The Mabinogi | 577e9dcb11064c1ba59e210969e51ea5

Studies on the Legend of the Holy Grail

A new series of four individual books collecting the four branches of the Mabinogi. The Four Branches of the Mabinogi are the oldest and most famous legends in Wales. First written down around eight hundred years ago, they were being told for many years before that. This is the story of Branwen.

Y Mabinogi/The Mabinogi

The most detailed history of the Welsh from Late-Roman Britain to the eve of the Norman Conquest. Integrates the history of religion, language, and literature with the history of events.

The Mabinogi and Other Medieval Welsh Tales

A full color illustrated booklet comprising interesting information about the background to and content of the powerful and magical tales of the Mabinogi. 30 color illustrations and 1 black-and-white.

The Cambridge History of Welsh Literature

Provides image and full-text online access to back issues. Consult the online table of contents for specific holdings.

A Century of Welsh Myth in Children's Literature

'Here at the turn of the leaf a horseman is riding through the space between one world and another . . .' The Mabinogi is the Welsh national epic, a collection of prose tales of war and enchantment, adventure and romance, which have long fascinated readers all over the world. Matthew Francis's retelling of the first four stories (the Four Branches of the Mabinogi) is the first to situate it in poetry, and captures the magic and strangeness of this medieval Celtic world: a baby is kidnapped by a monstrous claw, a giant wades across the Irish Sea to do battle, a wizard makes a woman out of flowers, only to find she is less biddable than he expected. Permeating the whole sequence is a delight in the power of the imagination to transform human experience into works of tragedy, comedy and wonder. The Mabinogi is an important contribution to the storytelling of the British Isles. 'I have waited a life for this book: our ancient British tales re-told, in English, by a poet, as they were in their original Welsh. This is more than translation. It picks up the harp and sings.' Gillian Clarke

Four Branches of the Mabinogi

Describes and analyses versions of the ancient Celtic myths adapted for children such as Sidney Lanier's The boy's Mabinogion, and others
The Mabinogi

The Origins of the Four Branches of the Mabinogi

Examining how we interpret Welshness today, this volume brings together fourteen essays covering a full range of representations of Welsh mythology, folklore, and ritual in popular culture. Topics covered include the twentieth-century fantasy fiction of Evangeline Walton, the Welsh presence in the films of Walt Disney, Welshness in folk music, video games, and postmodern literature. Together, these interdisciplinary essays explore the ways that Welsh motifs have proliferated in this age of cultural cross-pollination, spreading worldwide the myths of one small British nation.

Publications

Y Mabinogi yw chwedlau hynaf ac enwocaf Cymru, a'r Pedair Cainc yw straeon craidd y chwedlau hyn. Er iddyn nhw gael eu hysgrifennu ar femrwn tua wyth canrif yn ôl, bu storïwyr yn eu hadrodd ar lafar sawl canrif cyn hynny. Mae'r chwedlau hyn wedi para cyhyd am eu bod yn dal i allu cydio yn y dychymyg â'u hud a lleithd, eu hantur, eu rhamant â'u rhyfeddodau unigryw. -- Cyngor Llyfrau Cymru

MLN.

Publications of the Folk-lore Society

The witch goddess Cerridwen is the focus of devotion and reverence among witches and Pagans around the world. This book traces Cerridwen's roots through layers of history and myth, and it provides hands-on exercises and visionary rites to help you realize her immeasurable power in your own magical practice. Welsh Druid Kristoffer Hughes shows you how to evoke the magic of ecstatic poetry and song as you join the lineage of magical bards who have explored the secrets of Awen and Cerridwen's cauldron of inspiration. You will also discover Kristoffer's powerful approach to contemplative journeying, working with sigils, and creating an altar. With rituals for initiation, affirmation, and clarity, this deeply poetic book explores the transformative energies of the land, sea, and sky.

Companion Tales to the Mabinogi


The Mabinogi (Routledge Revivals)

Medieval Literature for Children

"Written in the late twelfth century Wales, the four branches of the Mabinogi tells the story of the births, deaths and marriages among the warrior aristocracy, on the horizon of historical memory in the last generations of the pre-Roman foretime. The quarrels, affairs and fateful interactions of these flamboyant ancestral beings were recollected not merely as history and narrative entertainment, but also as a prophetic commentary on the medieval present, holding up a mirror to the troubled and violent world of their twelfth century descendants. In this study medievalist Will Parker offers a new translation of this work along with an extensive review of the roots of this tradition in pre-Christian myth and tribal history. But of equal importance is the dynastic machinations of the native Welsh princes, whose fascinating Celtic-speaking culture represents an overlooked aspect of our island's story. By exploring the cultural context of Welsh dynastic politics and native bardic learning, we are able to decode the distinctive view of life, death and human nature, articulated in elegant prose by our anonymous twelfth-century author, whose vision owes as much to the sacred histories of his pagan ancestors as to the Latinate Christianity of his own age." --from back cover.
Studies on the Legend of the Holy Grail

The purpose of this collection, which was first published in 1996, is to provide both an overview of the major critical approaches to the Four Branches of the Mabinogi and a selection of the best essays dealing with them. The essays examine the origins of the Mabinogion, comparative analyses, and structural and thematic interpretations. This book is ideal for students of literature and Medieval studies.

Celtic Culture: A-Celti

Then they took the flowers of the oak, and the flowers of the broom, and the flowers of the meadowsweet, and from those they conjured up the fairest and most beautiful maiden that anyone had ever seen. Celtic mythology, Arthurian romance, and an intriguing interpretation of British history — these are just some of the themes embraced by the anonymous authors of the eleven tales that make up the Welsh medieval masterpiece known as the Mabinogion. They tell of Gwydion the shape-shifter, who can create a woman out of flowers; of Math the magician whose feet must lie in the lap of a virgin; of hanging a pregnant mouse and hunting a magical boar. Dragons, witches, and giants live alongside kings and heroes, and quests of honour, revenge, and love are set against the backdrop of a country struggling to retain its independence. Sioned Davies' lively translation recreates the storytelling world of medieval Wales and reinvests the tales with the power of performance.

Welsh Mythology and Folklore in Popular Culture

Examines the role of plants in botanical mythology, from Aboriginal Australia to Zoroastrian Persia. Plants have a remarkable mythology dating back thousands of years. From the ancient Greeks to contemporary Indigenous cultures, human beings have told colorful and enriching stories that have presented plants as sensitive, communicative, and intelligent. This book explores the myriad of plant tales from around the world and the groundbreaking ideas that underpin them. Amid the key themes of sentience and kinship, it connects the anemone to the meaning of human life, tree hugging to the sacred basil of India, and plant intelligence with the Finnish epic The Kalevala. Bringing together commentary, original source material, and colorful illustrations, Matthew Hall challenges our perspective on these myths, the plants they feature, and the human beings that narrate them. Matthew Hall is Associate Director of Research Services at Victoria University of Wellington, in New Zealand. He is the author of Plants as Persons: A Philosophical Botany, also published by SUNY Press.

The Four Branches of The Mabinogi

Culture in Practice collects the academic and political writings from the 1960s through the 1990s of anthropologist Marshall Sahlins. More than a compilation, Culture in Practice unfolds as an intellectual autobiography. The book opens with Sahlins's early general studies of culture, economy, and human nature. It then moves to his reportage and reflections on the war in Vietnam and the antiwar movement, the event that most strongly affected his thinking about cultural specificity. Finally, it offers his more historical and globally aware works on indigenous peoples, especially those of the Pacific islands. Sahlins exposes the cultural specificity of the West, developing a critical account of the distinctive ways that we act in and understand the world. The book includes a play/review of Robert Ardrey's sociobiology, essays on "native" consumption patterns of food and clothes in America and the West, explorations of how two thousand years of Western cosmology affect our understanding of others, and ethnohistorical accounts of how cultural orders of Europeans and Pacific islanders structured the historical experiences of both. Throughout, Sahlins offers his own way of thinking about the anthropological project. To transcend critically our native categories in order to understand how other peoples have historically constructed their modes of existence — even now, in the era of globalization — is the great challenge of contemporary anthropology.

The Mabinogi and Other Medieval Welsh Tales

Tales about Pwyll, Branwen, Manawydan, Math, Ludd and Lleuelys, and Culhwch and Olwen, comprising the core of the ancient Welsh mythological cycle, are presented in readable, modern English translations.
The Encyclopedia of Medieval Literature in Britain

Bringing together scholarship on multilingual and intercultural medieval Britain like never before, The Encyclopedia of Medieval Literature in Britain comprises over 600 authoritative entries spanning key figures, contexts and influences in the literatures of Britain from the fifth to the sixteenth centuries. A uniquely multilingual and intercultural approach reflecting the latest scholarship, covering the entire medieval period and the full tapestry of literary languages comprises over 600 authoritative yet accessible entries on key figures, texts, critical debates, methodologies, cultural and isitroical contexts, and related terminology. Represents all the literatures of the British Isles including Old and Middle English, Early Scots, Anglo-Norman, the Norse, Latin and French of Britain, and the Celtic Literatures of Wales, Ireland, Scotland and Cornwall. Boasts an impressive chronological scope, covering the period from the Saxon invasions to the fifth century to the transition to the Early Modern Period in the sixteenth. Covers the material remains of Medieval British literature, including manuscripts and early prints, literary sites and contexts of production, performance and reception as well as highlighting narrative transformations and intertextual links during the period.

Strange Beauty

Queen of the Night helps readers understand the role and power of the moon in the ancient religions, folklore, and mythology of Ireland and the British isles and then discover how to tap that power in their daily lives. Queen of the Night is a journey into the world of Celtic cosmology, shamanism, and sacred animals, as well as Celtic language, art, and culture, to discover the power and centrality of the moon. Since the earliest times, from stone circles and passage graves to the rites and customs of Druids, the moon has been the symbol of the Goddess and has played a crucial role in worship and celebration. In 13 chapters representing the moon's monthly and annual cycles, NicMhacha tells the story of Celtic moon mythology, as well as touching upon Greek, Hindu, and Norse traditions. Each chapter sets forth the role of the moon in Celtic tradition and culture and includes poetry, quotes, or prayers honoring the moon. At the end of each chapter, she offers meditations, ceremonies, and exercises to help readers connect with the moon and apply its power to their lives. From the world of fairies to bards, seekers, and shamans; from the moon's role in the secret meetings of women spinners to the role of sacred animals and mythic beings, Queen of the Night is a lively, informative, and transformative book for anyone who wants to understand and experience the power of the moon.

Branwen uerch Lyr

The Mabinogi

Dictionary of Celtic Religion and Culture

The four stories that make up the Mabinogi, along with three additional tales from the same tradition, form this collection and compose the core of the ancient Welsh mythological cycle. Included are only those stories that have remained unadulterated by the influence of the French Arthurian romances, providing a rare, authentic selection of the finest works in medieval Celtic literature. This landmark edition translated by Patrick K. Ford is a literary achievement of the highest order.

Modern Language Notes

The Mabinogi remains one of the great classics of European literature. Its Four Branches are tales of heroism and heartbreak, of love and disloyalty, that for all their magic and mystery, remain rooted in the emotional realities and moral complexities of everyday life. They are also rooted in the very soil of Wales, in a landscape relatively unchanged since these tales were first told in the early Middle Ages. This new and faithful English translation of The Mabinogi features photographs of the locations and landscapes evoked by and specifically named in the text, reminding us of the timelessness and beauty of the stories and the land they inhabit.
The Mabinogi

Cerridwen

Strange Beauty provides a new perspective on early Celtic stories of the Otherworld and their relevance to
today’s ecological concerns, arguing for a contemporary re-reading of the Otherworld trope in relation to
physical experience.

The Mabinogi

The Four Branches of the Mabinogi

A very readable guide which fills the gap between academic analysis and less critical retellings of the
myths and legends. Marytn Whittock provides an accessible overview while also assessing the current
state of research regarding the origins and significance of the myths. Since all records of the myths first
occur in the early medieval period, the focus is on the survival of pre-Christian mythology and the
interactions of the early Christian writers with these myths. A wide-ranging and enthralling introduction to
Celtic mythology, from the Irish gods before gods, the Fomorians, to the children of Llyr, the sea deity;
from the hunter-warrior Fionn mac Cumhaill, whose exploits are chronicled in the Fenian Cycle, to Cú
Chulainn, the Hound of Ulster; and from the Welsh heroes of the Mabinogion to Arthur, King of Britain,
though the mythical, Welsh version who predates the medieval legends.

The Imagination of Plants

Set in a primal past, the Mabinogi bridges many genres; it is part pre-Christian myth, part fairytale, part
guide to how nobles should act, and part dramatization of political and social issues. This edition of what
has become a canonical text provides a highly engaging new translation of the work, an informative
introduction, and a set of background contextual materials that help place the Mabinogi in the context of
medieval Welsh history and culture.

The Four Branches of the Mabinogi

This volume will be a critical anthology of primary texts whose main audience was children and/or
adolescents in the medieval period. Texts will include theoretical and interpretative introductions and
commentary.

A Brief Guide to Celtic Myths and Legends

This dictionary, with more than 1000 articles, provides a comprehensive survey of all important aspects of
Celtic religion and culture, covering both the prehistoric continental Celts and the later, medieval culture
that found written form long after the Celts had settled in the British Isles. Articles in the dictionary also
cover the interaction between Celtic and Roman civilisations, and the seminal input of medieval Celtic
legend into the Arthurian tradition. The continental and insular Celtic languages, both ancient and modern,
are described, and there is a full account of the Celtic deities known to us from the inscriptions and
iconography of the classical world. Celtic art and agriculture, the Ossian myth, the Irish Renaissance, and
the history of Celtic studies are among other areas treated in depth.

The Mabinogi in Children's Literature

Tales from the Mabinogi

The Mabinogi

This book is a comprehensive single-volume history of literature in the two major languages of Wales from
The present work is, as its title states, a collection of "Studies." It does not profess to give an exhaustive or orderly account of the Grail romance cycle; it deals with particular aspects of the legend, and makes no pretence of exhausting even these. It may be urged that as this is the case the basis of the work is too broad for the superstructure, and that there was no need to give full summaries of the leading forms of the legend, or to discuss at such length their relation one to another, when it was only intended to follow up one of the many problems which this romance cycle presents. Had there existed any work in English which did in any measure what the writer has here attempted to do, he would only too gladly have given more space and more time to the elaboration of the special subject of these studies. But the only work of the kind is in German, Birch-Hirschfeld's Die Gralsage. Many interested in the Arthurian romances do not know German; and some who profess an interest in them, and who do know German, are not, to judge by their writings, acquainted with Birch-Hirschfeld's work. It seemed worth while, therefore, to present the facts about the cycle with greater fullness than would have been necessary had those facts been generally accessible.

The Mabinogion

"Tales of giants and heroes, of beautiful maidens, of the Emperor of Rome and the Emperor Arthur, of legendary history and historical legend, all told with the skill of long-trained storytellers and sensitive touch of polished writers. Such are the four tales translated here: How Culhwch got Olwen, perhaps the oldest but certainly, by far, the most exuberant of Arthurian tales, the finely crafted Dream of Maxen Wledig, Emperor of Rome, who fell in love in his sleep, the folkloric triad of The Story of Liud and Liefelys, with its link to the legends of Merlin, and the exceedingly colourful Dream of Rhonabwy." This is how John K. Bollard introduces his new translation of those four native Welsh tales found in the same two medieval manuscripts as the great classic The Mabinogi. The text is beautifully illustrated by Anthony Griffiths's photographs of the locations and landscapes evoked by and specifically named in the text, reminding us of the timeless and beauty of the stories and land they inhabit.

The Mabinogi

Wales and the Britons, 350-1064

The purpose of this collection, which was first published in 1996, is to provide both an overview of the major critical approaches to the Four Branches of the Mabinogi and a selection of the best essays dealing with them. The essays examine the origins of the Mabinogion, comparative analyses, and structural and thematic interpretations. This book is ideal for students of literature and Medieval studies.

Pedair Keinc Y Mabinogi

Queen of the Night

The Origins of the 'Four Branches of the Mabinogi' is one of the most revolutionary books ever published on the literatures of Britain. Its subject is four stories in the collection of Welsh prose tales known as The Mabinogion. These Four Branches of the Mabinogi are the legends of Pwyll, Prince of Dyfed; Branwen, Daughter of Llŷr; Manawydan, Son of Llŷr; and Math, Son of Mathonwy, which have long enjoyed popularity as Wales's most significant contribution to world literature. The Four Branches are tales of love, adventure and magic, but also of rape, adultery, betrayal and attempted murder. Although most scholars agree that the four stories are the work of a single author, there has been no agreement on where and when they were composed. To these questions The Origins of the 'Four Branches of the Mabinogi' offers a startling answer. It has always been assumed that the tales are the work of a male author. However, Andrew Breeze convincingly shows not only that the Four Branches were composed by a female writer,
but that she can be identified as Gwenllian, daughter of Gruffudd ap Cynan (d. 1137), king of Gwynedd, and wife of Gruffydd ap Rhys (d. 1137), prince of Dyfed. Gwenllian was born at the close of the eleventh century, married Gruffydd when she was in her teens, and for most of her life lived quietly with him near Caio in the hills of Carmarthenshire. Her end was dramatic. In early 1136 she led an attack on the Normans of Kidwelly, was defeated in battle and executed outside the town. Despite this catastrophe, her son Rhys (d.1197) survived to lead resistance to English rule and to maintain Dyfed's independence. Amongst his descendants were Henry VII of England and James VI and I of Scotland and England, so that the line of Princess Gwenllian can be traced down to the modern British royal family. Gwenllian's position within the dynasties of Gwynedd and Dyfed explains why the political and territorial aggrandizement of both territories is, uniquely, a theme of these tales. It also explains the uncommon tact with which conflict between them is described. It means too that the stories give a representation of royal government and decision-making in twelfth-century Wales by one who knew them from inside. Andrew Breeze's sensational analysis of this classic text is published in full in this volume for the first time.