

## About the Authors

*David Abulafia* is Professor of Mediterranean History at the University of Cambridge and a Fellow of the British Academy; he is the author of many books. His most recent books are: *The Discovery of Mankind: Atlantic encounters in the age of Columbus* (Yale University Press, 2008) and *The Great Sea: a human history of the Mediterranean* (Penguin Books, 2011); he has edited *The Mediterranean in History* (Thames & Hudson, 2003) and *Italy in the Central Middle Ages* (Oxford University Press, 2004).

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*Peter Bruns* is Professor of Church History and Patrology at the University of Bamberg. He has done extensive research work on Syriac sources for the history of Eastern Christianity. He published a study, as well as an edition and translation of the *Katechetische Homilien* of Theodore of Mopsuestia (1994-95) and a study and translation of the teaching of Aphrahat (1990-91). Among his recent publications is a collection of studies entitled *Vom Schisma zu den Kreuzzügen 1054-1204* (2005).

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*Georg Gresser* studied history, theology and library sciences in Cologne, Bonn and Bamberg (Germany). In 1998 he completed his Ph.D. thesis on *Das Bistum Speyer bis zum Ende des 11. Jahrhunderts*, and in 2004 his Habilitation thesis *Die Synoden und Konzilien der Zeit des Reformpapsttums in Deutschland und Italien von Leo IX. bis Calixt II. (1049-1123)* was accepted by the Faculty of Catholic Theology at Bamberg University. He is a member of ZIS (Zentrum für Interreligiöse Studien) and has taught since 2002 at the Department of Theology (Church History) at Bamberg University. His research interests focus on papal history and medieval canon law.

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*Dietrich Lohrmann* studied history, Romanic languages and Latin at the University of Freiburg Br. He worked for a long period at the German Historical Institutes in Rome and Paris. Since 1986 he has taught medieval history at the Technical University of Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle). His principal points of interest focus on history of science and technology in the Middle Ages, engineers of the Renaissance and scientific transfer from East to West. Latest book-publication in this field: *Konrad Gruter von Werden, De machinis et rebus mechanicis. Ein Maschinenbuch aus Italien für den König von Dänemark 1393-1424* (2 vol., Vatican City, 2006).

*Maria Vittoria Molinari* is Professor of German Philology at the University of Udine and Pavia since 1970-71. Until 1991 at the University of Padua (where she coordinated a CNR research project on problems of translation within medieval German texts); since 1991 Professor at the University of Bergamo. Her fields of research are: (1) the poetic language of Old English and Old and Middle High German texts, along with text analysis (heroic lay, courtly poetry); (2) translation and cultural interaction in the medieval Germanic world.

*Sara Nur Yıldız* received her doctorate from the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago (2006). She served as lecturer at the History Department of Istanbul Bilgi University in 2003-2010. Her research interests deal with medieval Anatolia (13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> centuries), with a focus on the Seljuk, Mongol, Karamanid and early Ottoman periods. Her study of Persian historical writing in the Ottoman Empire will appear in “A History of Persian Literature”, vol. 10, Persian Historiography, ed. Charles Melville (IB Tauris, 2011). She is completing a monograph on Mongol rule in Seljuk Anatolia (Brill, 2011) as well as writing a general history of Seljuk Anatolia (University of Edinburgh, 2012).



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