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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

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.
