



Studies in Medievalism XII: Film and Fiction: Reviewing the Middle Ages (Hardback)

By -

Boydell Brewer Ltd, United Kingdom, 2003. Hardback. Condition: New. New.. Language: English . Brand New Book. The middle ages provide the material for mass-market films, for historical and fantasy fiction, for political propaganda and claims of legitimacy, and these in their turn exert a force well outside academia. The phenomenon is too important to be left unscrutinised: these essays show the continuing power and applicability of medieval images - and also, it must be said, their dangerousness and often their falsity. Of the ten essays in this volume, several examine modern movies, including the highly-successful *A Knight s Tale* (Chaucer as a PR agent) and the much-derided *First Knight* (the Round Table fights the Gulf War). Others deal with the appropriation of history and literature by a variety of interested parties: King Alfred press-ganged for the Royal Navy and the burghers of Winchester in 1901, William Langland discovered as a prophet of future Socialism, Chaucer at once venerated and tidied into New England respectability. Vikings, Normans and Saxons are claimed as forebears and disowned as losers in works as complex as Rider Haggard s *Eric Brighteyes*, at once neo-saga and anti-saga. Victorian melodrama provides the cliches of the bad baronet...



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