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| Nota di contenuto       | Preliminary Material -- Introduction / Laurie Postlewate -- The Preacher and His Audience: Dominican Conceptions of the Self in the Thirteenth Century / Dallas G. Denery -- Public-Access Patronage: Book-Presentation from the Crowd at a Royal Procession / Joyce Coleman -- Eternal Rome and Cola di Rienzo's Show of Power / Amy Schwarz -- Diversity in Unity: Elizabeth's Coronation Procession / L. Caitlin Jorgensen -- On Cushions and Chairs: The Ritual Construction of Authority in New Spain / Alejandro Cañeque -- Talking Pictures: Performance on the Page / Adrian P. Tudor -- Medieval Literary Performance: Gautier de Coinci's Guide for the Perplexed / Kathryn A. Duys -- Privatizing the Conte du Graal: How Renaissance Printers Reformatted Chrétien's Public Text for Private Reading / Paul Creamer -- A Contract for an Early Festival Book: Sarrasin's Le Roman du Hem (1278) / Nancy Freeman Regalado -- Death Slips Onto the Renaissance Stage: Morris Dancing, Mimed Moors, and Nascent Rituals in Fletcher and Shakespeare / William E. Engel -- Experimenting with the Performance of Medieval Narrative / Evelyn Birge Vitz and Linda Marie Zaerr -- Yseut's Legacy: Women Writers and Performers in the Medieval |

Sommario/riassunto

For the Middle Ages and Renaissance, meaning and power were created and propagated through public performance. Processions, coronations, speeches, trials, and executions are all types of public performance that were both acts and texts: acts that originated in the texts that gave them their ideological grounding; texts that bring to us today a trace of their actual performance. Literature, as well, was for the pre-modern public a type of performance: throughout the medieval and early modern periods we see a constant tension and negotiation between the oral/aural delivery of the literary work and the eventual silent/read reception of its written text. The current volume of essays examines the plurality of forms and meanings given to performance in the Middle Ages and Renaissance through discussion of the essential performance/text relationship. The authors of the essays represent a variety of scholarly disciplines and subject matter: from the "performed" life of the Dominican preacher, to coronation processions, to book presentations; from satirical music speeches, to the rendering of widow portraits, to the performance of romance and pious narrative. Diverse in their objects of study, the essays in this volume all examine the links between the actual events of public performance and the textual origins and subsequent representation of those performances.

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