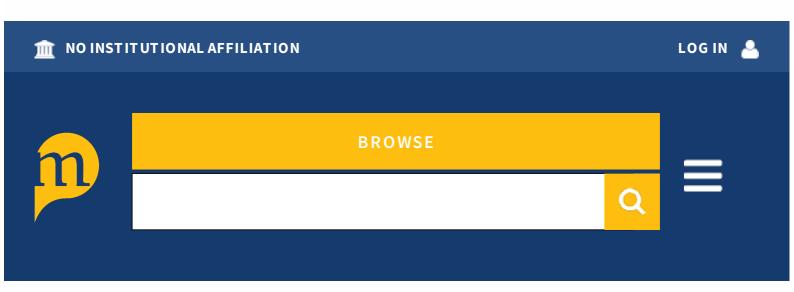
Trading tongues: Merchants, multilingualism, <u>Download Here</u> and medieval literature.



Trading Tongues:
Merchants,
Multilingualism, and
Medieval Literature



The Ohio State
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Trading Tongues: Merchants, Multilingualism, and Medieval Literature

Jonathan Hsy

2013

Book

Published by: The Ohio State University Press

Series: Interventions: New Studies in Medieval Culture

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SUMMARY

Trading Tongues offers fresh approaches to the multilingualism of major early English authors like Geoffrey Chaucer, John Gower, Margery Kempe, and William Caxton, and lesser-known figures like French lyricist Charles d'Orléans. Juxtaposing literary works with contemporaneous Latin and French civic records, mixed-language merchant miscellanies, and bilingual phrasebooks, Jonathan Hsy illustrates how languages commingled in late medieval and early modern cities. Chaucer, a customs official for the Port of London, infused English poetry with French and Latin merchant jargon, and London merchants incorporated Latin and vernacular verse forms into trilingual account books. Hsy examines how writers working in English, Latin, and French (and combinations thereof) theorized the rich contours of polyglot identity. In a range of genres—from multilingual lyrics, poems



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