



Medieval Views of the Cosmos: Picturing the Universe in the Christian and Islamic Middle Ages

Evelyn Edson

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The medieval view of the wider world around them and their portrayal of it in maps, charts, illuminations and paintings had very little to do geography. This beautifully illustrated volume examines and celebrates the medieval vision of the cosmos as a strictly hierarchial and heavenly sequence of spheres, and of a world, protected by a sky filled with an elaborate array of constellations, with Jerusalem in the centre and mythical beasts on the edge. The scholarly and very accessible discussion is accompanied by many colour illustrations of Christian and Islamic works of art and science, mostly dating from the 12th century to the revolutionary ideas of the 16th. The foreword is by Terry Jones.

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