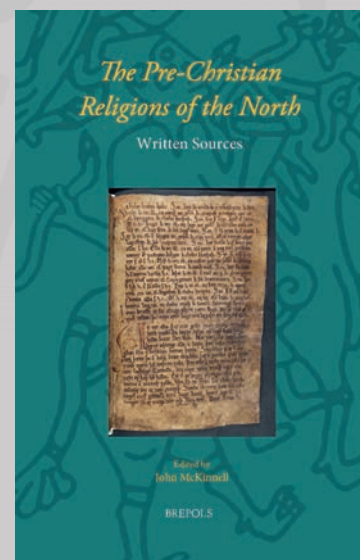
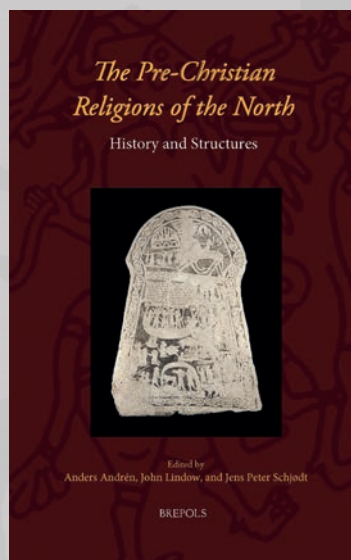
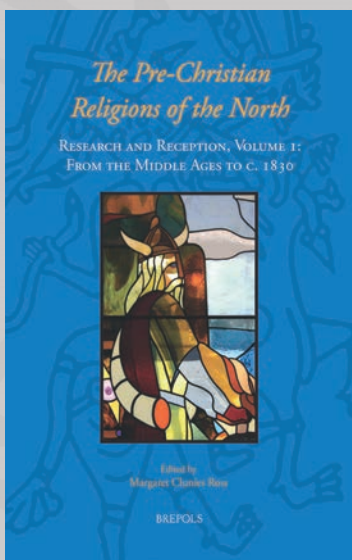


The Pre-Christian Religions of the North



The Pre-Christian Religions of the North

General Editors

John McKinnell, Margaret Clunies Ross, John Lindow

This series of volumes on the subject of the pre-Christian religions of Scandinavia (broadly considered) offers a new assessment of the religion and mythology of early Scandinavia, based on the most up-to-date research in literature, art, archaeology, and the history of religions.

A collaborative effort involving the input of more than thirty leading scholars around the world, the *Pre-Christian Religions of the North* project provides a thoroughly researched and accessible series of studies, handbooks, and resources for researchers, teachers, and students of

the medieval North. These volumes will become a major reference resource and handbook on a subject that still excites much public interest and on which a great deal of research has been undertaken over the last century.

Published in 3 strands

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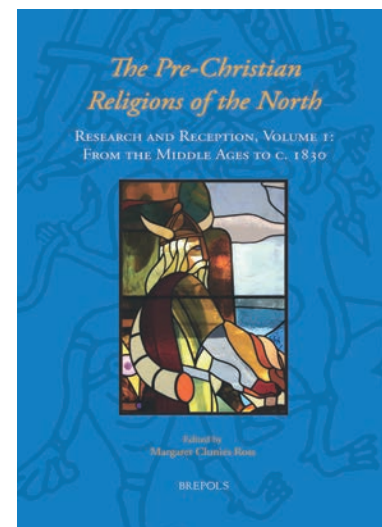
RESEARCH AND RECEPTION

Over more than a thousand years since pre-Christian religions were actively practised, European – and later contemporary – society has developed a fascination with the beliefs of northern Europe before the arrival of Christianity, which have been the subject of a huge range of popular and scholarly theories, interpretations, and uses. Indeed, the pre-Christian religions of the North have exerted a phenomenal influence on modern culture, appearing in everything from the names of days of the week to Hollywood blockbusters. Scholarly treatments have been hardly less varied. Theories – from the Middle Ages until today – have depicted these pre-Christian religious systems as dangerous illusions, the works of Satan, representatives of a lost proto-Indo-European religious culture, a form of 'natural' religion, and even as a system non-indigenous in origin, derived from cultures outside Europe.

The *Research and Reception* strand of the *Pre-Christian Religions of the North* project establishes a definitive survey of the current and historical uses and interpretations of pre-Christian mythology and religious culture, tracing the many ways in which people both within and outside Scandinavia have understood and been influenced by these religions, from the Christian Middle Ages to contemporary media of all kinds. Volume (I) traces the reception down to the early nineteenth century, while Volume II takes up the story from c.1830 down to the present day and the burgeoning of interest across a diversity of new as well as old media.



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The Pre-Christian Religions of the North RESEARCH AND RECEPTION Volume I: From the Middle Ages to c. 1830

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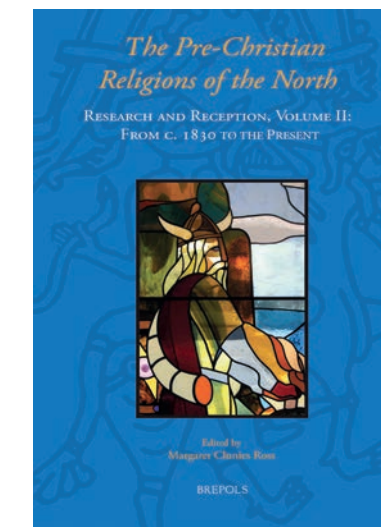
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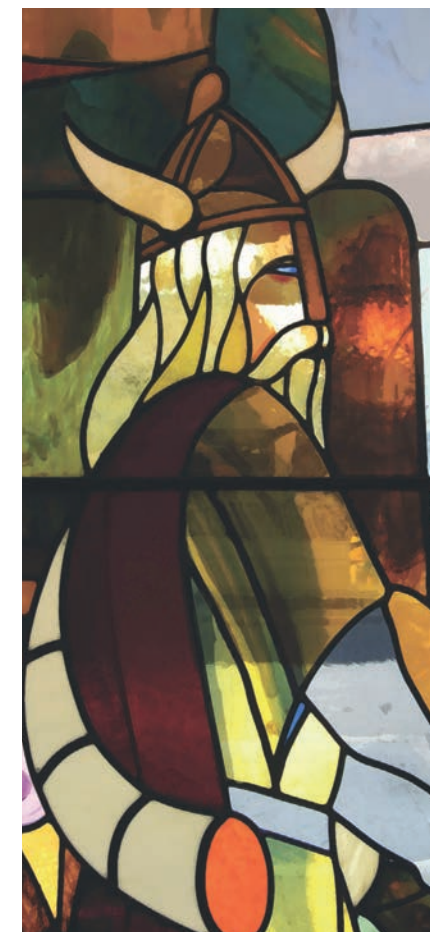
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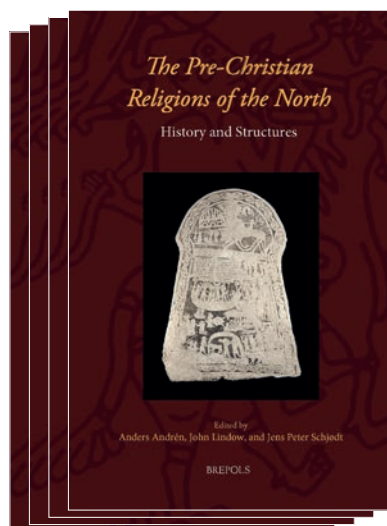
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The Pre-Christian Religions of the North

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The product of an international interdisciplinary team, the *History and Structures* strand of the *Pre-Christian Religion of the North* series aims to approach the subject by giving equal weight to archaeological and textual sources, taking into consideration recent theories on religion within all the disciplines that are needed in order to gain a comprehensive view of the religious history and world view of pre-Christian Scandinavia from the perspective of the beginning of the twenty-first century.

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Volume III explores conceptual frameworks: the cosmos and collective supernatural beings (notions regarding the cosmos and regarding such collective supernatural beings as the norms, valkyries, giants, and dwarfs) and also gods and goddesses (including Þórr, Óðinn, Freyr, Freyja, and many others).

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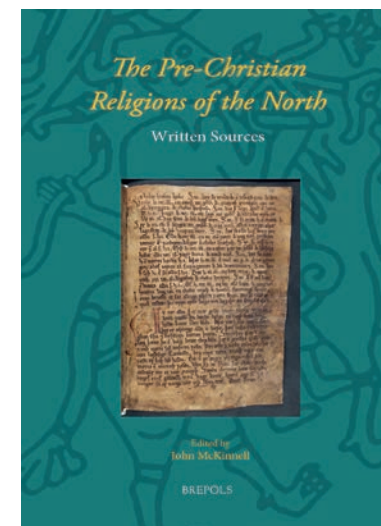
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