

FACES OF THE INFINITE

NEOPLATONISM AND POETRY AT THE CONFLUENCE OF AFRICA, ASIA AND EUROPE

Edited by
STEFAN SPERL AND YORGOS DEDES

Published for THE BRITISH ACADEMY
by OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Contents

<i>Notes on Contributors</i>	x
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xvii
<i>Note to the Reader</i>	xx
 Introduction: ‘A Thing All Living Faces’	 1
STEFAN SPERL AND YORGOS DEDES	
1. Why Plotinus?	6
2. The Pre-Modern Poems (4th to 17th Centuries)	14
3. A Neoplatonic Poetics?	27
4. The Modern Poems	36
5. The Birth of Love	42
 Part I: From Paganism and Eastern Christianity to the Islamic World (4th to 17th Centuries CE)	 51
 1 Neoplatonism and Poetics in Ancient Greek and Byzantine Literature	 53
DAVID HERNÁNDEZ DE LA FUENTE	
 2 Stages of Ascent: Neoplatonic Affinities in Classical Arabic Poetry	 93
STEFAN SPERL	
 3 What are Neoplatonic Poetics? Allegory; Figure; Genre	 131
ALEXANDER M. KEY	
 4 Beauty Stings: Plotinus and Rūzbihān Baqlī on Beauty	 148
KAZUYO MURATA	
 5 Ottoman Poetry: Where the Neoplatonic Dissolves into an Emotional Script for Life	 169
WALTER G. ANDREWS	
 6 Mihrî Hatun and Neoplatonic Discourse: Legitimation of Women’s Writing in Early Modern Ottoman Poetry	 188
DIDEM HAVLIOĞLU	

7	Poetry and Ishraqi Illuminationism among the Esoteric Zoroastrians of Mughal India	203
	CARL W. ERNST	
Part II: Jewish Neoplatonism and Hebrew Poetry in Muslim and Christian Realms (11th to 17th Centuries CE)		215
8	Andalusian Hebrew Poems on the Soul and their Afterlife	217
	ADENA TANENBAUM	
9	Karaite Poems about the Nature of the Soul from the Muslim East, Byzantium and Eastern Europe	237
	JOACHIM YESHAYA	
Part III: Christian and Jewish Neoplatonism in Italy and Spain (14th to 17th Centuries CE)		253
10	' <i>Nostro intelletto si profonda tanto</i> ': The Philosophical Background of Dante's <i>Paradiso</i> I, 1–12 and IV, 22–60	255
	CRISTINA D'ANCONA	
11	Agathon Redivivus: Love and Incorporeal Beauty in Ficino's <i>De Amore</i> , <i>Speech V</i>	276
	SUZANNE STERN-GILLET	
12	'A Man within a Woman, or even a God': Vittoria Colonna and 16th-Century Italian Poetic Culture	292
	ABIGAIL BRUNDIN	
13	<i>The Ascent of the Soul: Neoplatonic Themes in the Literature of Golden Age Spain</i>	306
	COLIN P. THOMPSON	
14	The Christian Neoplatonism of Francisco de Aldana in the <i>Carta para Arias Montano</i>	323
	TERENCE O'REILLY	
15	A Poetics of Difference: Neoplatonism and the Discourse of Desire in the Early Modern Spanish Love Lyric	336
	JULIAN WEISS	

Part IV: Neoplatonism in Modern Poetry: Splintered but Vibrant	353
16 An Equivocal Echo: Eugenio Montale PETER ROBINSON	355
17 Eroticism of the Infinite: Neoplatonism, Kabbalism and Sufism in the Work of José Ángel Valente CLAUDIO RODRÍGUEZ FER	373
18 Body and Soul in the Arabic Literature of the Americas ROBIN OSTLE	392
19 Neoplatonist Echoes in Modern Arabic Poetry: The Case of Muḥammad 'Aḥfi Maṭar FERIAL J. GHAZOUL	404
20 Shards of Infinitude: Neoplatonist Relics in Modern Persian Poetry AHMAD KARIMI-HAKKAK	419
21 The New Image of the Beloved in the Old Mirror: Reflections on the Neoplatonic Tradition in Modern Turkish Poetry NESLIHAN DEMIRKOL AND MEHMET KALPAKLI	433
22 Neoplatonists in Modern Greek Poetry DAVID RICKS	454
<i>Index of References to the Enneads of Plotinus</i>	469
<i>Index of Citations from the Qur 'an</i>	471
<i>Index of Names and Places</i>	472
<i>Index of Subjects</i>	477