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**Petros Bouras-Vallianatos; Barbara Zipser (Editors).  
Brill's Companion to the Reception of Galen. (Brill's  
Companions to Classical Reception, 17.) xxvi + 684 pp.,  
figs., bibl., indexes. Leiden: Brill, 2019**

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and after him. In the edited volume, Georgiana D. Hedesan's chapter reconstructs the development of Paracelsus's thinking in detail, stressing the inherent problems—of style, conceptual inconsistency, and an altogether different medical framework from today—that arise from his works. At the same time, despite his emphasis on such seemingly occult properties as alchemy and the macrocosm-microcosm analogy, Paracelsus still acted on the premise of God's perfect creation, and in that sense, he was a typical product of the sixteenth century. Likewise, Gibbs, although he regards Paracelsus's ideas as an "irreversible turn toward modern understanding of toxins" (p. xiv), stresses that Paracelsus cannot be understood without the late medieval medical tradition of poison treatises. And in fact, Gibbs does not end with Paracelsus, but rather with the sixteenth-century botanists and philosophers who largely departed from theoretical conceptualizations of poison and instead leaned more toward a dualistic approach to poison as both potentially harmful *and* beneficial, in both universal *and* particular applications. The issue of dosage is made most pertinent in the last article of the edited volume, written more from a pharmacological than a historical perspective. Aronson and Ferner seemingly agree to credit Paracelsus with a nascent understanding of the relationship between dose and effect, but their ensuing analysis of the development of the "dose-response curve" in the nineteenth century (including formulas, graphs, and calculations) almost seems to obliterate any true relationship between past and present. Although Gibbs also warns of a "false sense of continuity" (p. 257) in the history of poison, these books make clear that any conclusive remarks in that respect have to await future research. What these books achieve is to fuel a desire for more intersections, across books, contexts, and disciplines. In both books, the concise but useful indexes and extensive footnotes after each chapter will serve the reader well in tracing many more historical interconnections than could possibly be mentioned here.

Wouter Klein

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**Petros Bouras-Vallianatos; Barbara Zipser** (Editors). *Brill's Companion to the Reception of Galen*. (Brill's Companions to Classical Reception, 17.) xxvi + 684 pp., figs., bibl., indexes. Leiden: Brill, 2019. €180 (cloth); ISBN 9789004302211. E-book available.

We must congratulate the two editors, Petros Bouras-Vallianatos and Barbara Zipser, on this imposing volume (684 pages) devoted to the reception of the works of Galen, a physician from Pergamum, active in the second century C.E. (129–ca. 216). The extent of the Galenic *oeuvre* constitutes both the main reason for its importance and the first difficulty in acquiring thorough knowledge of it. The main merit of this enterprise is that it concentrates in a single volume a considerable number of contributions about the circulation of Galenic texts and doctrines in different geographical sites and periods. The contributions are arranged in chronological order from the end of antiquity to the modern world. It would be impossible to give a detailed account here of the thirty-one articles that occupy the five sections of the work, the organization of which must have been rather complicated for the editors.

The first three sections of *Brill's Companion to the Reception of Galen* are devoted to the "three significant medieval environments" (p. 2) ("Galen in Late Antiquity and Byzantium," with seven contributions; "Galen in the Medieval Islamic World," with nine contributions; "Galen in the Medieval West," with five contributions); this forced compartmentalization makes us consider these environments as parallel realities even though they are deeply intertwined. Section 4 is devoted to Galenism from the Renaissance to the modern world ("Galen in the Renaissance and Beyond," with five contributions), while Section 5 deals with the presence and influence of Galenic doctrine in other cultures ("Galen in Other Cultures," with five contributions).

Among the few difficulties involved with this classification, I would mention, for example, Matteo Martelli's essay (Sect. 5, pp. 577–593), which could very easily have found a place in Section 2, and that of Stavros Lazaris (pp. 609–638) on the iconography of the medieval portraits of Galen, which is surprisingly classified in Section 5, devoted to Galenic reception in other cultures.

As the editors point out (pp. 3–7), three themes can be traced through the five sections of the volume: the first is tradition and textual diffusion—a problem that constitutes an essential milestone in Galenic studies; the second, Galen's influence on medical theory and practice in the following epochs; and the third, Galen's reception in different fields of medicine and book production (especially in theological and philosophical texts).

Galenic tradition, transmission, and heritage are dealt with by the contributors—who are among the major internationally recognized experts on Galen—in chapters of a very high scientific level. If we wanted to try a sort of summary classification, we could identify the following themes: reception in Greek and Latin, from the most ancient period (Antoine Pietrobelli, Ch. 1) to the late antique and Byzantine period (Petros Bouras-Vallianatos, Chs. 2 and 4; Ivan Garofalo, Ch. 3; Barbara Zipsper, Ch. 5; Dionysios Stathakopoulos, Ch. 7); transmission via manuscript copies (Paola Degni, Ch. 6); reception in Syriac (Siam Bhayro, Ch. 8; Matteo Martelli, Ch. 29); reception in Arabic from the ninth to the thirteenth century (Glen M. Cooper, Ch. 9; Pauline Koetschet, Ch. 10; Gotthard Strohmaier, Ch. 11; Miquel Forcada, Ch. 12; Y. Tzvi Langemann, Ch. 13; Nahyan Fancy, Ch. 14; Robert Alessi, Ch. 15; Leigh Chipman, Ch. 16; and again Martelli, Ch. 29); reception in the Medieval West (Monica H. Green, Ch. 17; Michael McVaugh, Ch. 20; Iolanda Ventura, Ch. 21) and the Latin translation from Arabic and Greek (Brian Long, Ch. 18; Anna Maria Urso, Ch. 19); reception from the Renaissance to modern times (Stefania Fortuna, Ch. 22; Christina Savino, Ch. 23; Vivian Nutton, Ch. 24; Maria Pia Donato, Ch. 25; Pietro Tassinari, Ch. 26); and reception in Jewish scientific literature (Carmen Caballero-Navas, Ch. 27), in the Armenian tradition (Alessandro Orengo and Irene Tinti, Ch. 28), and in Asia (Ronit Yoeli-Tlalim, Ch. 30).

In all the contributions, the mastery of primary sources (mainly medieval manuscripts and printed editions) and bibliographical sources is impressive. Therefore, even if it is not exhaustive, the volume will serve as an excellent scientific basis for going deeper into the study of Galen's reception in the different and rich cultural fields concerned. The two indexes that close the volume (an Index Rerum et Nominum and an Index Locorum) constitute both a valuable aid to the reader and an overview of the richness of the fields, geographies, and periods covered.

**Alessia Guardasole**

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**Patrick Manning; Daniel Rood** (Editors). *Global Scientific Practice in an Age of Revolutions, 1750–1850*. vii + 401 pp., figs., bibl., index. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2016. \$49.95 (cloth); ISBN 9780822944546. E-book available.

**Patrick Manning; Mat Savelli** (Editors). *Global Transformations in the Life Sciences, 1945–1980*. xi + 314 pp., notes, bibl., index. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2018. \$45 (cloth); ISBN 9780822945277. E-book available.

**Patrick Manning; Abigail Owen** (Editors). *Knowledge in Translation: Global Patterns of Scientific Exchange, 1000–1800 CE*. xv + 437 pp., notes, bibl., index. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2018. \$55 (cloth); ISBN 9780822945376. E-book available.

The three books under consideration all originated in conferences at the University of Pittsburgh's World History Center, and they are united in their aim to establish connections between the history of science and world history. Taken together, these volumes offer snapshots from the past millennium and provide