1. Record Nr. UNINA9910788558203321 Mental health, spirituality, and religion in the Middle Ages and early **Titolo** Modern age / / edited by Albrecht Classen Pubbl/distr/stampa Berlin; ; Boston:,: De Gruyter,, 2014 **ISBN** 3-11-037785-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (738 p.) Collana Fundamentals of Medieval and Early Modern Culture;; 15 Classificazione EC 5410 Disciplina 830.9/002 German literature - Middle High German, 1050-1500 - History and Soggetti German literature - Early modern, 1500-1700 - History and criticism Mental illness in literature Mental illness - History Religion in literature Visions in literature Visions - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Introduction / Classen, Albrecht --Constructing the Early Irish Cult of Brigit / Dhonnchadha, Maedhbh M. Nic -- A Prince Under the Spell of the Devil? The Outburst of Charles the Fat in 873 C.E. / Sosnowski, Xenia -- The Epic Hagiography as Scriptural Genre and its Pictorial Rendering in the Saint- Savin-sur-Gartempe Crypt Frescos / Danziger, Rosemarie -- Buile Shuibhne: vox insaniae from Medieval Ireland / Béarra, Feargal Ó -- At the Crossroads of Religion, Magic, Science and Written Culture / Niiranen, Susanna --

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## Sommario/riassunto

This volume continues the critical exploration of fundamental issues in the medieval and early modern world, here concerning mental health, spirituality, melancholy, mystical visions, medicine, and well-being. The contributors, who originally had presented their research at a symposium at The University of Arizona in May 2013, explore a wide range of approaches and materials pertinent to these issues, taking us from the early Middle Ages to the eighteenth century, capping the volume with some reflections on the relevance of religion today. Lapidary sciences matter here as much as medical-psychological research, combined with literary and art-historical approaches. The premodern understanding of mental health is not taken as a miraculous panacea for modern problems, but the contributors suggest that medieval and early modern writers, scientists, and artists commanded a considerable amount of arcane, sometimes curious and speculative, knowledge that promises to be of value and relevance even for us today, once again. Modern palliative medicine finds, for instance, intriguing parallels in medieval word magic, and the mystical perspectives encapsulated highly productive alternative perceptions of the macrocosm and microcosm that promise to be insightful and important also for the post-modern world.