

STUDIES IN THE HISTORY OF DAILY LIFE (800-1600)

The history of daily life concentrates on the role of repetitive, habitualized, and routinized behaviour of humans in the past. Research investigates both mentality and material culture. The series therefore pays

special attention to comparative and interdisciplinary studies based on various types of texts, visual sources, and archaeological evidence. Matters concerning image and 'reality', norm and practice, contrasts and connotations, ambiguities and ambivalences may be relevant. The series also addresses the manifold levels of space, such as public and private, social and gendered, religious and secular. Studies of symbols and signs can also open important perspectives on intention and perception.

GENDER, MIRACLES, AND DAILY LIFE THE EVIDENCE OF FOURTEENTH-CENTURY CANONIZATION PROCESSES

Interaction with the saints was central to the everyday life of medieval Christians. The process of praying to a heavenly intercessor not only involved private devotion but was also intrinsically connected with society at large. It required the individual to communicate and negotiate both with the saint and within a group of devotees, thereby exposing social processes such as community dynamics and the construction of gender. Considering these issues and others, *Gender, Miracles, and Daily Life* focuses on the depositions of the canonization processes of Thomas Cantilupe (1307) and Nicholas of Tolentino (1325). It explores how ordinary laypeople understood the daily responsibilities that determined their relationship to the saints and articulates how their shared narratives contributed to the rituals which surrounded a miracle. This material has been little explored by scholars, yet offers a vivid and colourful insight into the world of men and women in the fourteenth century.