

Contents

Acknowledgements	IX
A Note on Proper Names	XII
List of Maps and Figures	XIII
Glossary	XVI

Introduction: The Central European Age of Contemplation and Commemoration 1

1 Frameworks for Visual Cultures of Death in Poland-Lithuania	16
Artistic Patronage in Poland-Lithuania	18
The Commonwealth and the Counter-Reformation	23
The Central European Printing Revolution	33
Plague and Warfare	40
Conclusion	52
2 Death Personified: The Skeleton and the Printed Image	54
Anatomical Treatises and the Melancholy Death	56
The Triumph of Death	65
Allegories of Death: The Wheel of Death	75
Conclusion	87
3 The Dance of Death in Central Europe: Indigenous Variations on a Familiar Theme	91
Dancing with Death in Medieval Western Europe and beyond	93
Performing the Dance of Death in Medieval Poland: Master Polikarpus's Dialogue with Death	99
Death and the Friars: The Role of the Observant Franciscans	102
Conclusion	117
4 Triumphant Funerals: Ceremonial, Coffin Portraits and Catafalques	121
Processional Pomp: Heraldic Displays and the Theatre of Death	123
Church Decorations and the <i>Castrum Doloris</i>	131
Coffin Portraits: Images of the Spiritual body	146
Commemoration in Context: The Burials of the Opaliński Magnate Family	154
Conclusion	164

5 Architectures and Landscapes of Death: Funerary Chapels and Jerusalem Sites 167

The Introduction of the Domed Chapel to Poland and Lithuania:

Genesis and Symbolism 169

Central European Landscapes of Death: Jerusalem Sites 175

Decorating the Seventeenth-century Funerary Chapel:

Sculpting the Passion and Personalising the Dance of Death 185

Conclusion 203

Conclusion 206

Appendix: The Kraków *Taniec śmierci* (Dance of Death):

Transcription and Translation of Textual Cartouches 213

Bibliography 217

Index 249