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Nota di contenuto	Acknowledgments; General Notes; Preface; Ibn al-Rumi, The Poet; 1-A Birth, Family, Education, Intellectual Orientation, Death; 1-B The Poet's Persona as Constructed, Interpreted and Preserved by Later Generations in the Akhbar; 1-C The Poet's Reception; 1-D The ""Greek Thesis""; 1-E The Case of Rhyme vs. Reason (Opening Statement); Ibn al-Rumi, The Times; 2-A Introduction; 2-B The Translation Movement; 2-C The Munazarah; 2-D Passive Reception of the Hellenic Legacy vs. Active and Creative Appropriation; 2-E The Immediate Literary and Intellectual Environment; The Argument Al-'Aqqad's Assertions2-A The Worship of Life; 2-B The Love of Nature; 2-C Personification; The Influence of the Times on the Themes of Ibn al-Rumi's Poetry; 3-A The Subjects Treated in His Poems; 3-B The Poet's Keen Interest in Word Derivation (al-Ishtiqaq) and Fondness for Puns and Wordplay; 3-C Arguing both Sides of an Issue; Making the Weaker Cause the Stronger; Making the True False and the False True; 3-D The Literary Munazarah; Contemporary Influences on the Poet's Stylistics; 4-A Introduction; 4-B The Phenomenon of Istiqsa"" al-Ma'ani and the Resulting Characteristic of Tul al-Nafas 4-C The Syllogistic Character of Certain of his Poems, or Sections of his

Poems4-D The Poetic Movement from the General to the Specific (Mujmal Mufasssal ); 4-E The Relationship of the Poet's Style to the Nascent Art of Prose Composition (al-Insha', al-Tarasul, al-Kitabah); 4-F The Poet's Argumentative Discourse Strategies; 4-G The Organization of his Qasidahs; 4-H A 3rd/9th Century Munazarah: The Case of Rhyme vs. Reason (Closing Argument); The Background; 1-A The Reception of Poem no. 444, The Mamduh, Stylistic, Artistic and Formal Features of the Poem  
1-B The Panegyric Qasidah Form and the Structure of Poem no. 4441-C The Ideology of Praise; The Nasib; The Madih; The Khatimah; 4-A The Rahil; 4-B Concluding Madih; 4-C The Dedication and Benediction; 4-D Epilogue; Conclusion; Appendix A ""Map"" to Qasidah no. 444; Appendix B Arabic Texts; Works Cited; Index of Ibn al-Rumi's Poems Cited; General Index

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## Sommario/riassunto

The poetry of the extremely prolific and versatile 'Abbsid poet Ibn al-Rm is examined in this book. Part 1, The Poet, reconstructs the poet's life and times providing the background for Part II, The Poetry, which traces the influences in Ibn al-Rm's distinctive poetic style and themes. This provides a glimpse into a rather fluid period in Arabic literary history when the boundary between poetry and prose was becoming increasingly permeable, due to the emergence of the so-called "secretary-poets," and to the prevalence and importance of the munarah , or disputation. Part III, The Poem, analyzes the poet's celebrated 282-line poem commemorating the quashing of the Zanj rebellion. The towering architectonics and sophisticated organization of this poem provide an ideal opportunity to explore Ibn al-Rm's poetic contribution.

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