

Gerald of Wales

New Perspectives on a Medieval Writer and Critic

Edited by Georgia Henley and A. Joseph McMullen

February 2018

£90 • HB • 9781786831637 • 234 x 156mm • 336pp

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Images: 5 colour and 3 black and white illustrations

Market:

This book can be enjoyed by a wide variety of readers, from university students to specialists in medieval Latin, British history, and Latin intellectual history.

Blurb:

Gerald of Wales (c.1146–c.1223), widely recognized for his innovative ethnographic studies of Ireland and Wales, was in fact the author of some twenty-three works which touch upon many aspects of twelfth-century life. Despite their valuable insights, these works have been vastly understudied. This collection of essays reassesses Gerald's importance as a medieval Latin writer and rhetorician by focusing on his lesser-known works and providing a fuller context for his more popular writings. This broader view of his corpus brings to light new evidence for his rhetorical strategies, political positioning and usage of source material, and attests to the breadth and depth of his collected works.

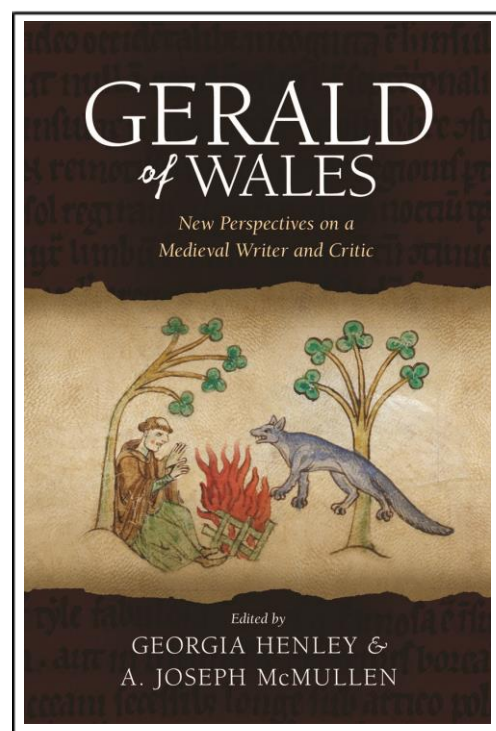
Key Selling Points:

- This book is the first multi-authored work on Gerald of Wales
- It has a cross-disciplinary approach bringing together a variety of voices and perspectives
- Includes rare focus on his lesser-studied works
- This broader view provides a fuller context for Gerald's more popular/better-studied works

Author Details:

Georgia Henley is a Postdoctoral Fellow in Text Technologies and Digital Humanities at Stanford University.

A. Joseph McMullen is Assistant Professor in English at Centenary University.



Contents:

List of Abbreviations

List of Illustrations

Notes on Contributors

Gerald of Wales: Interpretation and Innovation in Medieval Britain - Georgia Henley and A. Joseph McMullen

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Gerald of Wales and the Welsh Past - Huw Pryce, Bangor University

Gerald and Welsh Genealogical Learning - Ben Guy, University of Cambridge

Gerald of Wales, Walter Map and the Anglo-Saxon History of Lydbury North - Joshua Byron Smith, University of Arkansas

Section 2: Gerald the Writer: Manuscripts and Authorship

Gerald of Wales and the History of Llanthony Priory - Robert Bartlett, University of St Andrews

The Early Manuscripts of Gerald of Wales - Catherine Rooney, University of Cambridge

Giraldian Beavers: Revision and the Making of Meaning in Gerald's Early Works - Michael Faletta, Reed College

Style, Truth and Irony: Listening to the Voice of Gerald of Wales's Writings - Simon Meecham-Jones, University of Cambridge

Section 3: Gerald the Thinker: Religion and Worldview

Gerald of Wales's Sense of Humour - Peter J. A. Jones, University of Toronto

Fere tyrannicus: Royal Tyranny and the Construction of Episcopal Sanctity in Gerald of Wales's Vita Sancti Hugonis - Peter Raleigh, University of North Carolina

'A Priest Is Not a Free Person': Condemning Clerical Sins and Upholding Higher Moral Standards in the Gemma ecclesiastica - Suzanne LaVere, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne

Elements of Identity: Gerald, the Humours and National Characteristics - Owain Nash, University of Bristol

Section 4: Reception in England, Ireland and Wales

Gerald's Circulation and Reception in Wales: The Case of Claddedigaeth Arthur - Georgia Henley, Harvard University

The Transmission of the Expugnatio Hibernica in Fifteenth-Century Ireland - Caoimhe Whelan, Trinity College Dublin

Did the Tudors Read Giraldus? Gerald of Wales and Early Modern Polemical

Historiography - Brendan Kane, University of Connecticut

Afterword

Bibliography

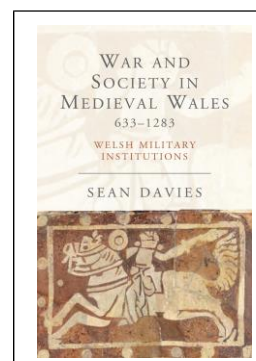
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Sean Davies

November 2014

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Chaucer's Gifts

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Robert Epstein

Series: New Century Chaucer

February 2018

£95 • HB • 9781786831682 • 216 x 138mm • 256pp

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Market:

This book will appeal to professional scholars as well as advanced undergraduates and postgraduate students.

Blurb:

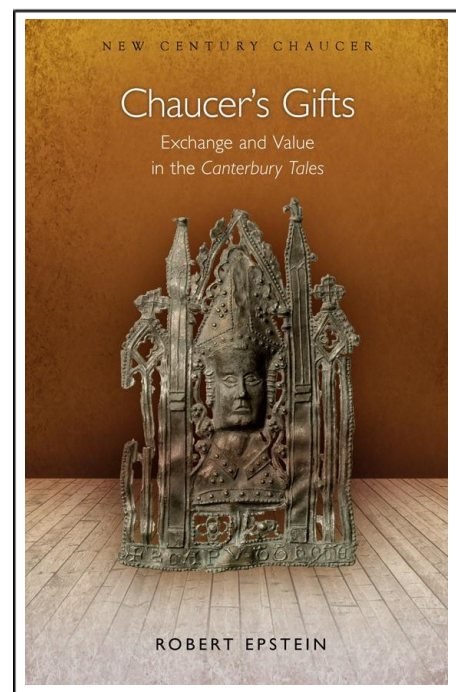
Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, the most celebrated literary work of medieval England, portrays the culture of the late Middle Ages as a deeply commercial environment, replete with commodities and dominated by market relationships. However, the market is not the only mode of exchange in Chaucer's world or in his poem. *Chaucer's Gifts* reveals the gift economy at work in the tales. Applying important recent advances in anthropological gift theory, it illuminates and explains this network of exchanges and obligations. *Chaucer's Gifts* argues that the world of the *Canterbury Tales* harbours deep commitments to reciprocity and obligation which are at odds with a purely commercial culture, and demonstrates how the market and commercial relations are not natural, eternal, or inevitable – an essential lesson if we are to understand Chaucer's world or our own.

Key Selling Points:

- This book introduces an important and neglected field of social theory—economic anthropology—to medieval literary criticism and Chaucer studies.
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- Includes in its longest chapter (Chapter 4) an analysis of a central problem of feminist literary criticism—the “exchange of women”—in terms of the theories of two of the most important modern feminist anthropologists—Annette Weiner and Marilyn Strathern. Their work has not previously been applied to Chaucer and has received very little attention in medieval literary studies generally.

Author Details:

Robert Epstein is Professor of English at Fairfield University in Fairfield, Connecticut. He has published widely on Chaucer and late medieval English literature.



Contents:

Introduction: Chaucer's Commodities, Chaucer's Gifts

Chapter 1: The Franklin's Potlatch and the Plowman's Creed: The Gift in the General Prologue

Chapter 2: The Lack of Interest in the *Shipman's Tale*: Chaucer and the Social Theory of the Gift

Chapter 3: Giving Evil: Excess and Equivalence in the *Fabliau*

Chapter 4: The Exchange of Women and the Gender of the Gift

Chapter 5: Sacred Commerce: Clerics, Money and the Economy of Salvation

Chapter 6: 'Fy on a thousand pound!': Debt and the Possibility of Generosity in the *Franklin's Tale*

Conclusion

Bibliography

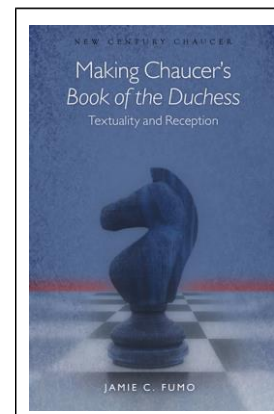
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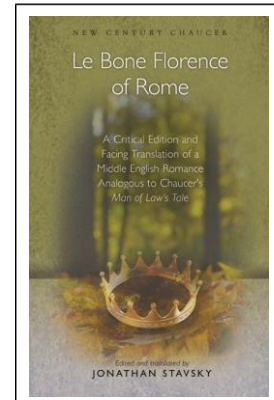


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