Eine Globalgeschichte der Lyrik

BY
RÜDIGER ZYMNER

The first German-language reference work on the global history of poetry

In four volumes, Eine Globalgeschichte der Lyrik reconstructs the history of poetry from the sources.

It takes a look at lyric poetry in all languages documented in writing and covers a period of about 4,500 years. The work demonstrates with scientific means since when, where, how exactly and for what purpose this kind of language use, which we call ’lyric poetry’, actually existed and still exists. The Globalgeschichte der Lyrik is furthermore a contribution to the epistemology of comparative cultural studies and represents a model for comparative global literary historiography.

The author: Rüdiger Zymner is Professor of General and Comparative Literature at the University of Wuppertal. The Globalgeschichte der Lyrik is the third part of a fundamental research on lyric poetry and lyricology. Brill | mentis already published the preliminary books Lyrik. Umriss und Begriff (2009) and Funktionen der Lyrik (2013).
About the Content

The four-volume work *Eine Globalgeschichte der Lyrik* reconstructs the history of poetry from the sources in approximately 2,800 pages.

Each volume illuminates the world’s lyrical written culture groups from the beginnings to the present by following the scripts and writing systems as well as the historical contextual conditions of lyric poetry, and also by differentiating according to graphically manifest individual languages.

The first volume first deals with ancient Oriental cuneiform lyric poetry and ancient Egyptian hieroglyphic lyric poetry, and then continues with ancient Chinese, ancient Hebrew, and ancient Greek lyric poetry, as well as Roman lyric poetry. This is followed by studies of lyric poetry in Chinese culture and Hebrew synagogue lyric poetry, early Christian lyric poetry, lyric poetry in South Asia, and Arabic, Iranian, and Turkic lyric poetry, before the final part of the first volume continues with developments in the lyric cultures already introduced and studies the beginnings of lyric poetry in the European ‘vernacular’ languages.

The second volume then deals with all the lyric cultures introduced in the first volume, paying particular attention to newly written lyric poetry outside Europe (in the two Americas, in Africa, in Oceania, and around the world).

The third volume examines global lyric culture as it has emerged in the period from about 1800 to the present.

Finally, the fourth part concludes the global history as an index volume.

Work Overview:

- I Lyrik zwischen 2500 v.u.Z. und 1500 u.Z.
- II Lyrik zwischen 1500 und 1800
- III Lyrik zwischen 1800 und der Gegenwart
- IV Registerband

Topics

Humanities, literary studies, history of literature, lyricology, cultural studies, comparative literature, linguistics
**Background information**

- Connecting research in literary history and general historical reflection in a universal historiography of literary studies.

- Extensive bibliography on poetry research and overall index that reveals the points of contact and connections of the linguistically and written-culturally distinct series that constitute global history of poetry.

- There is no comparable study that is as comprehensive and up-to-date in time and geography.

- Each volume contains a hyperlinked table of contents, so that one can quickly get to the desired chapter. The complete works can be searched by epoch or region, so that the poetry history of individual regions or specific epochs can be easily viewed. In addition, the online edition is equipped with a full-text search function, allowing one to search the texts for keywords and the like.

**Target Groups**

- Students of literature courses, departments of literature at universities and university libraries.

- Scholars of cultural studies, comparatists and (global) historians

- University libraries worldwide; larger libraries and bookshops

- Institutions, associations and societies dealing with poetry and literature

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Das Buch richtet sich an Literaturwissenschaftler ebenso wie an lyrikinteressierte Studierende und Laien.

Rüdiger Zymner ist Professor für Allgemeine und Vergleichende Literaturwissenschaft an der Bergischen Universität Wuppertal.