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Edited by James G. Clark, Frank T. Coulson and Kathryn L. Mckinley

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OVID IN THE MIDDLE AGES

Ovid is perhaps the most important surviving Latin poet and his work has influenced writers throughout the world. This volume presents a groundbreaking series of essays on his reception across the Middle Ages. The collection includes contributions from distinguished Ovidians as well as leading specialists in medieval Latin and vernacular literature, clerical and extra-clerical culture and medieval art, and addresses questions of manuscript and textual transmission, translation, adaptation and imitation. It also explores the intersecting cultural contexts of the schools (monastic and secular), courts and literate lay households. It elaborates the scale and scope of the enthusiasm for Ovid in medieval Europe, following readers of the canon from the Carolingian monasteries to the early schools of the Île de France and on into clerical and curial milieux in Italy, Spain, the British Isles and even the Byzantine Empire.

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KATHRYN L. MCKINLEY is Associate Professor of English at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She has published several studies on Ovid in medieval England (both in manuscript contexts and vernacular poetry). Her publications include *Reading the Ovidian Heroine: 'Metamorphoses' Commentaries 1100–1618* (2001). She is currently at work on a study of Chaucer's *House of Fame*.

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This collection offers an introduction to Ovid in the Middle Ages from scholars of diverse expertise with a common interest in medieval culture, both literate and visual, and the cultural legacy of classical antiquity. It is the fruit not only of independent research but also of interactions and collaborations fostered over a number of years: the first cause of the book was a sequence of conference panels convened at, among others, the annual meetings of the American Philological Association and the Medieval Academy of America and the International Medieval Congress. We are grateful to the contributors for their collaborative energy in the development of the volume and their patient forbearance in its final preparation. In the course of their work the contributors have received research assistance from a variety of sources, including the British Academy and the Leverhulme Trust. The editors have also benefited from the time and professionalism of Wendy Watkins in the Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies at the Ohio State University. Professor Coulson is grateful to Fritz Graf, Chair of the Department of Greek and Latin, and John Roberts, Dean of the College of Humanities at the Ohio State University, who granted him a sabbatical leave during the academic year 2007–8 during which time much of the editorial work was completed. We must also acknowledge the commitment of Michael Sharp at Cambridge which has propelled the project to its completion. We would also like to thank the two anonymous readers for the press who read the manuscript with care and whose comments greatly improved the final draft. In the closing stages, we have also received advice and practical assistance from Elizabeth Hanlon.

The book owes much to the unstinting effort and enthusiasm of Frank T. Coulson. There can be no doubt that Professor Coulson's research has transformed our understanding of Ovid and the manuscripts and textual apparatus that transmitted his *opera* to medieval readers. It is surely a fitting tribute to his contributions in the field that the acknowledged authority on the commentary tradition should now preside over an 'accessus' to the canon as a whole.

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Abbreviations

LIBRARIES

| | |
|--------|------------------------------------------------------|
| BL | British Library |
| BML | Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana |
| BN | Bibliothèque nationale de France |
| Bodl. | Bodleian Library |
| SB-PKb | Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin-Preussischer Kulturbesitz |

JOURNALS

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>CQ</i> | <i>Classical Quarterly</i> |
| <i>JWI</i> | <i>Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes</i> |
| <i>MAev</i> | <i>Medium Aevum</i> |
| <i>MLatJb</i> | <i>Mittellateinisches Jahrbuch</i> |
| <i>PMLA</i> | <i>Proceedings of the Modern Language Association</i> |
| <i>RPh</i> | <i>Revue de philologie, de littérature et d'histoire ancienne</i> |
| <i>StudMed</i> | <i>Studi medievali</i> |