



The Written World: Past and Place in the Work of Orderic Vitalis

By Amanda Jane Hingst

University of Notre Dame Press, United States, 2009. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 226 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. The Anglo-Norman monk Orderic Vitalis (1075 - c. 1142) wrote his monumental, highly individual *Historia Ecclesiastica* as an exercise in monastic discipline intended to preserve the events and character of Christendom for future generations. Though cloistered since childhood in a Benedictine monastery near Normandy's southern border, Orderic gained access to an intellectual world that extended from Scotland to Jerusalem through his engagement with texts and travelers that made their way into his monastic milieu. His *Historia Ecclesiastica*, with a breadth of vision unparalleled in its time, is a particularly fertile source for an investigation of concepts of space and historiography in the high Middle Ages. In *The Written World: Past and Place in the Work of Orderic Vitalis*, Amanda Jane Hingst draws on the blend of intellectual intimacy and historiographical breadth in Orderic's writings to investigate the ways in which high medieval historians understood geographical space to be a temporally meaningful framework for human affairs. Hingst explores Orderic's manipulation of the classical geographical tradition, his balancing of spatial scale between the local and...



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