



ARCANUM:

Journal of Esoteric Currents during the High Middle Ages

No. 1

2013

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ARCANUM is an online, interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed journal that will focus on the enigmatic aspects of the literature of the High Middle Ages and attempt to relate them to contemporary esoteric currents.

Beginning in the middle of the twelfth century, the dominant Christian culture regained, through the work of translating schools, especially those located in Toledo, Spain, some of the lost learning of classical Greece and simultaneously won access to Arabic achievements in diverse fields of science. As the heir to ancient civilizations, Arabic culture also conveyed the fascination with esoteric theories in alchemy, astrology, and hermeticism.

The cultural confluence and agitation of the time was mirrored by widespread spiritual unrest which threatened to undermine the foundation of orthodox Christianity and became manifest in the dualistic heterodoxy of the Cathars and the yearning for mystical ascent in Jewish, Islamic, or Christian semblance.

ARCANUM will publish articles that explore the enigmatic aspects of literary works considered to be within the cultural mainstream. ARCANUM will also publish articles that explore contemporary esoteric currents and mystical beliefs. The intended cross-fertilization will lead to a more subtle comprehension of the zeitgeist of the High Middle Ages and encourage research to trace the path through which it may have entered the literature of the time.

The journal publishes individual papers on an article-by-article basis. Whenever a manuscript has completed its peer review process and the article galley has been approved by the author, it will be immediately published online in full-text version on the ARCANUM website.

The Journal of the North Atlantic's publishing format is versatile enough that authors can include supplementary files with their articles. These supplements may include dataset, figure, and table files (e.g., files requiring a larger than normal journal page size, such as large maps), as well as text and protocol files, audio and video files (e.g., for ethnographic studies), and even Powerpoint files.

ARCANUM (ISSN #2152-6621), with an international editorial board, is a collaborative publishing effort of the Eagle Hill Institute, PO Box 9, 59 Eagle Hill Road, Steuben, ME 04680-0009 USA. Phone 207-546-2821, FAX 207-546-3042. E-mail: office@eaglehill.us. Website: www.eaglehill.us/arcanum. Copyright © 2013, all rights reserved. On-line secure subscription ordering: rate per year is \$40 for individuals (\$32 students), \$180 for organizations. **Authors:** Instructions for authors are available at www.eaglehill.us/arcanum. The Eagle Hill Institute (Federal ID # 010379899) is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation of the State of Maine, USA.

Cover Image: Erec and Enide on horseback from the cover of *Erec and Enide* by Chrétien de Troyes translated by Burton Raffel published by Yale University Press.