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# Divination

Perspectives for a New Millennium

Edited by **Patrick Curry**, University of Kent, UK

*'The book is unique in academia in that, next to putting forward a strong and currently revitalising case of cultural diversity, it provocatively presages for the new millennium a trans-cultural and trans-disciplinary mode of cross-fertilising local knowledge systems and Western-born globalising sciences. Alongside the border-linking beacons set out by Curry's explorative and post-secularist contribution, the fourteen refreshing scholarly essays authoritatively examine many of the epistemological, ontological and ethical questions that the various millennia-old and vital geomantic, necromantic, shamanic or mediumnic divination practices from across the world put to the human sciences and their modernist world view.'*

–René Devisch, Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium

This interdisciplinary collection by leading scholars in the field is dedicated to fascinating new insights into divination and oracles arising from recent work in anthropology, religious studies, history and classical studies. Central importance is given to the practical and theoretical perspectives of diviners as well as scholars of divination; several contributors are both.

**Contents:** Preface; Introduction, *Patrick Curry*; Theorizing divinatory acts: the integrative discourse of dream oracles, *Barbara Tedlock*; 'Twinning' and 'perfect knowledge' in African systems of divination, *Philip M. Peek*; Memoir as method or 'What the devil was I up to anyway?', *Laura Grillo*; Central Asian and Northern European shamanism, *Juha Pentikäinen*; The carbon footprint of oracles: how green is divination?, *Stuart R. Harrop*; Embodiment, alterity and agency in divination: negotiating antinomies in divination, *Patrick Curry*; Chicane: double-thinking and divination among the witch-doctors, *Geoffrey Cornelius*; Darwin's fortune, Jonah's shipmates, and the persistence of chance, *Evan Heimlich*; Arrows, aiming and divination: astrology as a stochastic art, *Dorian Gieseler Greenbaum*; Life between lives therapy: a mystery ritual for modern times?, *Angela Voss*; Talking and walking with spirits: fresh perspectives on a medieval necromantic system, *Paul Devereux*; Clarifying divinatory dialogue: a proposal for a distinction between practitioner divination and essential divination, *Anthony Thorley, Chantal Allison, Petra Stapp and John Wadsworth*; Afterword: of ises and oughts: an endnote on divinatory obligation, *Martin Holbraad*; Index.

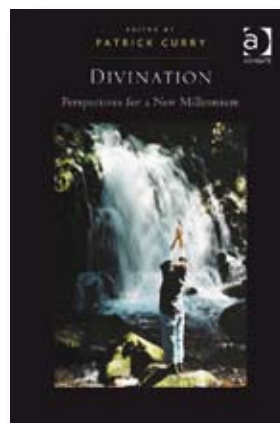
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