

Special Issue

Materiality and Gender Constructs in Hagiography: Saints and Sacred Space

Message from the Guest Editor

The past two decades have seen a rise in the "materialist moment" and spatial criticism, combining disciplines like art history, archaeology, and history to examine the ways material objects and spatiality shape aesthetics, culture, and politics. This interdisciplinary approach has had a significant impact on medieval studies, as scholars have explored how physical objects, spaces, and places informed religious experience and cultural production in the Middle Ages.

This interdisciplinary perspective opens up new avenues for exploring gender, sexuality, and transformation in medieval religious culture. This special issue seeks submissions that address materiality, space, and place in medieval hagiographies and religious texts, and how these elements intersect with questions of gender and sexuality. Potential topics include the role of material environments in shaping cults of saints, the significance of holy objects in religious institutions, the ways bodily representations and haptic interactions reflect theological and spatial concerns, and the integration of the material and immaterial in dreams, visions, and acts of devotion.

Guest Editor

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About the Journal

Message from the Editorial Board

Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community – disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

Religions is inviting innovative and comparative contributions. Please consider Religions as an exceptional, exciting enterprise ready to reward your trust, attention, and participation.

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