

## BIRDS IN THE BRONZE AGE

This book provides new insights into the relationship between humans and birds in North Europe during the Bronze Age. Joakim Goldhahn argues that birds had a central role in Bronze Age society and imagination, as reflected in legends, myths, rituals, and cosmologies. Goldhahn offers a new theoretical model for understanding the intricate relationship between humans and birds during this period. He explores traces of birds found in a range of archaeological context, including settlements and burials, and analyzes depictions of birds on bronze artifacts and figurines, rock art, and ritual paraphernalia. He demonstrates how birds were used in divinations and provides the oldest evidence of omens taken from gastric contents of birds – extispicy – ever found in Europe.

Joakim Goldhahn is Professor of Archaeology at Linnaeus University, Sweden. An internationally known author on the Bronze Age in North Europe, he has published more than twenty books and anthologies, as well as numerous articles on topics such as North European rock art, Bronze Age burial rituals, bronze and stone smiths as ritual specialists, and war and memory.

*To wonderful  
Noah*

To be alive is to be a living soul.  
An animal – and we are all animals –  
is an embodied soul.  
*John Maxwell Coetzee*

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**BIRDS IN THE BRONZE AGE**  
**A NORTH EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE**

**JOAKIM GOLDHAHN**

Linnæus University, Sweden



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