

## C O N T E N T S

Introduction	I
Chapter 1. Performance Matters: Between Public Acclamation and Epistolary Exchange	30
Chapter 2. Poetic Gifts: Maussian Exchange and the Working of Medieval Jewish Culture	67
Chapter 3. “Humble Like the Humble One”: The Language of Jewish Political Legitimacy	90
Chapter 4. “Sefarad Boasts over Shinar”: Mediterranean Regionalism in Jewish Panegyric	128
Chapter 5. “A Word Aptly Spoken”: The Ethics of Praise	145
Chapter 6. “A Cedar Whose Stature in the Garden of Wisdom . . .”: Hyperbole, the Imaginary, and the Art of Magnification	160
Chapter 7. In Praise of God, in Praise of Man: Issues in Political Theology	176
Chapter 8. “May His Book Be Burnt Even Though It Contains Your Praise!”: Jewish Panegyric in the Christian Mediterranean	206
Chapter 9. The Other “Great Eagle”: Interreligious Panegyrics and the Limits of Interpretation	243

Afterword	277
Notes	279
Bibliography	345
General Index	371
Index of Geniza Manuscripts	383
Acknowledgments	385