

# Red Hearts and Roses?

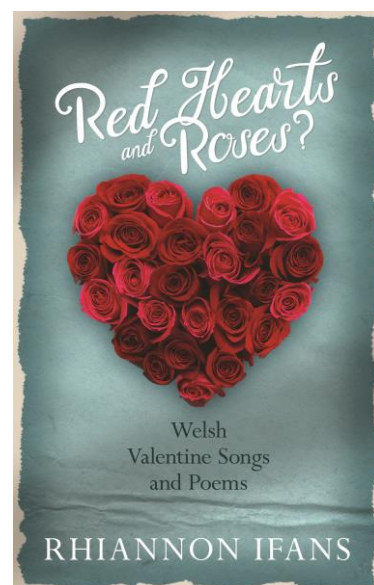
Welsh Valentine Songs and Poems

Rhiannon Ifans

January 2019

£10.99 • PB • 9781786833716 • 216x138mm • 368pp

Images: 18 illustrations, 1 map, 19 musical notations/scores for tunes.



Market:

This book will appeal to academics who have a particular interest to those concerned with folk life studies taught widely at the undergraduate and graduate levels at universities. It will be of interest to an audience drawn from historians, musicologists, linguists, museum professionals, students of Celtic Studies. It will also have significant appeal for readers with a more general interest in Welsh life and culture.

Blurb:

Who was Saint Valentine, the saint who gave his name to the festival of lovers? Where do red hearts and roses fit in? Or do they? This volume addresses these questions, but focuses more specifically on the previously unpublished Welsh poetry written over the centuries on the feast day of Saint Valentine in mid- February, the one saint's day in the Christian calendar of saints that does not depend on the Church for its celebration. Far from resembling anything else on offer in any other part of the UK, these Welsh songs are lyrical, expressive, and often in *cyghanedd*. This volume analyses this rich collection of extant Welsh Saint Valentine's Day poems, and advances a new understanding of societal propriety in settings where citizens paid great attention to tradition. In so doing, it offers new insights into the tradition of observing Saint Valentine's Day in Wales and, indeed, argues that although it is the fifth-century Dwynwen who is today considered to be the patron saint of Welsh lovers, Saint Valentine also handed out aid and sympathy to lovers in Wales over many centuries.

Endorsement:

'One must warmly welcome a volume by a scholar who is now established as the foremost authority on this particular genre of native verse. And it is doubly gratifying to find our vibrant tradition of Valentine song being introduced here to readers beyond the bounds of Welsh-language culture itself.'

- Roy Saer, Welsh Folk-Song Society

Key Selling Points:

- This is a lively introduction to a little known subject, the Welsh Saint Valentine's Day poems, and it should benefit historians, social scientists, and linguists.
- The volume presents 69 poems all forming part of a social custom celebrated in mid-February.
- The book follows the development of the custom from the 17<sup>th</sup> century to the present day and identifies a change in mood and meaning over the centuries, from the early sentimental poems, to the spiteful verses sent anonymously to the one who had disappointed a prospective lover during the year, to the competition submissions of the custom's declining years.
- The volume also features unique photographs of a collection of six ornately printed Valentine cards dating from the second half of the nineteenth century and sent by a hopeful lover, John Owen, to the object of his dreams, Eleanor Pritchard.
- This volume makes two original contributions to knowledge and understanding. The first contribution is to provide a rich collection of songs for the first time in their original language, translated into English and with

musical notation. It also provides a comprehensive analysis of these poems and of the society in which they were sung.

#### Author Details:

**Rhiannon Ifans** is Dyson Fellow in the Faculty of Humanities and Performing Arts, University of Wales Trinity Saint David. She is General Secretary of the Welsh Folk Song Society, and editor of the annual journal *Canu Gwerin / Folk Song*.

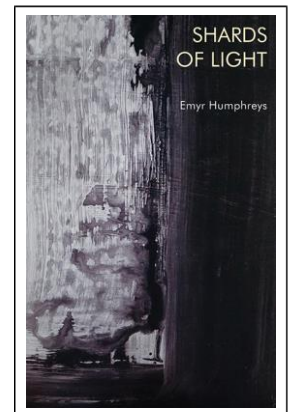
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#### Other Related Titles:

**Shards of Light**  
Emyr Humphreys

November 2018  
£11.99 • PB • 9781786833518 • 216x138mm • 208pp



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# Carmen Martín Gaité

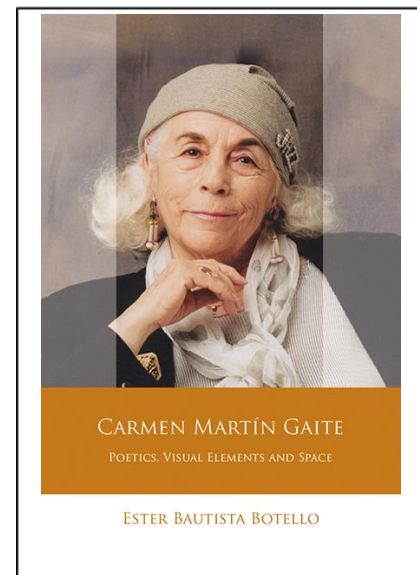
Poetics, Visual Elements and Space

Ester Bautista Botello

Series: Iberian and Latin American Studies

January 2019

£45 • PB • 9781786833631 • 216x138 mm • 272pp



Market:

Undergraduate and postgraduate students, researchers in the areas of Spanish and Latin American Studies, Women writing, Literature and Visual Studies

Blurb:

This book reconstructs the poetics of Carmen Martín Gaité by viewing the concept of journey as a fundamental principle upon which she bases and elaborates her narrative writing of the 1990s. Five novels published in this period receive critical attention, all of which coincide with the last trips taken by the writer to New York: *Caperucita en Manhattan* (1990), *Nubosidad variable* (1992), *La reina de las nieves* (1994), *Lo raro es vivir* (1996) and *Irse de casa* (1998). To the extent that the journey is the essence of the narrative under consideration, the concept is analysed as an aesthetic practice and an attempt to identify a series of actions that allow us to link the writer's novels with two areas that have previously received only scant critical scrutiny: geography and the visual dimension. This book presents a comparative and interdisciplinary analysis of space in Martín Gaité's narrative as well as in her collages, drawings and paintings.

Key Selling Points:

- The central idea of the book is to underline the importance of traveling in Martín Gaité's novels, as the main characters move throughout geographies linked to four grounding elements: home, imagination, the city and the writing process. These movements allow the reader to establish links between the novels as well as reflect upon how the writer's gaze dissects both her surroundings and her own creative process.
- Visual elements of Martín Gaité's work. For years, she made drawings and collages in her notebooks. It is particularly thought-provoking to see how her personal use of these techniques becomes part of her narrative in the 90s.
- How to write a novel? Why the representation of space is relevant? Why are there so many female characters in Martín Gaité's narrative? Why do these women write and write to each other? Why are so many there references to paintings in her narrative? How is collage used in her narrative? Why is gaze predominant? The answers to these questions are related to the writing processes in the works of Martín Gaité. In both her essays and novels, she always reflected upon the relevance of the act of writing.

Author Details:

**Ester Bautista Botello** is lecturer in Literary Studies at the Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro (UAQ, México); her main research interests are women's writing and interdisciplinary works involving literature and the arts.

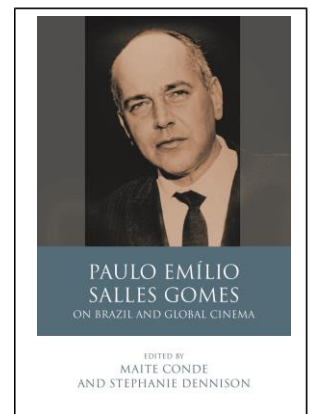
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Other Related Titles:

**Paulo Emílio Salles Gomes: On Brazil and Global Cinema**  
Edited by Maite Conde and Stephanie Dennison

October 2018  
£50 • PB • 9781786833235 • 216x138 mm • 288pp



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# Servants and the Gothic, 1764-1831

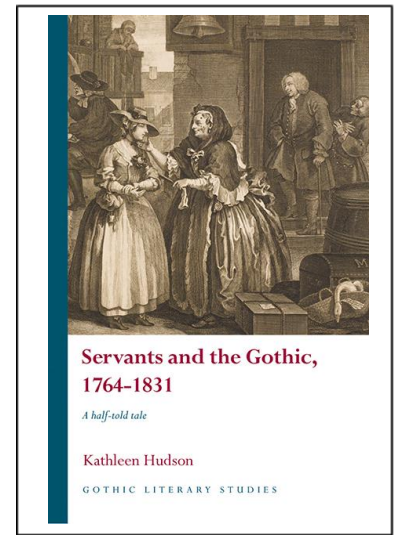
A half-told tale

Kathleen Hudson

Series: Gothic Literary Studies

January 2019

£75 • HB • 9781786833396 • 216 x 138 mm • 256pp



Market:

This work is appropriate for students and academics with an interest in narrative theory, Gothic literature, and eighteenth and nineteenth century fiction, culture, and literary practice. While addressing a relatively specific area of critical inquiry, this work would be useful for a number of university courses and research tracks focused on the Gothic, Romanticism, and eighteenth and nineteenth century literature. This work should also appeal to non-academics with an interest in Gothic studies more generally.

Blurb:

This volume provides readers with a comprehensive literary and historical basis for understanding servant characters and servant narratives in the early Gothic mode. Throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, servants were 'othered' figures whose voices had the potential to undermine socio-political and personal identity. This study recasts servant characters within the early Gothic mode as 'narrators' who verbally or non-verbally perform dialogue, moral insights and folkloric or gossip-based stories. Examining the development of servant narrative within the early Gothic mode, *Servants and the Gothic* outlines the socio-historical and literary influences which defined the servant voice during the eighteenth century, as well as identifying and expanding upon the ways in which servant narratives contributed to each author's unique goals. It defines servant narratives as a 'performance' of Gothic narrative, a self-conscious self-examination of the ways in which a Gothic narrative impacts literary, social and personal identity.

Key Selling Points:

- This book explores a complex historical background to fully contextualise the development of the early Gothic mode and the servant character's role as a speaking and performing figure in literature.
- This book includes a comprehensive engagement with a wide range of source texts, unpacking the theoretical elements of the Gothic mode through close-readings of individual works.
- This book brings together readings of novels, plays, and adaptations (both contemporary and modern) to construct a full picture of the literary and cultural forces that shaped the literary servant's role and the Gothic mode's identity.
- This book addresses a critically important yet much underrepresented area of Gothic studies by examining servant characters and their use of narrative.

## Author Details:

**Kathleen Hudson** is Adjunct Professor of English at Anne Arundel Community College, and has published on a broad range of topics in early Gothic studies.

## Contents:

Introduction: Domestic invasion: A portrait of the Gothic servant narrator

Chapter One: Servant narrative and 'new romance'

Chapter Two: Gothic Servants and socio-political identity

Chapter Three: Gothic spectacle and the 'performing' servant

Chapter Four: Redefining Gothic servants

Conclusion Mastering the Gothic servant narrative

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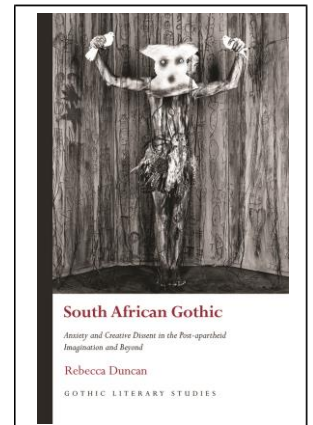
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Rebecca Duncan

May 2018

£80 • HB • 9781786832467 • 216 x 138mm • 288pp



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