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Cover illustration:
Southern Germany, Nuremberg, The Altvater costume of 1492,
in Schernbart Buch (The Book of the Nuremberg Shrovetide Carnival).
Kerry Stokes Collection, Perth. Image courtesy of the Kerry Stokes Collection.
By Kathleen Giles Arthur

Women, Art and Observant Franciscan Piety

Caterina Vigri and the Poor Clares in Early Modern Ferrara

The Poor Clares convent of Corpus Domini was the first home of Saint Catherine of Bologna, but after her departure, the convent reinvented itself as a noblewomen’s retreat. In doing so, it transformed ideals of poverty, humility and women’s education. This book, grounded in archival research and close examination of artworks from the convent, explores the visual culture and social history of an early modern Franciscan women’s community. Its careful analysis yields new insights into the changing role of the community in the d’Este political and civic spheres.

Kathleen Giles Arthur is professor emerita of Italian Renaissance art history at James Madison University.
VISUAL AND MATERIAL CULTURE, 1300-1700
Visual and Material Culture, 1300-1700 publishes monographs and essay collections that combine rigorous investigation with critical inquiry to present new narratives on a wide range of topics, from traditional arts to seemingly ordinary things. Recognising the fluidity of images, objects, and ideas, this series fosters cross-cultural as well as multi-disciplinary exploration.

By Suzanne M. Scanlan

Divine and Demonic Imagery at Tor de’Specchi, 1400-1500

Religious Women and Art in 15th-century Rome

This book offers the first English-language examination of art commissioned by religious women in fifteenth-century Rome. Detailed photographs show readers the impressive array of paintings commissioned by oblates for their living quarters, Tor de’Specchi. The book focuses primarily on the sensual and corporeal, as earthly, divine, and demonic figures occur throughout the imagery. The book uses formal analysis, theories of vision and anthropological models to explore the disciplinary and educational purposes of the images, as well as their relationship to important papal projects at the Vatican.

Suzanne M. Scanlan is a lecturer of history of art and visual culture at the Rhode Island School of Design.

By Wayne Franits

Godefridus Schalcken

A Dutch Painter in Late Seventeenth-Century London

In his own day, Godefridus Schalcken (1643–1706) was an internationally renowned Dutch painter, but little is known about the four years that he spent in London. Using newly discovered documents, this book provides the first comprehensive examination of Schalcken’s activities there. The author analyses Schalcken's strategic appropriations of English styles, his attempts to exploit gaps in the art market, and his impact on tastes in London’s milieu. Five chapters survey his art during these years, concluding with a critical catalogue of all his London-period work.

Wayne Franits is distinguished professor of art history at Syracuse University.
Encyclopedia of Romantic Nationalism in Europe

This monumental encyclopedia documents the presence and effects of cultural consciousness-raising in the early decades of European nationalism. The volume tracks how intellectuals, historians, novelists, poets, painters, folklorists, and composers, in an intensely collaborative transnational network, articulated the national identities and aspirations that would go on to determine European history and politics with effects that are still felt today.

"This excellent Encyclopedia is an extraordinarily rich source of information on the cultural background of nation-formation. Its sophisticated and effective system of cross-references allows it to go beyond earlier English-language surveys in mapping all European nations comprehensively, regardless of size or power, in both East and West. It is equally even-handed in analysing "Romantic Nationalism", and the 19th-century national movements that were inspired by it, as motivated by an idealistic, Europe-wide cultivation effort for the improvement of national cultures (which I consider to form part of European values)."

— Professor Miroslav Hroch, Charles University, Prague

"Ambitious in its scope and as far as I can see, impeccable in its execution, the ERNiE is a major addition to earlier historical encyclopaedias. It will become indispensable to scholars in all the disciplines concerned with either nationalism or romanticism."

— Professor Peter Burke, University of Cambridge (Emmanuel College)

Joep Leerssen is one of the world’s leading authorities on the cultural history of nationalism. For his work he was given the Spinoza Award in 2008, the highest award in Dutch science.
LANGUAGES AND CULTURE IN HISTORY
This series studies the role foreign languages have played in the creation of the linguistic and cultural heritage of Europe, both western and eastern, and at the individual, community, national or transnational level.

Edited by Vladislav Rjéoutski and Willem Frijhoff

Language Choice in Enlightenment Europe

Education, Sociability, and Governance

This multinational collection of essays challenges the traditional image of a monolingual Ancient Regime in Enlightenment Europe, both East and West. Its archival research explores the important role played by selective language use in social life and in the educational provisions in the early constitution of modern society. A broad range of case studies show how language was viewed and used symbolically by social groups—ranging from the nobility to the peasantry—to develop, express, and mark their identities.

Vladislav Rjéoutski is a research fellow at the German Historical Institute. Willem Frijhoff is an emeritus professor of Cultural History at the Erasmus University Rotterdam.

By Chiara E. Scappini and David Boffa

The Fonte Gaia from Renaissance to Modern Times

A History of Construction, Preservation, and Reconstruction in Siena

This book details the history of the beautiful Fonte Gaia in Siena, Italy. Created in the fifteenth century, the fountain was eventually replaced by a copy in the nineteenth century—a copy which itself is now old enough to need preservation. This book looks at the Italian Renaissance through the fate of the fountain, showing how both the Risorgimento and Purism have shaped our perceptions of the period and its art.

Chiara E. Scappini is a freelance art history lecturer who works in Florence and Siena. David Boffa is an adjunct assistant professor at Beloit College.
Edited by Anne Dunlop

Antipodean Early Modern

*European Art in Australian Collections, c. 1200-1600*

A Rothschild prayer book; an Italian bronze casket by Antico; a lavishly illustrated Carnival chronicle from sixteenth-century Germany; an altarpiece by the famous Flemish painter Pieter Brueghel the Younger—much of the artwork in this book, held by Australian collections, is essentially unknown beyond the continent, and so this collection of essays will surprise even specialists. The authors showcase these extraordinary objects to their full potential, revealing a wide range of contemporary art and historical research.

“The innovation here is two-fold: bringing together a range of important manuscripts and artworks in Australian collections to an international audience to invite more scholarly attention and providing a wealth of current scholarly insights on these works. A timely, illuminating collection of essays, which combines readability and rigour for scholarly audiences as well as students.”

— Erin Griffey, University of Auckland

Anne Dunlop is Herald Chair of Fine Art at the University of Melbourne.

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Edited by Cornelis van der Haven and Jürgen Pieters

Lyric Address in Dutch Literature, (1250-1800)

In their accessible analysis, these preeminent translations of ten canonical Dutch poems discuss each poem’s historical context, revealing its political or ideological framing, religious elements, or the self-representational interests of the poet. The book focuses on how the use of the speaker’s “I” creates distance or proximity to the social context of the time. Close, detailed analysis of rhetorical techniques, such as the use of the apostrophe, illuminates the ways in which poetry reveals tensions in society.

“An interesting and revealing project. It not only takes up the question of lyric address as a central and often neglected topic in the study of lyric, but it also looks at a range of Dutch poems from some five centuries. For a foreigner it offers very impressive, very readable English translations of fascinating Dutch lyrics from the 13th-18th centuries.”

— Jonathan Culler, professor of English, Cornell University

Cornelis van der Haven is an assistant professor of early modern Dutch literature at Ghent University. Jürgen Pieters is professor in literary theory at Ghent University.

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LANDSCAPE AND HERITAGE STUDIES

Landscape and Heritage Studies (LHS) is about the history, heritage and transformation of the natural and cultural landscapes and built environment. The series aims at the promotion of new directions as well as the rediscovery and exploration of lost tracks in landscape and heritage research.

Edited by Linde Egberts and Maria D. Alvarez

Heritage and Tourism

Places, Imageries and the Digital Age

Heritage and tourism mutually reinforce each other, with the presentation of heritage at physical sites mirrored by the ways heritage is presented on the internet. This interdisciplinary book uses humanities and social sciences to analyse the ways that heritage is branded and commodified, how stakeholders organise place brands, and how digital strategies shape how visitors appreciate heritage sites. The book covers a wide geographic diversity, offering the reader the chance to find cross-cutting themes and area-specific features of the field.

Linde Egberts is a postdoctoral researcher of heritage studies at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

Maria D. Alvarez is professor of tourism marketing at Boğaziçi University.

HERITAGE AND MEMORY STUDIES

This groundbreaking series examines the dynamics of heritage and memory from transnational, interdisciplinary and integrated approaches.

Edited by Gemma Blok, Vincent Kuitenbrouwer, and Claire Weeda

Imagining Communities

Historical Reflections on the Process of Community Formation

In his groundbreaking Imagined Communities, first published in 1983, Benedict Anderson argued that members of a community experience a “deep, horizontal camaraderie.” Despite being strangers, members feel connected in a web of imagined experiences. Yet while Anderson’s insights have been hugely influential, they remain abstract: it is difficult to imagine imagined communities. How do they evolve and how is membership constructed cognitively, socially and culturally? How do individuals and communities contribute to group formation through the act of imagining? And what is the glue that holds communities together?

Imagining Communities examines actual processes of experiencing the imagined community, exploring its emotive force in a number of case studies. Communal bonding is analysed, offering concrete insights on where and by whom the nation (or social group) is imagined and the role of individuals therein. Offering eleven empirical case studies, ranging from the premodern to the modern age, this volume looks at and beyond the nation and includes regional as well as transnational communities as well.

Gemma Blok is assistant professor in modern Dutch history at the University of Amsterdam.

Vincent Kuitenbrouwer is lecturer at the History Department of the University of Amsterdam.

Claire Weeda works as an assistant professor at the History Department of Nijmegen University.
Edited by Lenka Panušková

The Velislav Bible, Finest Picture-Bible of the Late Middle Ages

Biblia depicta as Devotional, Mnemonic and Study Tool

The Velislav Bible, one of the most beautiful medieval Bohemian manuscripts, is a bible imageé in which pictorial narrative dominates the written word, blending, at the same time, common biblical texts with a local legend about the patron of medieval Bohemia, St. Wenceslas. Deliberating about the role of this Bible, the essays collected in this monograph approach its manuscript in an interdisciplinary manner. By combining historical and textual analyses with the surveys of the Bible’s art and iconography, this first modern edition of the Velislav Bible and its tituli shows that it was used as a didactic tool in clerics’ education.

Lenka Panušková is a PhD researcher at the Institute of Art History at the Czech Academy of Sciences.

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Edited by Andreas Hellerstedt

Virtue Ethics and Education from Late Antiquity to the Eighteenth Century

This book argues that premodern societies were characterised by the quest for “virtue.” The concept of virtue, complicated and much fought-over, permeated society, encouraging wisdom, courage, and justice, while simultaneously legitimising social hierarchies based on sex and nationality. By examining pedagogical texts, rituals, performances, and images, this book illuminates the evolution of virtue through time, helping readers understand the guiding principles of historical action.

Andreas Hellerstedt is a research coordinator based at the Department of History at the University of Stockholm.
THE EARLY MEDIEVAL NORTH ATLANTIC
This series provides a publishing platform for research on the history, cultures, and societies that laced the North Sea from the Migration Period at the twilight of the Roman Empire to the eleventh century.

By Val Dufeu

Fish Trade in Medieval North Atlantic Societies
An Interdisciplinary Approach to Human Ecodynamics

Val Dufeu here reconstructs settlement patterns of fishing communities in Viking Age Iceland and proposes socio-economic and environmental models relevant to any study of the Vikings or the North Atlantic. She integrates written sources, geoarchaeological data, and zooarchaeological data to examine how fishing propelled political change in the North Atlantic. The evolution of survival fishing to internal fish markets to overseas fish trade mirrors wider social changes in the Vikings’ world.

Val Dufeu, doctor of medieval and environmental history, is a consultant in geoarchaeology, study of soils, and historical research.

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The essential aim of this series is to present high quality, original, and international scholarship, covering all aspects of the Medieval Church and its relationship with the secular world in an accessible form.

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Pope Eugenius III (1145-1153)
The First Cistercian Pope

Elected pope in the wake of a rebellion, Eugenius III came to power as a relative unknown during a time of crisis. This book examines the controversial developments in papal justice and theological debate during his pontificate, his treatment of Cistercian monasteries, his relationships with France, Spain, and Rome, his work in the papal states, and the crusades. It offers a new view of an under-appreciated pope and the place of the church in a rapidly changing European society.

Iben Fonnesberg-Schmidt is professor (mso) of medieval history at Aalborg University.
Andrew Jotischky is professor of medieval history at Royal Holloway University of London.

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Is time gendered? This international, interdisciplinary anthology studies the early modern era to analyse how material objects express, shape, complicate, and extend human concepts of time and how people commemorate time differently. It examines conceptual aspects of time, such as the categories women and men use to define it, and the somatic, lived experiences of time ranging between an instant and the course of family life. Drawing on a wide array of textual and material primary sources, this book assesses the ways that gender and other categories of difference affect understandings of time.

By Barbara J. Harris

English Aristocratic Women’s Religious Patronage, 1450-1550

The Fabric of Piety

The role played by women in the evolution of religious art and architecture has been largely neglected. This study of upper-class women in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries corrects that oversight, uncovering the active role they undertook in choosing designs, materials, and locations for monuments, commissioning repairs and additions to many parish churches, chantry chapels, and almshouses characteristic of the English countryside. Their preferred art, Barbara J. Harris shows, reveals their responses to the religious revolution and signifies their preferred identities.
By Larisa Vilimonović

Structure and Features of Anna Komnene’s Alexiad

Emergence of a Personal History

The Alexiad, written in the twelfth century by a Byzantine princess, Anna Komnene, tells the story of the Byzantine Empire during the reign of her father, offering accounts of its political and military history, including its involvement with the First Crusade. This book introduces new methods of research for studying the Alexiad, aiming primarily at analysing Anna Komnene’s literary expression. The book’s approach focuses mainly on the author, the subject, the structure and the inner stylistic features, as well as the genre itself. The result is a substantially new outlook on the main Byzantine historiographical work of the twelfth century.

Larisa Vilimonović is an assistant professor of philosophy at the University of Belgrade.

By Diane J. Reilly

The Cistercian Reform and the Art of the Book in Twelfth-Century France

Communal singing and reading of Latin texts formed the core of Christian ritual and occupied hours of the Benedictine monk’s day. These monks also illustrated the texts, and the full meaning of these images is often only revealed when analysed in concert with the oral and written word that originally accompanied them. The earliest manuscripts of the Citeaux, copied and illustrated during a period of intense reform at the monastery, demonstrate the interdependence between art, liturgy, and reform.

Diane J. Reilly is an associate professor of art history at Indiana University.
In medieval France, the collaboration between local communities and greater authorities grants us unusual insight into the period’s concept of madness. The mentally ill posed a unique challenge to the law, and, by examining how subjects and officials worked together to define and contain mad individuals, this book analyses the development of that law and the interaction between local and regional communities. The author argues that this struggle often strengthened communities and proto-national identities.

Aleksandra Pfau is an associate professor of history at Hendrix College.

Since prehistoric times, the Baltic Sea has acted as a crucial nexus that has shaped the languages, folklore, religions, literature, technology, and identities of the Germanic, Finnic, Sámi, Baltic, and Slavic peoples. This anthology first provides an in-depth introduction to the networks among those peoples. The contributors analyse conceptions of geography, followed by explorations of intercultural transfers, such as the slave trade and rune carving techniques. Finally, they turn their attention to mythology and ceremonialism.

Maths Bertell is a lecturer in religious studies at Mid-Sweden University. Frog is docent in folklore at the University of Helsinki. Kendra Willson is a senior researcher with the Turku Institute for Advanced studies.
By Daniel Wollenberg

Medieval Imagery in Today’s Politics

Though the “medieval” is often deployed as a stigmatic symbol of all that is retrograde, against modernity, and barbaric, the medieval is increasingly being sought as a bedrock of tradition, heritage, and identity, especially by writers and politicians on the far right. Both characterisations – the medieval as violent other and the medieval as vital foundation – are mined and studied in this book.

Daniel Wollenberg examines contemporary political uses of the Middle Ages to ask why the medieval continues to play such a prominent role in the political and historical imagination today.

"Medieval Imagery in Today’s Politics does a very good job of introducing the reader, in an accessible way, to the (often troubling) deployment of medievalism in modern political discourse."
— Matthew Gabriele, Virginia Tech

Daniel Wollenberg is an assistant professor of English at the University of Tampa, specialising in medieval literature and culture.

By Geoffrey Koziol

The Peace of God

The Peace of God was one of the most important movements of the Middle Ages, yet is highly contested. It has been seen as both radically innovative and fundamentally traditional; as millenarian and not millenarian; as a popular movement and as a way of consolidating power for the elites. Geoffrey Koziol argues for the validity of all these differing viewpoints, because specific instantiations of the Peace of God varied greatly, and there were inherent contradictions in early ideas of peace and peace-making.

Geoffrey Koziol is professor of History at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of The Politics of Memory and Identity in Carolingian Royal Diplomas (2012) and other works on politics and ritual in late Carolingian and Capetian France.

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This series presents concise critical overviews of the latest research by the world’s leading scholars. Engaging and accessible, these distinctive paperbacks explore links to the socio-political issues and debates that shape our modern, global world and prove that the premodern era still retains a powerful resonance and impact today.

MEDIEVAL IMAGERY IN TODAY’S POLITICS
Daniel Wollenberg

THE PEACE OF GOD
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By Ian Wood

The Transformation of the Roman West

The Church was at the heart of the political and social, as well as the religious changes that took place in the Roman West from the fourth to seventh centuries. In this concise and effective synthesis, Ian Wood considers some ways in which religion and the Church can be reintegrated into what has become a largely secular discourse, and he contends that the institutionalisation of the Church on a huge scale was a key factor in the transformation from an incipiently Christian Roman Empire to a world of thoroughly Christianised kingdoms.

"Nobody writes with more assurance, clarity, and precision on the history and historiography of the late Roman Empire and early Christian West than Ian Wood. This may prove to be the most original and influential short book in that line of work since Montesquieu's of 1734."
— Mark Vessey, University of British Columbia

Ian Wood, emeritus professor (Leeds), has authored over 200 articles on the post-Roman West and the recent monograph: The Modern Origins of the Early Middle Ages.

Edited by Alison Gulley

Teaching Rape in the Medieval Literature Classroom

Approaches to Difficult Texts

Teachers of medieval literature help students bridge the temporal, contextual, and linguistic gulf between the Middle Ages and the twenty-first century. When episodes involving rape are thrown into the mix, that task becomes even more difficult. The essays in this volume approach these difficult texts in ways that are both academically and ethically sound, recognising that students and teachers bring a variety of experiences to the classroom that necessarily colour the reception of a given work.

"This collection will contribute significantly to how we approach sensitive materials in the classroom. Gulley has assembled a dynamic mix of scholars and institutions - universities, colleges (including a military school), and community colleges - that broaden the academic audience and offer instructors of medieval literature a view of what it is like to teach to differing constituencies under differing circumstances. On testing it in the classroom, I found students were more aware of sexual assault and the challenges of interpersonal relationships and responded to scenes of violation in ways I've not seen in prior years of teaching."
— Eve Salisbury, Western Michigan University

Alison Gulley is associate professor of English at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. She is the author of The Displacement of the Body in Ælfric's Virgin Martyr Lives.
By Jaap van Ginneken

Kurt Baschwitz

A Pioneer of Communication Studies and Social Psychology

In this accessible, unique study of a forgotten but noteworthy figure, the author tells the story of the life of Kurt Baschwitz (1886-1968), a scholar who fled from the Nazis. He wrote six books, never translated into English, on four related themes: the press, propaganda, politics, and persecution. Baschwitz independently developed concepts that are now seen as key to communication science and social psychology, and the author places Baschwitz’s ideas in the wider context of his dramatic life and times.

"This book presents the extraordinary life and scientific works of the brilliant European scientist Kurt Baschwitz, a founding father of the study of mass psychology, collective behavior sociology and media studies in Europe. This book will eventually help to rediscover the originality of the great contributions of this pioneering scholar."

— Willem Koops, Utrecht University

Jaap van Ginneken has a PhD in the history of political and mass psychology.

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Edited by Klaas Smelik, Gerrit Van Oord, and Jurjen Wiersma

Reading Etty Hillesum in Context

Writings, Life, and Influences of a Visionary Author

The diaries and letters of Etty Hillesum (1914–1943) have a special place among the Jewish-Dutch testimonies of the Shoah, so much so that Etty Hillesum studies has become its own field. This book offers the most important contributions from the past fifteen years of international research into Hillesum’s work and life, studying her ethical, philosophical, spiritual, and literary existential search.

Klaas Smelik is director of the Etty Hillesum Research Centre at Middelburg. Garrit van Oord works as a translator Dutch-Italian/Italian-Dutch in the field of the humanities and is the coordinator for the EHOC in Italy. Jurjen Wiersma is professor emeritus of Ethics, Hermeneutics, and Philosophy at the Protestant Theological Faculty in Brussels.

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By Jeannette Kamp, Sebas Rümke, Matthias van Rossum, and Susan Legène

Writing History!

A Companion for Historians

Historians not only have knowledge of history, but by writing about it and engaging with other historians from the past and present, they make history themselves. This companion offers young historians clear guidelines for the different phases of historical research: how do you get a good historical question? How do you engage with the literature? How do you work with sources from the past, from archives to imagery and objects, art, or landscapes? What is the influence of digitalisation of the historical craft? Broad in scope, Writing History! also addresses historians’ traditional support of policy makers and their activity in fields of public history, such as museums, the media, and the leisure sector, and offers support for developing the necessary skills for this wide range of professions.

Jeanette Kamp is a PhD student at Leiden University. Sebas Rümke graduated with a research master in global history. Matthias van Rossum is a senior researcher at the International Institute for Social History. Susan Legène is professor of political history at the VU.

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By Babette Hellemans

Understanding Culture

A Handbook for Students in the Humanities

This textbook provides an innovative introduction to the study of culture from an international perspective. It examines culture as a dynamic term with meanings that change through time, offering the first long-term analysis of the relationship between culture and nature. It discusses various theories of culture present in the disciplines of history, literature, art, and popular culture. Due to this breadth and coherence, the book can be flexibly and relevantly applied across many topics and could be used in a wide range of courses.

“"This much-needed and very welcome textbook excels at the challenging task of conveying the intricacies of theory in a crisp and accessible manner to the reader. Abundant in illuminating examples, it is a guide to culture in the best sense of the world: it provides a lasting inspiration for reflection (well after it has been read).”
— Monika Baár, Professor in Cultural History and the History of Political Thought at the University of Leiden, the Netherlands

Babette Hellemans teaches cultural history and medieval history at the University of Groningen.

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Our current understanding of our world is nearly 350 years old. It stems from the ideas of Descartes and Newton and has brought us many great things, including modern science and increases in wealth, health and everyday living standards. Furthermore, it is so ingrained in our daily lives that we have forgotten it is a paradigm, not a fact. There are, however, some problems with it. First, there is no satisfactory explanation for why we have consciousness and experience meaning in our lives. Second, modern-day physics tells us that observations depend on characteristics of the observer at the large, cosmic, and small, subatomic scales. Third, ongoing humanitarian and environmental crises show us that our world is vastly interconnected. Our understanding of reality is expanding to incorporate these issues. In *The Universe, Life and Everything... Dialogues on our Changing Understanding of Reality*, some of the scholars at the forefront of this change, from the fields of physics, psychology, and social sciences, discuss the direction it is taking and its urgency.

Sarah Durston is professor of development disorders of the brain at the University Medical Center Utrecht, and was at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in 2016-17. **Ton Baggerman** is an economic psychologist and psychotherapist in Tilburg.
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One of the best methodological treatments in contemporary social science lives, to take their actions and experiences seriously, and to build on these by ordinary means. It strives to blend in, to respect people in their daily lives. Geoffrey Koziol has studied educational expansion, schools, the life-worlds of young people, and Africa. He teaches anthropology at Radboud University Nijmegen. It is written for undergraduate and graduate students in social science; for practitioners in social work, healthcare, policy advice, and organizational consultancy; and for all who have a genuine interest in society and its histories. The Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London. Her research focuses on the historical and cultural context in which artistic expertise crossed the peninsula, showing the endurance of the north-south axis and the strength of networks and pragmatic alliances. Rose Walker (PhD, University of London, 1995) is an Associate Scholar at the University of Amsterdam and a curator of early medieval art. Starting with the Romans and working through the early medieval period, she draws together scholarly work hitherto confined within disciplinary boundaries, specialist thematics, and the diversity of the early medieval period. She is the author of The Universe, Life and Everything: A companion for the Diderot reader, and a study of Early Modern historiography. She is an economic psychologist and psychotherapist who has worked on dialogues on our changing understanding of reality, mental illness, and small, subatomic scales. Third, the ongoing humanitarian crisis has brought us many great things, including modern science and understanding of the universe. It stems from the ideas of Descartes and Newton and has made us realize that we are not alone.