752 Reviews of books

Lennox, with civic drama between 1603 and 1624. Finlayson then considers the centrality of iconography to the multiple iterations of the printed pageant texts detailing James I's 1604 royal entry in the literary marketplace. Continuing this focus on the 1604 royal entry, Katherine Butler surveys the extent to which the aesthetic and symbolic power of music enacts 'the harmonious and transformative powers of monarchy' in the city's soundscape (p. 213). Janelle Jenstad and Mark Kaethler then discuss their upcoming geospatial digital anthology of London mayoral shows. Jenstad and Kaether's digital resource aims to 'to situate the shows in their places of performance', exploring the performative and spatial relationships across a variety of surviving records and accounts (p. 219).

By emphasizing the range of activities involved in the inception, performance and reception of these pageants and entertainments, this collection contributes an important and welcome intervention into scholarly considerations of early modern civic drama. Although at times the varied threads of the book do not cohere together quite as strongly as they could, this heterogeneity is also the book's main strength. Its diverse approaches avoid privileging the singularly authorial or textual perspective to explore more fully the ways in which civic performances are situated in larger social, material and political networks. For readers interested in undertaking future work on the literary, historical and performance aspects of civic drama, Finlayson and Sen have collected a range of exciting frameworks for approaching the significance and challenges of understanding the civic pageants and entertainments in and around early modern London.

Samuel Jermy

University of Leeds

Lena Liapi, *Roguery in Print: Crime and Culture in Early Modern London*. Woodbridge: Boydell & Brewer, 2019. ix + 194pp. 6 Plates. 3 Figures. £65.00 hbk. doi:10.1017/S0963926821000547

Once you start looking for them, rogues are everywhere in the early modern city. Not only was the term a common insult in the streets, but as Lena Liapi shows in her illuminating monograph they also danced across the pages of many pamphlets, plays and ballads of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. This book focuses on the way that these figures were depicted in print from around the 1590s to the 1680s, investigating and comparing over a hundred different publications from this period that narrate the exploits of highwaymen, pickpockets, fraudsters and various combinations thereof.

Previous work on roguery has tended to pay little if any attention to how this concept changed during the upheavals of the 1640s and 1650s, so Liapi provides an important contribution to the field through this alone. More importantly, her analysis also offers a distinctive reading of these pamphlets that challenges some previous assumptions. Specifically, whereas scholars have often claimed that such publications demonized and marginalized criminals and the poor by depicting a

supposed 'underworld' that inverted well-ordered society, Liapi argues that 'rogue' literature was full of multivalent and ambiguous texts that often pushed in the opposite direction. Across her four core chapters, she shows that rogues could be used to satirize the urban elites, promote plebeian sociability and – especially in the 1650s – offer thinly veiled political critique.

The book's first two chapters explain how rogue literature was a product of the vast expansion in cheap print in the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The number of publications was reasonably stable from the 1590s to the 1630s, before rising in the 1650s and 1660s. These pamphlets evolved over the period, shifting in terms of format, style and marketing in parallel with wider developments in the print trade. Although only a few specific readers can be pinned down with any confidence, Liapi's argument that the publications had a broad appeal and reached a social diverse audience is persuasive. She pushes this analysis further by showing how they were a 'hybrid' genre which borrowed 'various elements found in satires, romances, news pamphlets, and jest-books' (p. 18). Rather than simply being condemnatory, in these texts rogues were frequently presented as witty and admirable while their victims might be immoral or corrupt. Particularly likely to be satirized were hypocritical wealthy citizens – such as usurers and landlords – or dishonest civic officers such as gaol keepers. Through these narratives, the pamphlets served as both amusing entertainment and occasionally sharp social critique.

Liapi's second two main chapters continue to draw primarily on pamphlets but shift the lens slightly to include analysis of how these related to the actual lives of rogues, their communities and the wider political situation. She uses some records from London's criminal courts alongside the published texts to explore the dynamics of trust and familiarity in the Elizabethan and early Stuart metropolis. For example, many of the stories recounted in both legal depositions and rogue pamphlets 'were predicated on an abuse of trust (feigning friendship or familiarity) but they also show willingness to trust' (p. 100), in contrast to the claims of increasing urban anomie made by some earlier scholars. The networks of sociability and friendship that allowed criminal tricksters to ply their trade were not an 'antisociety' of deviants and outsiders but instead were integral to everyday life in London. Liapi also shows that the very real political divisions of the 1640s and especially 1650s became embedded in rogue literature, as royalists were increasingly associated with the figure of the highwayman and with later rakish duelling 'hectors'. While parliamentarian texts sought to use these associations to attack cavaliers, many other pamphlets and printed news seem to have embraced this link. In the latter, royalist highwaymen like James Hind – the focus of 13 pamphlets - bravely and wittily robbed hypocritical parliamentarian officials. These chapters demonstrate that the so-called 'rogue literature' was not simply a literary genre - it was closely tied to the everyday lives and popular politics of many of its readers.

The book will be of great interest to urban historians thanks to its unapologetic focus on London and its environs. Indeed, a key argument here is that the 'rogue literature' was deeply metropolitan in both its text and context. In contrast, two themes that are prominent in other research on 'roguery' receive minimal attention in this study: poverty and mobility. The contrasting approach here is valuable but does mean that it should be read alongside the work of scholars like A.L. Beier, David Hitchcock and Patricia Fumerton, who explore these other aspects.

754 Reviews of books

Ultimately, Liapi's monograph provides a new perspective on this fascinating early modern phenomenon, which will be illuminating for students of urban crime and of city life more broadly.

Brodie Waddell

Birkbeck, University of London

Charles-François Mathis and Émilie-Anne Pepy, Greening the City: Nature in French Towns from the 17th Century. Winwick: White Horse Press. 2020. 340pp. 54 figures. £75.00 hbk. doi:10.1017/S0963926821000559

2020 was a year of acute attention on public green spaces, gardens and nature. From rapidly compiled reports on the value of parks in the time of COVID-19, to scholarly explorations of their historical context, such as Roderick Floud's An Economic History of the English Garden (2020), our understanding of nature in the city has been enhanced by a flurry of publications. Based on the authors' La ville végétale, published in French in 2017, Greening the City is an exploration of nature in French towns since the seventeenth century. In the age of Revolution and its wake, French aspirations for, and experiences of, nature in the city were understandably different from those of the British. Nevertheless, in addition to fascinating examples specific to France, there is much in this study to enhance our general understanding of urban nature. As the authors assert, 'the history of the vegetal is primarily a history of transmission and of heritage, one of transformation rather than upheaval' (p. 3). In this sense, their analysis may also prove significant to the broader field of heritage studies, as well those engaged in environmental and ecological history.

Perhaps the most striking feature of Mathis and Pepy's approach is the theatrical and poetic character of their examples. Subtitles, such as 'tropical delights' and 'the trees of liberty', chime well with themes already recurrent in the historiography of urban green space. For those familiar with eighteenth-century caricatures of London's theatrical and social elite blending performance and leisure in Vauxhall, Ranelagh and Marylebone Gardens, the comparisons are striking. Yet, more interesting still are the subtle contrasts and the detailed interpretation of horticulture and arboriculture in French cities. While locating parks, gardens, allotments and even window boxes within a wider socio-economic narrative of urban life, this is a study unapologetically orientated around nature and its influence over humanity, rather than vice versa. Organized thematically, together the chapters provide the reader with a revealing chronology of the creation, protection and exploitation of urban nature in modern France.

Providing the foundations for their broader argument, chapter 1 poses the well-rehearsed question, 'Why bring nature into the town?' Here, the authors provide a not unfamiliar narrative of parks and gardens as antidotes to the 'sick city of the industrial age' (p. 27). In many ways, their account maps easily onto the