Record Nr. UNINA9910823493503321 Autore Jacobson Miriam Emma Titolo Barbarous antiquity: reorienting the past in the poetry of early modern England / / Miriam Jacobson Pubbl/distr/stampa Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:,: University of Pennsylvania Press,, 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 0-8122-9007-0 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (297 p.) Disciplina 821/.309357 English poetry - Early modern, 1500-1700 - History and criticism Soggetti English language - Early modern, 1500-1700 - Diction English literature - Classical influences English literature - Foreign influences Commerce Commercial products in literature Great Britain Commerce Middle East Middle East Commerce Great Britain Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Introduction. Trafficking with Antiquity: Trade, Poetry, and Remediation -- Chapter 1. Strange Language: Imported Words in Jonson's Ars Poetica -- Chapter 2. Shaping Subtlety: Sugar in The Arte of English Poesie -- Chapter 3. Publishing Pain: Zero in The Rape of Lucrece -- Chapter 4. Breeding Fame: Horses and Bulbs in Venus and Adonis -- Chapter 5. On Chapman Crossing Marlowe's Hellespont: Pearls, Dyes, and Ink in Hero and Leander -- Epilogue. The Peregrinations of Barbarous Antiquity --Notes -- Bibliography -- Index -- Acknowledgments Sommario/riassunto In the late sixteenth century, English merchants and diplomats ventured into the eastern Mediterranean to trade directly with the Turks, the keepers of an important emerging empire in the Western Hemisphere, and these initial exchanges had a profound effect on

English literature. While the theater investigated representations of

religious and ethnic identity in its portrayals of Turks and Muslims, poetry, Miriam Jacobson argues, explored East-West exchanges primarily through language and the material text. Just as English markets were flooded with exotic goods, so was the English language awash in freshly imported words describing items such as sugar, jewels, plants, spices, paints, and dyes, as well as technological advancements such as the use of Arabic numerals in arithmetic and the concept of zero. Even as these Eastern words and imports found their way into English poetry, poets wrestled with paying homage to classical authors and styles. In Barbarous Antiquity, Jacobson reveals how poems adapted from Latin or Greek sources and set in the ancient classical world were now reoriented to reflect a contemporary, mercantile Ottoman landscape. As Renaissance English writers including Shakespeare, Jonson, Marlowe, and Chapman weighed their reliance on classical poetic models against contemporary cultural exchanges, a new form of poetry developed, positioned at the crossroads of East and West, ancient and modern. Building each chapter around the intersection of an Eastern import and a classical model, Jacobson shows how Renaissance English poetry not only reconstructed the classical past but offered a critique of that very enterprise with a new set of words and metaphors imported from the East.