

10 YEARS OF TRANSLATIONS



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2021

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Homilies

Sophronios of Jerusalem

Edited and translated by John M. Duffy

Sophronios, born in Damascus around 560, was a highly educated monk and prolific writer who spent much of his life traveling in the Eastern Roman Empire and promoting the doctrines of the controversial Council of Chalcedon (451). The *Homilies*—like his poetry, biographies, and miracle accounts—bear eloquent testimony to his tireless struggle on behalf of Orthodoxy and the Christian way of life. The seven sermons collected here were delivered during his short tenure, at his life's end, as patriarch of Jerusalem (634–638). He saw the Holy City capitulate to the Arab army (638). His Nativity Sermon (634), given while Bethlehem was under siege and his congregation was barred from the annual procession from Jerusalem to the birthplace of Christ, vividly reflects the approach of Islamic forces. Other targets of his venom include pagans, Jews, and despised heretics of all hues. Based on a completely new edition of the Byzantine Greek text, this is the first English translation of the homilies of Sophronios.

DOML 64 2020 432 PP. 9780674248588

Parisiana poetria

John of Garland

Edited and translated by Traugott Lawler

The *Parisiana poetria*, first published around 1220, expounds the medieval theory of poetry (*ars poetica*) and summarizes early thirteenth-century thought about writing. While the text draws on predecessors such as the *Rhetorica ad Herennium*, Horace's *Ars poetica*, and work by Geoffrey of Vinsauf, its style and content reveal the unique experience of its author, John of Garland, a prominent teacher of the language arts at the University of Paris. John was also a well-read poet with broad tastes, and his passion for poetry, as well as for fine prose composition, is on display throughout the *Parisiana poetria*. This treatise is the only thoroughgoing attempt to unite three distinct arts—quantitative poetry, rhythmic poetry, and prose composition, especially of letters—under a single set of rules. The sections on low, middle, and high style, illustrated by his “Wheel of Virgil,” have attracted wide attention; and his long account of rhymed poetry is the most complete that has survived. This volume presents the most authoritative edition of the Latin text alongside a fresh English translation.

DOML 65 2020 528 PP. 9780674238152

Old English Legal Writings

Wulfstan

Edited and translated by Andrew Rabin

Archbishop Wulfstan of York (d. 1023) was a powerful clergyman and the most influential political thinker of pre-Conquest England. An advocate for the rights and privileges of the Church, he authored the laws of King Aethelred and King Cnut in prose that combined the rhetorical flourishes of a master homilist with the language of law. Some works forged a distinctive style by adding rhythm and alliteration drawn from Old English poetry. In the midst of Viking invasions and cultural upheaval, Wulfstan articulated a complementary relationship between secular and ecclesiastical law that shaped the political world of eleventh-century England. He also pushed the clergy to return to the ideals of their profession. *Old English Legal Writings* is the first publication to bring together Wulfstan's works on law, church governance, and political reform. When read together, they reveal the scope and originality of his thought as it lays out the mutual obligations of the church, the state, and the common people. This volume presents new editions of the Old English texts alongside new English translations.

DOML 66 2020 480 PP. 9780674247482

The Byzantine Sinbad

Michael Andreopoulos

Translated by Jeffrey Beneker and Craig A. Gibson

The Byzantine Sinbad collects *The Book of Syntipas the Philosopher* and *The Fables of Syntipas*, both translated from Syriac in the late eleventh century by the scholar Michael Andreopoulos.

Originally written in Persian and part of a multilingual and multicultural medieval storytelling tradition, *The Book of Syntipas* recounts how the Persian king Cyrus's unnamed son—a student of the fictional philosopher Sinbad, who is known in Greek as Syntipas—is falsely accused of rape by a royal concubine. While the young man awaits execution, seven philosophers and the concubine attempt to influence Cyrus's judgment. After seven days of storytelling, the son is exonerated and demonstrates the wisdom he learned from Syntipas.

The sixty-two moral tales in *The Fables of Syntipas* are inspired mainly by the tradition of Aesop but include fifteen that are uniquely attributed to the philosopher.

This volume is the first English translation to bring together Andreopoulos's Byzantine Greek texts.

DOML 67 2021 320 PP. 9780674251472

Fortune and Misfortune at Saint Gall

Ekkehard IV

Translated by Emily Albu and Natalia Lozovsky

The eleventh-century monk Ekkehard IV's *Fortune and Misfortune at Saint Gall*, part of the chronicles of the famous Swiss abbey, is a treasure trove of medieval monastic life. Saint Gall's records span its humble beginnings in the early seventh century to the late Middle Ages, with Ekkehard's contribution covering the 880s to 972, near the end of the monastery's two-century-long golden age. Its unforgettable tales, sometimes at odds with the historical record, contain sharp flashes of Ekkehard's signature humor—when, for instance, a spying abbot from a neighboring monastery is caught hiding in the latrine. Ekkehard also shows how the abbey's role as a spiritual haven could be compromised by worldly ties, including close associations with the powerful Carolingian and Ottonian courts. He bears witness to the struggles of the tenth-century church reform movement, when Emperor Otto I dispatched investigators to uncover Saint Gall's deviations from the Rule of Saint Benedict.

This volume publishes the Latin text alongside its first complete English translation.

DOML 68 2021 544 PP. 9780674251465

The Old English and Anglo-Latin Riddle Tradition

Edited and translated by Andy Orchard

What offers over seven hundred witty enigmas in several languages? Answer: *The Old English and Anglo-Latin Riddle Tradition*. Riddles, wordplay, and inscrutable utterances have been at the heart of Western literature for many centuries. Often brief and always delightful, medieval riddles provide insights into the extraordinary and the everyday, connecting the learned and the ribald, the lay and the devout, and the familiar and the imported. Many solutions involve domestic life, including "butter churn" and "chickens." Others like "the harrowing of hell" or "the Pleiades" appeal to an educated elite. Still others, like "the one-eyed seller of garlic," are too absurd to solve: that is part of the game. Riddles are not simply lighthearted amusement. They invite philosophical questions about language and knowledge.

Most riddles in this volume are translated from Old English and Latin, but it also includes some from Old Norse–Icelandic. *The Old English and Anglo-Latin Riddle Tradition* assembles, for the first time ever, an astonishing array of riddles composed before 1200 CE that continue to entertain and puzzle.

DOML 69 2021 890 PP. 9780674055339

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