

## Abstracts

**ANTÒNIA CARRÉ, *The face is the mirror of the heart: Medieval physiognomy and literature***

After surveying the principles of physiognomy and its Greek and Latin origins, Antònia Carré stresses the importance of this discipline in the Middle Ages, when it became a scholastic science and began to be the object of vernacularisation. This new science can be detected in the background of many Catalan works, as Carré illustrates with passages from Eiximenis, Desclot and *Tirant lo Blanc*. The identification of these underlying physiognomic notions allows the author to offer a new interpretation of these emblematic passages.

**JOAN SANTANACH, *The Catalan tradition of Tristan and a new fragmentary witness***

Joan Santanach sketches the presence of Arthurian elements in medieval Catalan literature as an introduction to his research on the Catalan translation of the *Tristan* narrative. The author thoroughly describes the manuscript tradition of these translations, including a previously unknown witness, recently acquired by the Biblioteca de Catalunya, and offers a first attempt to locate this branch of the Romance language *Tristan* within the Southern manuscript family. Further research is needed to establish the relationship between the three extant Catalan fragments but, as a working hypothesis, Santanach proposes a two-branch common Spanish and Catalan manuscript group.

**STEFANO M. CINGOLANI, *Ponç Hug V and Pere II revisited***

Stefano M. Cingolani follows up his previous research on the eventful days around the French invasion of the Crown of Aragon in 1285. Cingolani previously reconstructed the movements of count Ponç Hug V of Empúries from the information provided by contemporary chronicles, mainly that of Bernat Desclot. In the present article, the author provides new data, extracted from archival sources, which corroborated his previous hypothesis and fill some of the uncertainties surrounding this key episode to interpret the figure of Ponç Hug (especially his attitude towards the king).

**ANNA CASTELLANO, *Monasteries and convents: Transcendence and everyday life***

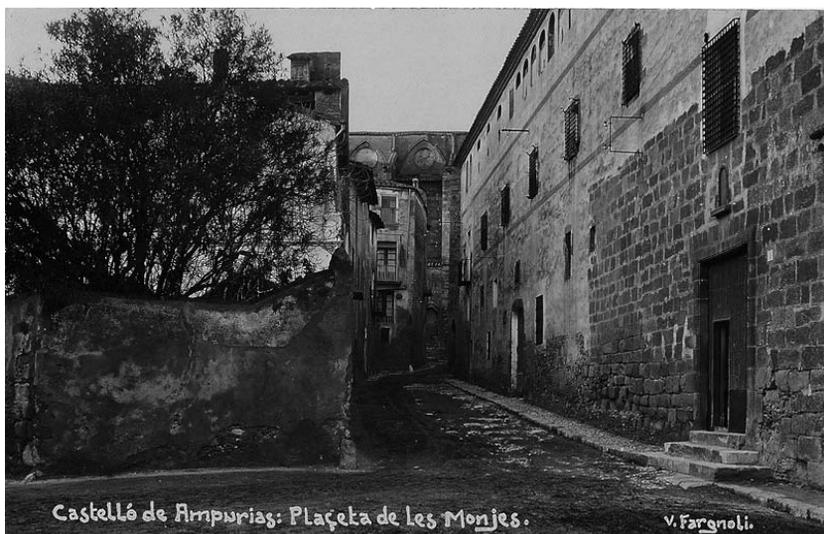
Anna Castellano offers an enlightening outline of the foundation of Franciscan convents in Barcelona, as a point of reference to reconstruct the early history of the Order of Saint Clare convent in Castelló d'Empúries. After founding a first convent in Barcelona, the same nuns proceeded to Pedralbes and Castelló, which accounts for their common elements and architectural planning. Thanks to the documents and known data from the Pedralbes convent, the only one still standing, many details about the construction and evolution of the other two convents can be inferred, shedding on everyday and spiritual life.

**MARCO PEDRETTI, *The first hundred years of the Franciscan order and the Assisi basilica (1226–1321)***

Marco Pedretti's analysis of early Franciscan history focuses on the building on the Assisi basilica to keep the saint's remains. The discussion of its process of construction allows him to explore the evolution of Franciscan principles, and to relate them to shifts in ecclesiastical and political power. Pedretti shows how this evolving situation crystallises in the design and decoration of the basilica.

**MARINA NAVÀS, *The clerk as a literary figure in the poetry of Ramon de Cornet***

Ramon de Cornet has been frequently interpreted as a colourful, almost extravagant, figure. After discussing the few known details from his life, Marina Navàs explores the literary background of his self-presentation within the troubadour and medieval Latin lyric traditions, particularly in the works of moral and satirical authors that portray themselves as clerks. Navàs proposes this context as a fruitful way forward to both a detailed reading of Cornet poetry (including his debates with contemporary poets) and to an interpretation of his role in 14<sup>th</sup>-C. Occitan poetry.



Castelló de Ampúries: Plaçeta de Les Monjes.

v. Fargnoli.