Table of Contents

Albrecht Classen
Laughter as an Expression of Human Nature in the
Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period: Literary, Historical,
Theological, Philosophical, and Psychological Reflections.
Also an Introduction
Chapter 1
Judith Hagen
Laughter in Procopius's Wars141
Chapter 2
Livnat Holtzman
"Does God Really Laugh?" - Appropriate and Inappropriate
Descriptions of God in Islamic Traditionalist Theology
Chapter 3
Daniel F. Pigg
Laughter in <i>Beowulf</i> : Ambiguity, Ambivalence, and
Group Identity Formation
Chapter 4
Mark Burde
The Parodia sacra Problem and Medieval Comic Studies
Chapter 5
Olga V. Trokhimenko
Women's Laughter and Gender Politics in
Medieval Conduct Discourse 243

Chapter 6
Madelon Köhler-Busch
Pushing Decorum: Uneasy Laughter in
Heinrich von dem Türlîn's Diu Crône
Chapter 7
Connie L. Scarborough
Laughter and the Comic in a Religious Text:
The Example of the Cantigas de Santa Maria
Chapter 8
John Sewell
The Son Rebelled and So the Father Made Man Alone:
Ridicule and Boundary Maintenance in the Nizzahon Vetus
Chapter 9
Birgit Wiedl
Laughing at the Beast: The <i>Judensau</i> :
Anti-Jewish Propaganda and Humor
from the Middle Ages to the Early Modern Period
Chapter 10
Fabian Alfie
Yes but was it funny? Cecco Angiolieri,
Rustico Filippi and Giovanni Boccaccio
Chapter 11
Nicolino Applauso
Curses and Laughter in Medieval Italian Comic Poetry:
The Ethics of Humor in Rustico Filippi's Invectives
Chapter 12
Feargal Ó Béarra
Tromdhámh Guaire: a Context for Laughter
and Audience in Early Modern Ireland

Chapter 13
Jean E. Jost
Humorous Transgression in the Non-Conformist Fabliaux:
A Bakhtinian Analysis of Three Comic Tales
Chapter 14
Gretchen Mieszkowski
Chaucerian Comedy: Troilus and Criseyde
Chapter 15
Sarah Gordon
Laughing and Eating in the Fabliaux
Chapter 16
Christine Bousquet-Labouérie
Laughter and Medieval Stalls
Chapter 17
Scott L. Taylor
Vox populi e voce professionis: Processus juris joco-serius.
Esoteric Humor and the Incommensurability of Laughter
Chapter 18
Jean N. Goodrich
"So I thought as I Stood, To Mirth Us Among":
The Function of Laughter in <i>The Second Shepherds' Play</i>
Chapter 19
Albrecht Classen
Laughing in Late-Medieval Verse (mæren) and
Prose (Schwänke) Narratives: Epistemological Strategies
and Hermeneutic Explorations547
Chapter 20
Rosa Alvarez Perez
The Workings of Desire: Panurge and the Dogs

Chapter 21
Elizabeth Chesney Zegura
Laughing Out Loud in the Heptaméron: A Reassessment
of Marguerite de Navarre's Ambivalent Humor
Chapter 22
Lia B. Ross
You had to be there: The Elusive Humor of the <i>Sottie</i>
Chapter 23
Kyle DiRoberto
Sacred Parody in Robert Greene's Groatsworth of Wit (1592)
Chapter 24
Martha Moffitt Peacock
The Comedy of the Shrew: Theorizing Humor in
Early Modern Netherlandish Art
Chapter 25
Jessica Tvordi
The Comic Personas of Milton's Prolusion VI:
Negotiating Masculine Identity Through Self-Directed Humor
Chapter 26
Robert J. Alexander
Ridentum dicere verum (Using Laughter to Speak the Truth):
Laughter and the Language of the Early Modern
Clown "Pickelhering" in German Literature
of the Late Seventeenth Century (1675-1700)
Chapter 27
Thomas Willard
Andreae's <i>ludibrium</i> : Menippean Satire in the <i>Chymische Hochzeit</i>
Chapter 28
Diane Rudall
The Comic Power of Illusion-Allusion: Laughter, La Devineresse,
and the Scandal of a Glorious Century

Chapter 29	
Allison P. Coudert	
Laughing at Credulity and Superstition in the	
Long Eighteenth Century)3
List of Illustrations83	31
Contributors83	35
Index84	47