

Strangers at the Gate!

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# Strangers at the Gate!

*Multidisciplinary Explorations of Communities,  
Borders, and Othering in Medieval Western Europe*

*Edited by*

S.C. Thomson



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Cover illustration: The arrival of Saint Christopher at the gates of Samos, from the illustrated copy of Usuard's Martyrology in Stuttgart, Württembergischen Landesbibliothek, cod. hist. MS 415, fol. 50r, used with kind permission of the Württembergische Landesbibliothek, Auftrag Nr. 1-19-00446.

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#### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Thomson, Simon C., editor, writer of introduction.

Title: Strangers at the gate! : multidisciplinary explorations of communities, borders, and othering in medieval western Europe / edited by Simon C. Thomson.

Description: Leiden ; Boston : Brill, [2022] | Series: Explorations in medieval culture, 2352-0299 ; volume 21 | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2022006495 (print) | LCCN 2022006496 (ebook) | ISBN 9789004425491 (hardback) | ISBN 9789004511910 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Strangers--Europe--History--To 1500. | Immigrants--Europe--History--To 1500. | Europe--Emigration and immigration--History--To 1500. | Other (Philosophy)--History. | Civilization, Medieval. | Europe, Western--Civilization. | Middle Ages.

Classification: LCC CB351 .S776 2022 (print) | LCC CB351 (ebook) | DDC 940.1--dc23/eng/20220307

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2022006495>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2022006496>

Typeface for the Latin, Greek, and Cyrillic scripts: "Brill". See and download: [brill.com/brill-typeface](http://brill.com/brill-typeface).

ISSN 2352-0299

ISBN 978-90-04-42549-1 (hardback)

ISBN 978-90-04-51191-0 (e-book)

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## Acknowledgements

This volume has been long in the making, and I am deeply grateful to all of the contributors who have worked so hard to produce a collection of which I am proud, for their positivity and patience as much as for their expertise. It originated in a conference held at Ruhr-Universität Bochum in June 2017. A large number of contributors – far more than are represented in this volume – made this conference an immensely stimulating and productive weekend; this volume stands on all of their shoulders. Neither the conference nor this volume would have been possible without the support and expertise of Luuk Houwen, who gave me a job at RUB, and to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), who funded the event and supported the production of this volume as part of my work on Saint Christopher. I am also deeply grateful to Miriam Edlich-Muth, who gave me a job at Heinrich-Heine-Universität, Düsseldorf, and who has been a never-ending source of support and wisdom on this and many other projects. Brill's external reviewers provided important and productive critiques of the project as a whole and of each element within it; we are all, as so often in the academic world, deeply in the debt of anonymous readers.

I am grateful, too, to Kat Tracy, who suggested working from the conference to a volume for the *Explorations in Medieval Culture* series and who has been, along with Brill's indefatigable Marcella Mulder, infinitely patient, carefully observant, and spectacularly supportive throughout the relentless and lengthy processes of production and revision. Brill's Jorik Groen has been swift, supportive, and brilliant in working this volume into physical form. Annie Röseler has been a patient and diligent support in the final proofing of the manuscript and the preparation of the index.

Although I was proud of the wide-ranging nature of contributors and contributions to the original conference, I am horrified to acknowledge that it was not until 2020 that I recognized that it is not acceptable to publish a volume of this sort with contributions solely from white scholars. I am, like all medieval scholars, deeply indebted to the work of Mary Rambaran-Olm, among many, many others, for shifting my perceptions of my field and the ways in which it functions; and to Stephen Hall and Medievalists of Color for helping me to redress this particular omission. In the future, I will work earlier and more actively to combat these standing imbalances and injustices.

I am fortunate enough to have worked and lived in places very different from that of my birth. A white, straight, cis, British male like me struggles to comprehend the experience of being a rejected stranger, because I am the normative embodiment of a globally dominant culture, all but guaranteed of a welcome to any institution I encounter; indeed, I have been warmly welcomed

as a “representative of our former colonial masters” in more than one place. That does not, of course, prevent me from feeling (e)strange(d), and I am deeply grateful to colleagues, friends, and casual acquaintances who have been patient with and kind to me in Nigeria and in Germany. In particular, I would like to express my thanks to and love for Umar Lawan, Hussaina Hassan, Hadiza Umar, Mahmud Sukur, Abimbola Osuntusa, and Tony Nworah in Nigeria; and to Wally and Karl Happ, Tommy and Wiebke Wolfkühler, Runar and Nadja Skrösvet, Martina Dornieden, Laura Winkler, and Miriam Edlich-Muth in Germany.

This volume is, like everything else, dedicated to my wife, Jenny Fawson, with whom I am always at home.



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