

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

Helena Avelar holds an MA in Medieval History from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities of the Nova University of Lisbon. She is a researcher at CIUHCT – Centro Interuniversitário de História das Ciências e da Tecnologia, and at IEM - Institute of Medieval Studies. Her research focuses on medieval science and culture, with a special interest in astrological practices and techniques. She is currently engaged in PhD studies at the Warburg Institute in the University of London, under the supervision of Professor Charles Burnett.

Roger Beck is Professor Emeritus at the University of Toronto, where he began his career at Erindale College and Department of Classics (Lecturer 1964-65, Assistant Professor 1968-74, Associate Professor 1974-84, Professor 1984-98, Professor Emeritus since 1998). He received his BA from Oxford (1961) and his PhD in Classical Philology at University of Illinois (1971). He was Secretary of the Classical Association of Canada from 1977-79 and Review Editor (1978-82) and Associate Editor (1982-86) for the journal *Phoenix*. His current research interests are Mithraism and religion in the Roman Empire; ancient astrology and astronomy; and Petronius and the ancient novel. His works include *The Religion of the Mithras Cult in the Roman Empire* (2006) and *A Brief History of Ancient [this word added 2/16] Astrology* (2006). His collected articles, many of them having to do with ancient astronomy and astrology, were published by Ashgate in 2004 as *Beck on Mithraism: Collected Works with New Essays*.

Richard Bergen is an English PhD candidate at the University of British Columbia, Canada. He works with late medieval and early modern non-dramatic poetry and prose, and has strong research interests in allegory, genre theories, cosmology, as well as space and place. He regularly presents on these topics, and has published an article on genre theory and the nature of John Bunyan's usage of allegory. He holds a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Canada Graduate Scholarship, and achieved the Mary Henley scholarship for being the top Renaissance student at UBC (2015).

Charles Burnett, MA, PhD, LGSM, FBA, is Professor of the History of Arabic/Islamic Influences in Europe at the Warburg Institute, University of London, and Co-Director of the Centre for the History of Arabic Studies in Europe at the Warburg Institute. His research centres on the transmission of texts, techniques and artefacts from the Arab world to the West,

especially in the Middle Ages. He has documented this transmission by editing and translating several texts that were first translated from Arabic into Latin, and also by describing the historical and cultural context of these translations. Throughout his research and his publications he has aimed to document the extent to which Arabic authorities and texts translated from Arabic have shaped European learning, in the universities, in medical schools and in esoteric circles. Among his books in this subject area are *The Introduction of Arabic Learning into England* (1997), *Arabic into Latin in the Middle Ages: The Translators and their Intellectual and Social Context* (2009) and *Numerals and Arithmetic in the Middle Ages* (2010).

Patrick Curry holds a PhD in the History and Philosophy of Science, has taught at the universities of Bath Spa and Kent, and is a Tutor in the Sophia Centre for the Study of Cosmology in Culture at the University of Trinity Saint David. He is the co-author (with Roy Willis) of *Astrology, Science and Culture* (Berg, 2004) and editor of *Divination* (Ashgate/ Routledge, 2010).

Graham Douglas studied Chemistry at Imperial College London and worked in chemical and biophysical research for a number of years before becoming a schoolteacher. He has been interested in astrology since 1977, both for the empirical challenge it offers for investigating the evidence for possible geomagnetic influences on the processes of conception and birth, and also as a topic in cultural and semiotic research. His empirical studies, based on the data collected by Michel and Françoise Gauquelin, have been published in the journal *Correlation*, and on the website <http://Cura.free.fr>, the most recent of which is 'The Gauquelin Effect is born at Conception'. The academic journal *Semiotica* has published three of his articles dealing with astrology and semiotics, especially the work of A. J. Greimas. Since 2010 he has worked as a translator of Spanish and proofreader for the online bilingual and multicultural newspaper www.theprisma.co.uk, where he has also contributed articles and interviews, especially of film directors. In 2014 his translation of the book *O Mundo da Astrologia* by the Brazilian researcher Luís Rodolfo Vilhena, was published as *The World of Astrology* by the Sophia Press. Vilhena's ethnography of astrology is also one of the sources for his discussion of the interview with Lévi-Strauss.

Scott E. Hendrix graduated from the University of Tennessee in 2007 with a Ph.D. in Medieval history, specializing in intellectual history. He is the author or editor of six books, and his first study-- *How Albert the Great's Speculum Astronomiae Was Interpreted and Used by Four Centuries of Readers*—won the Professor D. Simon Evans prize for medieval studies. He has also published numerous articles and book chapters on topics such as the history of astrology, mysticism, the witch craze, and contextual rationality. He is currently an Associate Professor of History at Carroll University in Waukesha, Wisconsin (USA).

R. Hakan Kirkoğlu has studied astrology since 1983 and is currently working on his MA thesis titled 'İlm-i Nudjum and its role in the Ottoman court during the eighteenth century' at Boğaziçi University in Istanbul. He holds an MA degree in Economics (1991) from Boğaziçi University and a BSc in Management Engineering (1988) from Istanbul Technical University. He is a consultant astrologer, writer and tutor.

Lindsay Starkey is an Assistant Professor of History at Kent State University at Stark. She received her PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2012. Her research focuses on the ways in which sixteenth-century Christian assumptions about God's creation and providential guiding of the world influenced European understandings of the universe. She is currently working on a manuscript about sixteenth-century European conceptions of water.