Contents

	List of maps, figures and family trees	vii
	List of abbreviations	viii
	Glossary	ix
	Author's acknowledgements	xi
1.	Introduction	1
	Secondary sources	3
	Recent scholarship	6
	Sources	8
	Feminism, sex and gender	10
	Women in Byzantium: an introduction	14
	Towards a feminist history of Byzantium	18
	Byzantium: an introduction	28
2.	The role of women in eleventh-century politics	37
	Introduction	37
	Zoe	42
	Theodora	55
	Family government in the eleventh century	58
	Eudokia Makrembolitissa	62
	The rise of the Komnenoi	66
	The coup of 1081	69
3.	Creating the ideal Komnenian woman	72
	Introduction: deconstructing ideology	72
	Ideology and the Komnenoi	75
	Mother	78
	Wife	83
	Sister and daughter	87
	Physical attributes	88
	Conclusion	93
4.	Titles for imperial women	96
	Sources and historiography	97
	The system	100

Imperial women in Byzantium 1025-1204

	Augousta Basilissa Despoina Conclusion	102 108 114 117
5.	The method of marriage Anthropological analysis of the Komnenian system Marriage Inheritance, descent and naming strategies Woman as subject Conclusion	120 123 124 132 141 150
6.	Power through patronage Defining patronage Individual patrons Patterns of patronage Economic resources The effect of marital status Conclusion	153 155 161 174 176 178 179
7.	A woman's ideology Anna Komnene and the Alexiad	181 187
8.	The collapse of the Komnenian system Maria of Antioch Euphrosyne Doukaina	199 201 204
9.	Conclusion	208
	Chronology Appendix: Family trees Bibliography Index	218 220 222 242

vi