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978-1-107-01061-1 - The Musical Sounds of Medieval French Cities: Players, Patrons, and Politics

Gretchen Peters

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The Musical Sounds of Medieval French Cities

Drawing upon hundreds of newly uncovered archival records, Gretchen Peters reconstructs the music of everyday life in over twenty cities in late medieval France. Through the comparative study of these cities' political and musical histories, the book establishes that the degree to which a city achieved civic authority and independence determined the nature and use of music within the urban setting. The world of urban minstrels beyond civic patronage is explored through the use of diverse records; their livelihood depended upon seeking out and securing a variety of engagements, from confraternities to bathhouses. Minstrels engaged in complex professional relationships on a broad level – as with guilds and minstrel schools – and on an individual level – as with partnerships and apprenticeships. The study investigates how minstrels fared economically and socially, recognizing the diversity within this body of musicians in the Middle Ages, from itinerant outcasts to wealthy and respected town musicians.

GRETCHEN PETERS is an associate professor of music at University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, where she teaches in the Music and Theatre Arts Department, as well as in the American Indian Studies Program. She has published numerous articles on urban musical culture in late medieval France, and her research activities have included the traditional music of both the Hmong and Ojibwe cultures in Wisconsin, for which she has received multiple awards for her collaborative work with students.

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Abbreviations

ADB	Archives départementales des Bouches-du-Rhône
ADB, Aix	Archives départementales des Bouches-du-Rhône, Dépôt annexe d'Aix-en-Provence
ADC	Archives départementales de la Côte-d'Or
ADH	Archives départementales de l'Hérault
ADSM	Archives départementales de Seine-Maritime
ADV	Archives départementales de Vaucluse
AMA	Archives municipales d'Avignon
AMAix	Archives municipales d'Aix-en-Provence
AMAl	Archives municipales d'Albi
AMAm	Archives municipales d'Amiens
AMAp	Archives municipales d'Apt
AMBe	Archives municipales de Beauvais
AMC	Archives municipales de Châlons-en-Champagne
AMD	Archives municipales de Dijon
AML	Archives municipales de Lyon
AMLi	Archives municipales de Lille
AMMa	Archives municipales de Marseille
AMMo	Archives municipales de Montpellier
AMN	Archives municipales de Narbonne
AMNi	Archives municipales de Nîmes
AMO	Archives municipales d'Orange
AMOr	Archives municipales d'Orléans
AMR	Archives municipales de Reims
AMRo	Archives municipales de Rouen
AMSO	Archives municipales de Saint-Omer
AMT	Archives municipales de Toulouse
AMTours	Archives municipales de Tours
AMTr	Archives municipales de Troyes
d.	deniers
f.	folio
l.	livre
s.	sou
t.	tournois
v.	verso