

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910792374803321
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Titolo	The lady & the Virgin : image, attitude, and experience in twelfth-century France // Penny Schine Gold
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chicago, : University of Chicago Press, 1987, c1985
ISBN	1-282-53874-8 9786612538742 0-226-30089-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (216 pages)
Collana	Women in culture and society
Disciplina	305.4/0944 305.40944
Soggetti	Social history - Medieval, 500-1500 Women - France - History - Middle Ages, 500-1500
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Substantial and thorough revision of author's dissertation.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Tables -- Foreword -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- 1. Secular Image: Women in Chanson de Geste and Romance -- 2. Religious Image: The Iconography of the Virgin Mary -- 3. Religious Life: The Monastic Experience -- 4. Secular Life: Control of Property -- 5. Conclusion -- Selected Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Penny Schine Gold provides a bold analysis of key literary and artistic images of women in the Middle Ages and the relationship between these images and the actual experience of women. She argues that the complex interactions between men and women as expressed in both image and experience reflect a common pattern of ambivalence and contradiction. Thus, women are seen as both helpful and harmful, powerful and submissive, and the actuality of women's experience encompasses women in control and controlled, autonomous and dependent. Vividly recreating the rich texture of medieval life, Gold effectively and eloquently goes beyond a simple equation of social context and representation. In the process. she challenges equally simple judgments of historical periods as being either "good" or "bad" for women. "[The Lady and the Virgin] presents its findings in a form

that should attract students as well as their instructors. The careful and controlled use of so many different kinds of sources . . . offers us a valuable medieval case study in the inner-relationship between the segments of society and its ethos or value system."-Joel T. Rosenthal, *The History Teacher* "Something of a tour de force in an interdisciplinary approach to history."-Jo Ann McNamara, *Speculum* "[A] well-written, extremely well-researched book. . . . *The Lady and the Virgin* is useful, readable, and well informed."-R. Howard Bloch, *Modern Philology*
