

CLAIRE FANGER
Associate Professor, Department of Religion
Rice University

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2016-present Associate Professor, Rice University Dep't of Religion,
2009-2016 Assistant Professor, Rice University Dep't of Religion,

EDUCATION

1994 University of Toronto, PhD, Medieval Studies
1983 Boston University, MA, Creative Writing
1979 Reed College, BA, English

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS AUTHORED AND EDITED

- 2015 *Rewriting Magic: An Exegesis of the Visionary Autobiography of a Fourteenth-Century French Monk*. University Park: Penn State University Press.
- 2015 (with Nicholas Watson) *John of Morigny's Flowers of Heavenly Teaching: An Edition and Commentary*. Toronto: Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies Press.
- 2012 (Editor) *Invoking Angels: Theurgic Ideas and Practices, Thirteenth to Sixteenth Century* University Park, PA: Penn State University Press.
- 2010 (Editor, with Arthur Versluis, Lee Irwin, Melinda Weinstein Phillips). *Esotericism, Religion and Nature*. E. Lansing: Michigan State University Press.
- 1998 (Editor) *Conjuring Spirits: Texts and Traditions of Medieval Ritual Magic*. University Park, PA: Penn State University Press.
- 1991 (with Siân Echard) *The Latin Verses in the Confessio Amantis: An Annotated Translation*. East Lansing, Michigan: Colleagues Press. John Hurt Fisher Prize for Gower Studies.

ARTICLES, BOOK CHAPTERS, AND INTRODUCTIONS

- 2016 "Esotericism Historicized: Historical Figures and Movements," in April D. DeConick, ed., *Secret Religion*. Farmington Hills, MI: Macmillan Reference USA, 2016. 183-197.
- 2013 "God's Occulted Body: On the Hiddenness of Christ in Alan of Lille's Anticlaudianus" in April D. DeConick and Grant Adamson (eds.). *Histories of the Hidden God: Concealment and Revelation in Western Gnostic, Esoteric, and Mystical Traditions*. Gnostica. Durham: Acumen Publishing. 101-119.
- 2013 "Magic." In *The Oxford Guide to the Historical Reception of Augustine*. Karla Pollman, Willemien Otten, et al., eds. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013. 860-865.
- 2013 "Christian Ritual Magic in the Middle Ages." *History Compass* 11.8 (2013): 610-618.
- 2013 "Necromancy, Theurgy and Intermediary Beings." In *Oxford Bibliographies in Medieval Studies*. Ed. Paul Szarmach. New York: Oxford University Press, 9/30/2013.
<<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780195396584/obo-9780195396584-0006.xml?rskey=Wefeiw&result=2&q=necromancy#firstMatch>>
- 2012 "*Libri Nigromantici*: The Good, the Bad, and the Ambiguous in John of Morigny's *Flowers of Heavenly Teaching*." *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft* 7.2: 164-189
- 2012 "Theurgy, Magic and Mysticism: Orientations and Definitions." Introduction to *Invoking Angels* (above), 1-33.
- 2012 "Covenant and the Divine Name: Revisiting the *Liber Iuratus* and John of Morigny's *Liber florum doctrine celestis*." Chapter 5 in *Invoking Angels* (above), 192-216.
- 2010 "Sacred and Secular Knowledge Systems in the *Ars Notoria* and the *Flowers of Heavenly Teaching* of John of Morigny." In Andreas B. Kilcher, Philipp Theisohn, eds., *Die Enzyklopädie der Esoterik: Allwissenheitsmythen und universalwissenschaftliche Modelle in der Esoterik der Neuzeit*. Paderborn: Wilhelm Fink Verlag. 157-176.
- 2008 "Complications of Eros: The Song of Songs in John of Morigny's *Liber Florum Celestis Doctrine*," in W. J. Hanegraaff and J. J. Kripal, *Hidden Intercourse: Eros and Sexuality in the History of Western Esotericism*. Leiden & Boston: Brill. 153-174.
- 2008 "Mirror, Mask and Anti-self: Narcissism and Literary Creation in Dion Fortune and W.B. Yeats," in Arthur Versluis, et al., eds. *Esotericism, Art and the Imagination*. E. Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 161-82.
- 2005 "Virgin Territory: Purity and Divine Knowledge in Late Medieval Catoptronic Texts," *Aries*, 5:2: 200-224.

- 2005 "Albertus Magnus" in Wouter J. Hanegraaff, et al., eds. *Dictionary of Gnosis and Western Esotericism*, Vol. I. Leiden: Brill, 9-12
- 2005 "Bacon, Roger" in *ibid*, 156-58.
- 2005 "Fortune, Dion" in *ibid*, 377-79.
- 2005 "Intermediary Beings II: Middle Ages" in *ibid*, Vol. II, 619-23.
- 2005 "Magic III: Middle Ages, A. History" in *ibid*, Vol. II, 724-28.
- 2005 "Secrecy II: Middle Ages" in *ibid*, Vol. II, 1054-1056.
- 2003 "'In a Twelfth-Century Hand, in Latin, with Abbreviations': The Independent Scholar as a Mirror for the University," *Florilegium* 20: 3-10.
- 2001 With Nicholas Watson. "The Prologue to John of Morigny's *Liber Visionum*: Text and Translation". *Esoterica* 3: 109-217 < <http://www.esoteric.msu.edu>>.
- 1999 "'Things Done Wisely by a Wise Enchanter': Negotiating the Power of Words in the Thirteenth Century." *Esoterica*, 1: 97-132. < <http://www.esoteric.msu.edu>>
- 1998 "Medieval Ritual Magic: What It Is and Why We Need to Know More about It," Introduction to *Conjuring Spirits* (1998, above), vii-xx.
- 1998 "Plundering the Egyptian Treasure: John the Monk's *Book of Visions* and its Relation to the *Ars Notoria* of Solomon." In *Conjuring Spirits* (1998, above), 216-49.
- 1998 "The Formative Feminine and the Immobility of God: Gender and Cosmogony in Bernard Silvestris' *Cosmographia*." In A. Taylor & D. Townsend, eds., *The Tongue of the Fathers: Gender and Ideology in Twelfth-Century Latin*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 80-101.
- 1998 "Magic and the Metaphysics of Gender in Gower's Tale of Circe and Ulysses." In R.F. Yeager, ed. *Re-Visioning Gower*. Asheville, North Carolina: Pegasus Press: 203-220.

NOTES AND INTERVIEWS

- 2014 Interview, ESSWE Newsletter (The Newsletter of the European Society for the Study of Western Esotericism) 5.2 (Autumn 2014) 5-7.
- 2004 With Nicholas Watson. "Some Further Manuscripts containing Copies of the *Liber Visionum* of John of Morigny." *Societas Magica Newsletter* 12: 4-5.
- 2002 With Benedek Láng. "John of Morigny's *Liber visionum* and a Royal Prayer Book from Poland," *Societas Magica Newsletter*, 9: 1-4.

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2012 Review, Stuart McWilliams *Magical Thinking: History, Possibility and the Idea of the Occult* in *British Journal for the History of Science* 45 (2012): 681 – 682.
- 2011 Review, Nadya Q Chishty-Mujahid *An Introduction to Western Esotericism: Essays in the Hidden Meaning of Literature, Groups, and Games* in *Aries* 11.1: 115-118.
- 2011 Review, W. Sax, J. Quack and J. Weinhold, eds. *The Problem of Ritual Efficacy in Magic, Ritual and Witchcraft* 6.2: 235-242.
- 2008 Review, J.-P. Boudet, *Entre Science et Nigromance* in *Aries* 8.2: 229-231
- 2006 Review, J. Bremmer and J. Veenstra, eds., *The Metamorphosis of Magic* in *Aries* 6.2: 218-224
- 2005 Review, Barbara Newman, *God and the Goddesses* in *Esoterica* VII, 80-81.
- 2003 Review, Walter Stephens, *Demon Lovers: Witchcraft, Sex and the Crisis of Belief*, in *Comparative Literature* 55. 4: 355-358
- 2003 Review, Armando Maggi, *Satan's Rhetoric: A Study of Renaissance Demonology* in *Aries* 3.2: 246-251
- 2003 Review, David Rollo, *Glamorous Sorcery* in *Journal of English & Germanic Philology* 102.1: 138-142.
- 2002 Review, Deborah Harkness, *John Dee's Conversations with Angels*, in *Esoterica* IV: 104-106.
- 2002 Review, Jane Chance, *Medieval Mythography Volume II: From the School of Chartres to the Court at Avignon, 1177-1350*, in *Arthuriana* 12.3:122-123.
- 2001 Review, A. Faivre and W.J. Hanegraaff, eds., *Western Esotericism and the Science of Religion* in *Esoterica* III: 277-287
- 2000 Review, Ted Anton, *Eros, Magic and the Murder of Professor Culianu*, in *Esoterica* II: 107-113.
- 1997 Review, James Simpson, *Sciences and the Self in Medieval Poetry: Alan of Lille's Anticlaudianus and John Gower's Confessio amantis*, in *Review of English Studies* 48: 384-386
- 1992 Bella Millett and Jocelyn Wogan-Brown, eds., *Medieval English Prose for Women*, in *English Studies* 73:549-550.

RESEARCH AND TRAVEL GRANTS

- 2017 American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship. \$42,000, for book project, "Prophecy in Practice: The Everyday Life of Divine Knowledge in the Twelfth Century"
- 2008 Conference Grant, written with D. Porreca, \$17,250 CAD, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, for Magic: Frontiers and Boundaries conference at University of Waterloo.
- 2003 Franklin Research Grant, \$5,000 USD, American Philosophical Society for travel to consult manuscripts of John of Morigny's work in Europe.
- 1998-2001 Research Grant, with N. Watson and J Jenkins. \$69,000 CAD, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, for edition of Liber florum, including my manuscript consultations.

TEACHING

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION, RICE UNIVERSITY

2009-Present:

FWIS 150 The World of Medieval Medicine

RELI/FSEM 100 Romancing Religion: Narratives of the Grail

RELI 105/MDEM 105 Introduction to Medieval Christian Thought

FWIS 150 World of Medieval Medicine

FSEM/RELI/MDEM 171 The Body and the Cosmos in the Middle Ages

RELI 271/MDEM 271 Medieval Popular Christianity

RELI/MDEM 305/ RELI 566 Pain, Ecstasy and Embodiment in Religious Experience

RELI/MDEM/SWGS 314 Divine Sex: Gender and Divinity in the Middle Ages

RELI 317/ 541 Creating Magic: Key Writings on Magic and Religion

RELI 367/RELI 557 Representing the Devil in Christian Theology and Art

RELI 386/MDST 386 Medieval and Renaissance Magic and Magicians

RELI 555/ANTH 550 Historical Anthropologies of Religion (with J. D. Faubion, Anthropology)

RELI 387/587 Western Esotericism: Method and Theory

RELI/MDEM 444and RELI 644 Visions and Visionary Practices: Medieval to Modern

RELI 611 Readings in Medieval Latin

INVITED LECTURES AND SYMPOSIA

- 2017 “Divine Dreamwork: Cultivation of Visions by a Fourteenth-century French Monk.”
Lecture in the series Cultures, Minds and Medicines, organized by Tanya Luhrmann
and held at Stanford University, Palo Alto, California. March.
- 2014 Scripted Forms of Magic Knowledge: Grimoires in the Matrix of Western Cultures.
Symposium at the Institute for Advanced Study, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
Paper: “Solicited Dreams, Monastic Prayer, and the Gift of Prophecy.”
- 2011 Harvard Medieval Seminar. Joint lecture with Nicholas Watson. Paper: “Angel Magic
in the Medieval University: John of Morigny Rewrites the *Ars Notoria*.”
- 2007 Secret States: Altered States of Consciousness and Western Esotericism. Fourth
Symposium on Esotericism at the Esalen Institute, organized by J.J. Kripal and W.J.
Hanegraaff and sponsored by the Esalen Institute. Paper: “Prayers, Figures and
Visualizations: Medieval Ritual Practices for Inducing Visions.”
- 2006 Die Enzyklopädik der Esoterik. Allwissenheitsmythen und
universalwissenschaftliche Modelle in der Esoterik der Neuzeit. Symposium at
Wolfenbüttel, Germany, organized by Andreas Kilcher, University of Tübingen.
Paper: Sacred and Secular Knowledge Systems in the *Ars notoria* and the *Flowers of
Heavenly Teaching*.
- 2006 Hidden Truths/Novel Truths: Myth and the Work of Fiction in Western Esotericism.
Third Symposium on Esotericism at the Esalen Institute, organized by J.J. Kripal and
W.J. Hanegraaff and sponsored by the Esalen Institute. Paper: “Mirror Magic:
Therapeutic Narcissism and the Magical Body in Dion Fortune’s Lilith LeFay Novels”
- 2005 Hidden Intercourse: Eros and Sexuality in Western Esotericism. Second Symposium
on Esotericism at the Esalen Institute, organized by J.J. Kripal and W.J. Hanegraaff
and sponsored by this Esalen Institute. Paper: “Eros and Magic in the Middle Ages.”
- 2004 The Varieties of Esoteric Experience: The Experiential Dimension of Western
Esotericism. First Symposium on Esotericism at the Esalen Institute, organized by J.
J. Kripal and W. J. Hanegraaff and sponsored by the Esalen Institute. Paper:
“*Experientia* and *Experimentum*: Historical Dimensions of a Semantic Field.”
- 2001 Harvard English Department Colloquium, Cambridge, Mass. Paper: “The Knowledge
of the Cherubim: Philosophy and Theurgy in the *Liber Visionum*”

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS SINCE 2010

- 2017 "John of Morigny and his Circle." Paper presented at the International Congress on Medieval Studies, annual medieval conference at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan. May.
- 2016 "Inscriptions and Impressions on the Heart: The Heart as Talisman in the Later Middle Ages." Paper presented at ASE (Association for the Study of Esotericism) biannual conference held at UC Davis. June.
- 2016 "Lived magic and the uses of anti-magical rhetoric: John of Morigny and Milarepa." Paper presented at the International Congress on Medieval Studies, annual medieval conference at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan. May.
- 2016 "The Magician at Home with His Family: A Cross Cultural Look at the Use and Rejection of Magic by Two Medieval Religious Men." Paper presented at 2016 symposium: Magic and the Magician in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Time organized by Allbrecht Claassen and held at the University of Arizona, Tucson. April.
- 2016 "Transmission of the *Flowers of Heavenly Teaching*: copying, personalization, and ritual performance." Paper presented at the 2016 annual Marco Manuscript Workshop, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee. February.
- 2015 "The Matter of Prophecy." Paper presented at the International Congress on Medieval Studies, annual medieval conference at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan. May.
- 2014 "Prophecy and the Practice of Poetry in Alan of Lille's *Anticlaudianus*." Paper presented in the session Western Esotericism and Imaginative Literature at the AAR (American Academy of Religion) Annual Meeting in San Diego. November.
- 2014 "The Contemplative Life and the Gift of Prophecy." Paper presented at ASE (Association for the Study of Esotericism) biannual conference held at Colgate University Hamilton, NY. June.
- 2014 "Knowing and not Knowing Hebrew: Implications of Hebrew Letters in some Late Medieval Christian Manuscripts." Paper presented at the International Congress on Medieval Studies, annual medieval conference at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan. May.
- 2013 "Care of God as Care of the Self: Theurgy and Theology in John of Morigny's Penitential Visions." Paper presented in the session Western Esotericism and Technologies of the Self at the AAR in Baltimore. November.
- 2012 "Visions from Beyond the Alphabet." Paper presented at Crafting Knowledge, the Rockwell Religious Studies Symposium, Rice University, Houston, Texas. April.

- 2011 “John of Morigny: Figures and Letter Meditations.” Paper presented at the biannual meeting of the European Society for the Study of Western Esotericism (ESSWE), Szeged, Hungary. June.
- 2010 “Gods Occulted Body: The Hidden God and the *Humanum* in the Cosmological Fables of Bernard Silvestris and Alan of Lille” Hidden God/Hidden Histories Symposium at Rice University, Houston, Texas. April.
- 2010 “Mysterious Symbols in the *Liber florum* Old Compilation, Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS liturg. 160” Annual Congress on Medieval studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan. May.

EDITORIAL AND SELECTION BOARDS

General Editor, Book Series (with Richard Kieckhefer), *Magic in History and Magic in History Sourcebooks*, Penn State University Press.

General Editor, Journal, *Magic, Ritual & Witchcraft*, University of Pennsylvania Press.

Editorial Board, *Gnosis: Journal of Gnostic Studies*, Brill.

Co-chair, Western Esotericism Group at the American Academy of Religion.

MEMBERSHIPS IN LEARNED AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Academy of Religion, Medieval Academy of America, Association for the Study of Esotericism (ASE), European Society for the Study of Western Esotericism (ESSWE), Founding member Fourteenth Century Society and Societas Magica.