

BOOK SERIES
European Festival Studies: 1450-1700
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European Festival Studies: 1450-1700

Margaret M. McGowan

Festival and Violence

Princely Entries in the Context of War,
1480-1635



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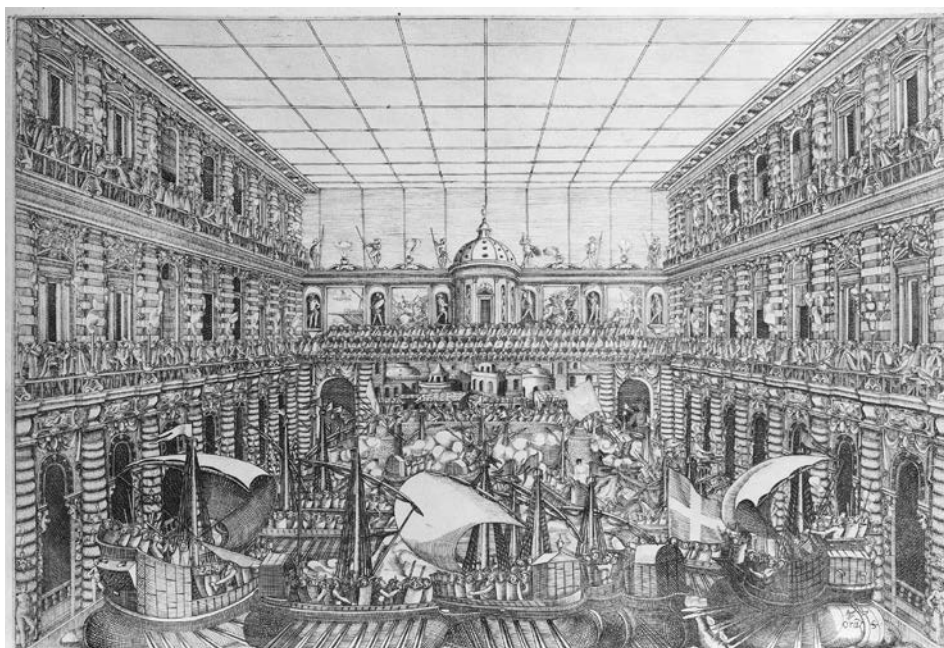
BOOK SERIES

New with Brepols

European Festival Studies: 1450-1700

in association with the Society for European Festivals Research

To provide academics, advanced students, museum and gallery curators and archivists with scholarly commentary on Festivals in Early Modern Europe, based on extensive documentary and pictorial research, and to encourage new scholars to contribute to the development of the series topic.



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This series, in association with the Society for European Festivals Research, builds on the current surge in interest in the circumstances of European Festivals — their political, religious, social, economic and cultural implications as well as the detailed analysis of their performance (including ephemeral architecture, scenography, scripts, music and soundscape, dance, costumes, processions and fireworks) in both indoor and outdoor locations. Festivals were interdisciplinary and, on occasion, international in scope. They drew on a rich classical heritage and developed a shared pan-European iconography as well as exploiting regional and site-specific features. They played an important part in local politics and the local economy, as well as international negotiations and the conscious presentation of power, sophistication and national identity, and sometimes in a global context. The series, including both essay collections and monographs, seeks to analyse the characteristics of individual festivals as well as to explore generic themes. It draws on a wealth of archival documentary evidence, alongside the resources of galleries and museums, to study the historical, literary, performance and material culture of these extravagant occasions of state.

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Festival and Violence

Princely Entries in the Context of War, 1480-1635

By **Margaret M. McGowan**

303 p., 48 b/w ills, 9 col. ills, ISBN 978-2-503-58333-4, HB, € 85 / \$ 111.00

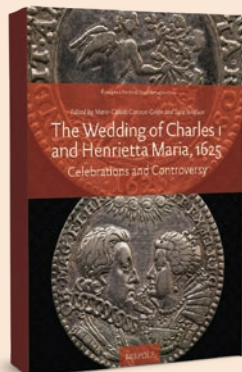
European Renaissance Festivals are noted for their extravagance, for their inherited classical culture, and as evidence of how court and civic spectacles could express political, religious, social, and economic aspirations. In this new monograph, the accent is firmly on the violent context of Magnificence: it examines how war affected the minds and practice of both artists and princes, and shows how victims and their suffering were as prominent in festival as were conquerors and their projections of victory. What emerges here is the dark side represented in princely entries where imperial ambitions are built upon civic devastation and where myths elaborate and expose their ambiguous nature and message. Artists and poets collaborated in bringing victory and violence together: Mantegna and Durer in triumphal processions; Frans Floris and Rubens on the canvases they created for triumphal arches, where mythology was put to work to arouse excitement for deeds of heroism and death, while engravers depicted scenes of war and destruction to accommodate contemporary taste.

Table of Contents: www.brepols.net



Margaret M. McGowan, Fellow of the British Academy, is Research professor at the University of Sussex. Her research interests centre on intellectual, cultural and artistic concerns in Early Modern Europe. She gave the Leopold Delisle lectures in 2012, was awarded the Wolfson prize in 2008, and the CBE in 1998.

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