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### **Theatre in Europe: a documentary history**

This is the only volume available to bring together a wide selection of primary source materials from the theatrical history of the Middle Ages. The focus is on western Europe between the fall of the Roman Empire and the emergence of markedly Renaissance forms in Italy. Early sections of the volume are devoted to the survival of classical tradition and the development of the liturgical drama of the Roman Catholic Church, but the main concentration is on the genesis and growth of popular religious drama in the vernacular which had its artistic culmination in the ambitious mountings of Bible plays presented in a wide variety of contexts in the later Middle Ages. Each of the major medieval regions is featured, while a final section covers the pastimes and customs of the people, a record of whose traditional activities often only survives in the margins of official recognition. The volume has been compiled by a team of leading scholars in the field and over 700 documents are presented in modern English translation.

The book contains numerous illustrations, the source location for each document and a substantial bibliography. It will be of interest to scholars and students of theatre history, medieval studies, European language and culture, and sociology.

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