

## Christian Platonism

Platonism has played a central role in Christianity and is essential to a deep understanding of the Christian theological tradition. At times, Platonism has constituted an essential philosophical and theological resource, furnishing Christianity with an intellectual framework that has played a key role in its early development, and in subsequent periods of renewal. Alternatively, it has been considered a compromising influence, conflicting with the faith's revelatory foundations and distorting its inherent message. In both cases the fundamental importance of Platonism, as a force which Christianity defined itself by and against, is clear. Written by an international team of scholars, this landmark volume examines the history of Christian Platonism from antiquity to the present day, covers key concepts, and engages issues such as the environment, natural science and materialism.

Alexander J. B. Hampton is Assistant Professor of Religion at the University of Toronto, specialising in metaphysics, poetics and nature. He is the author of *Romanticism and the Re-Invention of Modern Religion* (Cambridge 2019). He is currently writing a study of nature and metaphysics, and editing the forthcoming *Cambridge Companion of Religion, Nature and the Environment in the West*.

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# Christian Platonism

*A History*

Edited by

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*For Mark A. McIntosh, who had the divine idea for this volume.*

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