Record Nr. UNINA9910138996603321 Autore Timmermann Anke Titolo Verse and transmutation: a corpus of Middle English alchemical poetry (critical editions and studies) / / by Anke Timmermann Pubbl/distr/stampa Brill, 2013 Leiden, Netherlands:,: Brill,, 2013 ©2013 **ISBN** 90-04-25483-8 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (390 p.) Collana History of Science and Medicine Library, , 1872-0684; ; Volume 42 Medieval and Early Modern Science; ; Volume 21 Disciplina 540.1/12 Soggetti Alchemy Manuscripts, English (Middle) Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front Matter -- Introduction -- Introduction to a Corpus of Middle English Alchemical Poetry -- The Corpus around the "Verses upon the Elixir": Origins, Patterns and Peculiarities -- Authorship, Authority and Alchemical Verse -- The Ripley Scrolls: Alchemical Poetry, Images and Authority -- Alchemical Poetry and Academia: Manuscripts as Chronicles of Scholarly Enquiry -- Alchemical Verse and the Organisation of Knowledge -- Concluding Thoughts -- Preface to the Editions -- Poems -- Prose Texts -- Bibliography -- Index. Sommario/riassunto Verse and Transmutation: A Corpus of Middle English Alchemical Poetry identifies and investigates a corpus of twenty-one anonymous recipes for the philosophers' stone dating from the fifteenth century. These were circulated and received in association with each other until the mid-seventeenth century, when a number of them appeared in Elias Ashmole's Theatrum Chemicum Britannicum. These editions are the first to make this previously unidentified corpus available to researchers. The accompanying studies discover the complex histories of these alchemica, in plain and illuminated manuscripts, as anonyma

and in attribution to famous authors, and in private and institutional, medical and academic book collections. Together, they offer novel

insights into the role of alchemy and poetry in late medieval and early modern England.