

CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	vii
I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. THEORETICAL PREMISES, READING PRACTICE	9
1. <i>Orientalism</i> and the Politics of Representation	10
2. Representing Difference, Spotting Stereotypes: Towards a Critical Historicist Reading	15
III. SETTING THE STAGE: PRE-ROMANTICISM AND THE RISE OF (LITERARY) ORIENTALISM	22
1. <i>The Thousand and One Nights</i> , the Oriental Tale and the Rise of the Novel	23
2. The “Lovely Infernal”: William Beckford, Escapism and the Oriental Gothic in <i>Vathek</i>	33
3. Back to Roots in the Orient: Sir William Jones, Historical Philology and the Aesthetics of Romanticism	43
IV. PERSIA AND THE ROMANTIC IMAGINATION	56
1. Domesticating the Orient: Robert Southey’s <i>Thalaba the Destroyer</i> and <i>The Curse of Kehama</i>	56
1.1. <i>Thalaba</i> : Southey’s Orientalist Manifesto	57
1.2. Persia, the “Paradise of Sin,” and Southey’s Ethical Ideology	66
1.3. Southey, Orientalism and the Poetics of Romanticism	73
1.4. <i>The Curse of Kehama</i> and Anglicizing Policies in the East	78
2. “At Home in the East”: Orientalism, Nationalism and Irish-Persians in Thomas Moore’s <i>Lalla Rookh</i>	84
2.1. Moore’s <i>Irish Melodies</i> and the Politics of Music	86
2.2. Moore, Byron and <i>Lalla Rookh</i> as an Oriental Tale in Verse	91
2.3. Persia and (Irish) Orientalism in “The Veiled Prophet of Khorassan” and “The Fire-Worshippers”	98

3.	Matthew Arnold and Persia: The Case of <i>Sohrab and Rustum</i>	117
3.1.	Arnold and the Classical Heritage: <i>Sohrab and Rustum</i> as an Epic Tragedy	117
3.2.	The Masculine/Feminine Confrontation in <i>Sohrab and Rustum</i> and Beyond	126
V.	TRAVELLERS, NOVELISTS AND THE 'REAL' PERSIA	131
1.	Persia in Nineteenth-Century English Travel Literature: A Historical Survey	131
2.	Under British Eyes: Representations of the Persian National Character in James Morier's <i>Journeys</i> and <i>The Adventures of Hajji Baba</i> <i>of Ispahan</i>	138
2.1.	"The Frenchmen of the East": The Persian National Character in <i>A Journey through Persia</i> and <i>A Second Journey</i> <i>through Persia</i>	139
2.2.	The Persian Picaro(s): Fictional Character as National Character in <i>The Adventures of Hajji Baba of Ispahan</i>	154
3.	Uncovering Persia: C. J. Wills' Travel Accounts and <i>Behind an Eastern Veil</i>	173
3.1.	The Victorian Gentleman in Persia: <i>In the Land of the Lion and Sun</i> and <i>Persia as It Is</i>	174
3.2.	The Victorian Lalla Rookh in Persia: <i>Behind an Eastern Veil</i> ..	189
VI.	CONCLUSION	197
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	203