

Une femme et la guerre à la fin du Moyen Âge: Le "Livre des faits d'armes et de chevalerie" de Christine de Pizan. Dominique Demartini, Claire Le Ninan, Anne Paupert, and Michelle Szkilnik, eds.

Études christiniennes 13. Paris: Honoré Champion, 2016. 231 pp. €50.

The twelve dense articles of this collection, fruit of a *journée d'études* held at Université Paris-Diderot in 2013, examine a little-studied work composed in 1410 by Christine de Pizan (ca. 1365–1431), the *Livre des faits d'armes et de chevalerie*. Several of the authors remark that this four-part theoretical and practical guide to conducting war has long been regarded as one of Christine's driest. The essays, however, prove the claim to be false.

The first three essays deal with manuscript issues. In "La tradition textuelle du *Livre des faits d'armes et de chevalerie* de Christine de Pizan," Gabriella Parussa calls for a collation of all twenty-two of the manuscripts to determine their relationships. A genetic edition, one that reconstructs the different forms of the text in progress, would be particularly appropriate given Christine's habit of revising her work. Christine Reno's "Les deux exemplaires originaux subsistants du *Livre des faits d'armes et de chevalerie*" examines Bruxelles, KBR 10476 and Paris, BnF fr. 603, originals of Christine that show interesting divergences. For example, the addition in KBR 10476 of a passage praising John of Burgundy's victory over the Liégeois is absent from BnF fr. 603, indicating that the former was created to flatter John while the latter went to an Armagnac client. Karen Fresno studies three collections of manuscripts containing the *Faits d'armes*, BnF fr. 603, KBR 9009–9011, and Bordeaux, Bibliothèque municipale 815, considering the works with which it was bound to understand how the text was perceived by different audiences.

The first essay of "Histoire et politique," the collection's second section, is Thierry Lassabatère's "La fonction de connétable et le commandement militaire dans *Livre des faits d'armes et de chevalerie*." Testing the hypothesis that the text can help clarify the nature of the authority of the *connétable* in early fifteenth-century France, Lassabatère discovers that Christine's use of the term translates military offices that she discovered in her earlier sources. "Pour un droit de la guerre?" by Loïc Cazaux shows that the work synthesizes sources on the arts and the laws of war to create a guidebook that was highly topical: the soldier that emerges is a professional. The right to arms in the heraldic sense in the *Faits d'armes* and two of its sources is the subject of Inès Villela-Petit's "La Dame à la biche: Christine de Pizan et le droit d'armes." The ways in which each of the three authors conceives of this right reveal something about their pride and social position.

The three articles devoted to "Compilation et réécriture" begin with Claire Le Ninan's "Christine de Pizan entre clergie et chevalerie dans le *Livre des faits d'armes et de chevalerie*," a compelling analysis of Christine's narrator as a clerly woman of war. Le Ninan concludes by noting the irony that this narrator made it all the easier to erase Christine from the B branch of manuscripts of the text. Surely Christine would not have

appreciated this! In “Le *Livre des faits d’armes et de chevalerie*: droit et didactique,” Bernard Ribémont describes the text’s partition into, first, a treatment of the so-called just war conducted under the shadow of Minerva, and, second, a dialogue between disciple Christine and master Honoré Bovet, author of the *Arbre des batailles*. For Hélène Biu, author of “‘Et la gist la maistrise’: de *L’arbre des batailles au Livre des faits d’armes et de chevalerie*,” Christine creates the first French encyclopedia of military treatises and regenerates the dialogue form of Bovet’s *Arbre*, the disciple gradually gaining authority throughout.

Reception of the work is the subject of the final three essays. In “Le *Jouvencel* ou le *Roman des faits d’armes et de chevalerie*,” Michelle Szkilnik demonstrates that Jean de Bueil, author of the *Jouvencel*, relied on the *Livre des faits d’armes* even though he effaced Christine’s presence from the romance. Andrew Taylor’s “‘Dame Christine’ et la chevalerie savant en Angleterre” offers a fascinating speculation on the popularity of Christine’s works in late fifteenth-century England. The collection ends with “Le *Livre des faits d’armes et chevalerie*: une critique féminine cachée de la chevalerie?” by Liliane Dulac and E. Jeffrey Richards, who hypothesize that the effacement of Christine from the B manuscripts can be explained by the retrograde attitudes of the Burgundian court where a nostalgia for past chivalric glory reigned, making acceptance of Christine’s Minerva-associated narrator unlikely.

The collection, the first devoted to this work, is extremely welcome. The only absence I would cite is historical. The date of the text’s composition, 1410, marked a major turning point in the Armagnac-Burgundian feud, the details of which give life to many of Christine’s apparently abstract statements. An essay fleshing out in detail the crisis unfolding throughout the spring and fall of 1410 would have given additional food for thought. But the collection as it is represents an exciting addition to Christine scholarship.

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Hartmann Schedel (1440–1514): Leben und Werk. Franz Fuchs, ed.
 Pirckheimer Jahrbuch für Renaissance- und Humanismusforschung 30. Wiesbaden:
 Harrassowitz, 2016. 302 pp. €45.

The volume reflects the results of the meeting held in Nuremberg on the 28th and 29th of September 2014, on occasion of the 500th anniversary of the death of the Nuremberg humanist and city physician Hartmann Schedel, organized by the Willibald-Pirckheimer Society for the Research of Renaissance and Humanism, the Germanische Nationalmuseum Nuremberg, the Society for the History of the City of Nuremberg, and the City Archive Nuremberg. Schedel’s life and social environment, his work as a physician, his work as a compiler of the *Nuremberg Chronicle* printed by Anton