

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xvii

Part 1 **General and Critical Issues in Islamic Studies**

1. Between Orientalism and Fundamentalism: Problematizing the Teaching of Sufism	3
2. Reading Strategies for Introducing the Qur'an as Literature in an American Public University	23
3. "The West and Islam?" Rethinking Orientalism and Occidentalism	38
4. Muḥammad as the Pole of Existence	54
5. It's Not Just Academic: Writing Public Scholarship in Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies	70
6. The Global Significance of the Arabic Language	80

Part 2 **Early Sufism**

7. Esoteric and Mystical Aspects of Religious Knowledge in Sufism	97
8. Controversies over Ibn `Arabi's Fusus: The Faith of Pharaoh	106
9. Mystical Language and the Teaching Context in the Early Lexicons of Sufism	115
10. The Man without Attributes: Ibn `Arabi's Interpretation of Abū Yazīd al-Bisṭāmī	136

11. Rūzbihān Baqlī on Love as “Essential Desire”	157
12. An Indo-Persian Guide to Sufi Shrine Pilgrimage	165
13. The Stages of Love in Early Persian Sufism, from Rabi`a to Ruzbihan	196
14. Sufism and Philosophy in Mulla Sadra	217
15. Shams-i Tabriz and the Audacity of Bayazid Bistami	233

Part 3 Sufism, Art, and Literature

16. The Spirit of Islamic Calligraphy: Baba Shah Isfahani's <i>Adab al-mashq</i>	245
17. The Symbolism of Birds and Flight in the Writings of Rūzbihān Baqlī	261
18. On Losing One's Head: Hallajian Motifs and Authorial Identity in Poems Ascribed to ‘Atṭār	279
19. Beauty and the Feminine Element of Spirituality	296
20. Sufism and the Aesthetics of Penmanship in Sirāj al-Shīrāzī's <i>Tuḥfat al-Muḥibbīn</i> (1454)	304
21. Jalāl al-Dīn Davānī's Interpretation of Ḥāfiẓ	324
22. “A Little Indicates Much”: Structure and Meaning in the Prefaces to Rumi's <i>Masnavi</i> , Books 1–3	342
23. Wakened by the Dove's Trill: Structure and Meaning in the Preface to Rūmī's <i>Masnavi</i> , Book 4	355

Part 4 Contemporary Sufism

24. Ideological and Technological Transformations of Contemporary Sufism	369
25. Sufism, Islam, and Globalization in the Contemporary World: Methodological Reflections on a Changing Field of Study	391

Part 5
Persianate Themes

26. Persianate Islamic Studies in American Universities	417
27. Concepts of Religion in the <i>Dabistan</i>	437
28. Early Orientalist Concepts of Sufism	463
<i>Index</i>	484
<i>About the Author</i>	491