and policy stewardship. She is passionate about the role of technology for social good and ensuring that the value of humanities is recognized in contemporary life and public discourse. She holds a PhD in History from the University of York, UK, and is an Honorary Research Fellow at The University of Western Australia.

Yun Ni is an Assistant Professor in the Department of English at Peking University, Beijing, China. She received a PhD in Comparative Literature in 2019 from Harvard University. Her research interests include classical philology, medieval European literature, intellectual history, political theory, and the global Middle Ages. While she is revising her dissertation 'Iconoclasm in Late Medieval English Literature' into a book, she has published a wide range of refereed articles on late medieval English, French, and Latin literature as well as comparative literature. Her works have won research awards and grants from Dartmouth College, Harvard University, the Radcliffe Institute, Peking University, and the National Social Science Fund of China.

Jade Riddle was a PhD candidate with the ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions, the 2018 Bill Cowan Barr Smith Library Fellow, and now works on heritage policy for the Commonwealth of Australia. Trained as an architect, her research focuses on the cultural context of making and remaking cities. She and Katie Barclay recently co-edited *Urban Emotions and the Making of the City: Interdisciplinary Perspectives* (Routledge, 2021).

Madeline Shanahan completed her PhD in historical archaeology at University College Dublin, where she was awarded an Ad Astra Scholarship with the John Hume Institute for Global Irish Studies. With research interests in convicts, food, and domestic space, she is now a Senior Associate and manager at Extent Heritage in Sydney and is an Honorary Adjunct Lecturer at the University of New England.

Angel Trendafilov is early career researcher from New Zealand. Holding a master's degree in Archaeology from the University of Sofia, Bulgaria, he completed his PhD in History in 2019 (University of Canterbury). The topic of his PhD thesis was 'Crusaders against the Cross: The Fourth Crusade Depicted in Orthodox-Slavonic Written Sources and Archaeological Evidence'. With archaeological experience from Bulgaria and currently working as an archaeologist in a private consultancy in Christchurch, Angel is fascinated to connect archaeological artefacts with the relevant written sources in order to restore historical facts and events with greater precision.

Elizabeth Tunstall is a PhD candidate at the University of Melbourne, Australia, researching the Elizabethan succession question and its effect upon English political discourse on royal prerogative and monarchy. Her article, 'Of Honour and Innocence: Royal Correspondence and the Execution of Mary, Queen of Scots', published in *The Melbourne Historical Journal*, was awarded the 2019 Greg Denning Memorial Prize. Before her PhD, Elizabeth completed her Master of Philosophy with a thesis entitled 'The Correspondence of Elizabeth I and James VI in the Context of Anglo-Scottish Relations, 1572–1603' at The University of Adelaide, and a Master of Art Curatorship at The University of Melbourne.

Greg Waite is Honorary Associate Professor in the Department of English and Linguistics at the University of Otago, having retired in 2018. In collaboration with Sharon Rowley, he is working on a new edition of the Old English translation of Bede's *Historia ecclesiastica*. Past publications include articles on *Beowulf*, the *Old English Bede*, and the language of the Tudor poet John Skelton. He has published *Old English Prose Translations of King Alfred's Reign* (Boydell & Brewer, 2000) and *The Famous Cronycle of the Warre Which the Romayns Had agaynst Iugurth, Usurper of the Kyngdome of Numidy: Alexander Barclay's Translation of Sallust's 'Bellum Iugurthinum'* (Oxford University Press; EETS, 2014).

Derek R. Whaley is an Auckland-area historian who works as a Research Librarian for Auckland Libraries. He received an MA in Early Modern European History from Swansea University in the United Kingdom, and a PhD in Medieval History from the University of Canterbury. He has volunteered as a photograph cataloguer at the San Lorenzo Valley Museum in Boulder Creek, CA; served as a committee member of the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History's Fred D. McPherson Jr Publications Fund; and worked seasonally as the historical interpreter at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk. Whaley has published several books on Santa Cruz County history and runs the popular local history website www.santacruztrains.com.

Mimi Zhou is a recent doctoral graduate of New York University, where her research focused on reading medieval romance through Derridean deconstruction. Her dissertation, titled ‘Beginning to Read Chrétien de Troyes: Identity, Law, and Ethics in Twelfth-Century Romance’, examines the correspondence of non-closure and beginnings, rather than that of non-closure and endings, in Chrétien’s last three romances. Her additional interests include philology and digital humanities, and her work in these areas has been supported with awards from organizations such as the Medieval Academy of America, the Newberry Library in Chicago, and the Polonsky Foundation.

