

García's discussion of the creation, distribution and reception of Castilian spiritual texts in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries shows the influence that common readings had on spiritual and intellectual movements long before the Council of Trent. Natalie Maillard uses notarial documents to investigate the impact of Italian influences on Spanish culture in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries from an Atlantic perspective. Focusing on the audiences rather than the authors, she examines the shared readership in Seville and Mexico of a wide range of Italian works including poetry, prose, theological and spiritual works and medical texts. Bianca Lindorfer opens the private book collections of seventeenth-century Austrian aristocrats to examine the Spanish literature found there, tracing the patterns of distribution of foreign literature in aristocratic circles and the transnational networks which facilitated its spread. She shows that there was an intense cultural exchange between Vienna and Madrid in which books were often, as they are now, collected simply for their prestige value.

Idalia García Aguilar, using the protocols employed by the Inquisition to control readers in New Spain in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, has analysed the inventories of libraries compiled by the Inquisition and the legal documents associated with them. This method of approach to hitherto closed collections has allowed her to scrutinise and analyse some of these private collections for the first time, with important results. Adrien Delmas contributes a fascinating essay on the use of and perception of books in the Catholic and Protestant worlds through an analysis of readers in the Cape Colony. The parallels between anti-Spanish propaganda at the end of the sixteenth century and anti-Dutch propaganda in the eighteenth century are well drawn.

These two fine collections of essays showcase some of the most important interdisciplinary research on Reformation and Counter-Reformation visual culture and the book trade in Europe and the New World being undertaken at present. Their meticulous scholarship and perceptive analysis form an invaluable source for everyone working on the history, literature, social history and theology of the period.

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Empire and holy war in the Mediterranean. The galley and maritime conflict between the Habsburgs and Ottomans. By Phillip Williams. Pp. xvii + 359 incl. 6 ills. London–New York: I. B. Tauris, 2014. £59.50. 978 1 84885 985 2
JEH (67) 2016; doi:10.1017/S0022046915002523

The Battle of Lepanto in 1571 dominates perceptions of naval warfare in the early modern Mediterranean world. In this book the author moves beyond this one battle to examine the conduct and nature of the conflict at sea between the Spanish and Ottomans in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The book begins with a useful narrative overview of the major campaigns and battles in the region. The strategies and political considerations that faced both sides are also considered in detail. Both the Habsburgs and Ottomans relied extensively on contributions from their empires and private enterprise to sustain their holy war. The book investigates the role of piracy by North African corsairs and crusading

Christian religious orders, such as the Hospitaller Knights of Malta. Differences between fighting at sea in the Mediterranean and Atlantic are also examined. The real strength of the volume lies in the chapters that explore galley warfare in the Mediterranean. Williams provides a meticulous and engaging analysis of the issues and complexities of setting out, maintaining, manning and utilising oared warships. He argues that the lack of a decisive victory at sea can be seen in the manner in which the war was played out between two sides that possessed 'either too few good galleys or too many bad ones'. The author makes use of an impressive range of Spanish archives and there are a number of useful images. The volume would have benefitted by the addition of some maps of the Mediterranean region. Overall, this book has much to recommend it and furthers our understanding of the clash between the Spanish and Ottoman empires in the early modern period.

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ELAINE MURPHY

The Dutch Revolt and Catholic exile in Reformation Europe. By Geert H. Janssen. Pp. xv + 218 incl. 3 maps, 1 table and 9 figs. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014. £60. 978 1 107 05503 2
JEH (67) 2016; doi:10.1017/S0022046915002055

The Dutch revolt led to mass migration in Europe and displaced thousands of people from different confessions, but historians have hitherto paid attention exclusively to the exile experience of Protestant groups. Geert Janssen studies the flight, exile and return of Catholic refugees from the Low Countries and thus draws attention to this long neglected group. From 1572 onwards, several thousand Catholics fled from rebel-held territories to Catholic cities such as Amsterdam, Douai and Cologne. In Douai and Cologne, Catholic priests and former Habsburg office-holders encountered a more militant form of Catholicism promoted by the Jesuits. Here their paths also crossed with Catholic refugees from England. Throughout the book Janssen rightly emphasises the transnational dimensions of Catholic exile. The shared fate with exiled English Catholics, correspondence networks, glorification of martyrdom and active exile printing presses in these asylum towns shaped a shared discourse on exile as well as a vibrant and militant Catholic identity. The exile experience of Catholics, as Janssen masterfully argues, is key to understanding the emergence of two political entities in the Low Countries with very different religious and cultural outlooks. The Counter-Reformation in the Habsburg Netherlands was not simply implemented through top-down initiatives, but supported by returning Catholic exiles. Yet by looking at former Catholic exiles in the Dutch Republic, he also carefully argues that exile need not imply militancy; there were other possible outcomes. This original study combines insightful overviews of scholarly debates on the Dutch revolt, Catholic Reformation and exile, with new archival and comparative research. It is a stimulating book, which will appeal to both students and specialists in these respective fields.

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NINA LAMAL