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Crivelli, Benedetta. Commercio e finanza in un impero globale. Mercanti milanesi nella penisola iberica (1570–1610)

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[See table of contents](#)

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représentait encore chez La Péruse et le premier Corneille. Tandis que les premières représentations tragiques françaises du mythe mettaient en scène le triomphe d'une sorcière qui frappait d'effroi les spectateurs par la seule force de sa volonté, à partir de *La Conquête de la toison d'or* en 1660, l'histoire de Médée tend plutôt à représenter symboliquement celle d'une domestication des forces de la nature qui se plie aux artifices et à l'intelligence de l'homme.

Le dernier chapitre, consacré à la *Médée* d'Hilaire de Longepierre, replace la création de cette pièce dans le contexte de la querelle des Anciens et des Modernes, en illustrant l'importance qu'occupe la mémoire dans l'œuvre pétralongienne. Reprochant à ses contemporains de vouloir « faire du présent la mesure de toutes choses » (p. 151), Longepierre met en scène une Médée archaïque, devenue la dépositaire d'une tradition dramaturgique qui a « refoulé » ses origines antiques en expulsant des œuvres antiques tous les éléments qui ne correspondent plus au goût de leur siècle.

Dans l'ensemble, cette étude formule une démonstration convaincante de la centralité qu'occupe la figure de Médée dans la dramaturgie tragique française, et nous invite à redécouvrir des œuvres négligées par la tradition historiographique, comme la *Médée* de Jean de La Péruse. Son intérêt réside également dans sa capacité à présenter, avec beaucoup de clarté, un aperçu des mutations épistémologiques qui ont marqué la société française depuis la période renaissante jusqu'au siècle des Lumières.

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Crivelli, Benedetta.

Commercio e finanza in un impero globale. Mercanti milanesi nella penisola iberica (1570–1610).

Storia ed economia, n.s. 27. Rome: Edizioni di storia e letteratura, 2017. Pp. xxvi, 206. ISBN 978-8-8935-9021-1 (paperback) €28.

Benedetta Crivelli's book *Commercio e finanza in un impero globale. Mercanti milanesi nella penisola iberica (1570–1610)* represents a major and original contribution to research on mercantile networks in the early modern period.

Her book joins the recent work of economic historians such as Francesco Guidi Bruscoli, Nunziatella Alessandrini, Claudio Marsilio, and Antonella Viola who have worked on the presence of Italian merchants in Portugal, and scholars such as Gaetano Sabatini, Leonor Freire Costa, and Amândio Morais Barros who have made a point of studying the economic and commercial links between Portugal and the Italian peninsula, especially during the period considered by Crivelli, the Iberian Union of the two crowns of Spain and Portugal under the Habsburg monarchy (1580–1640). Crivelli's work has the distinction of drawing our attention in a systematic way to the role of Milanese merchants in Portugal and its empire and then as part of the composite monarchy between the end of the sixteenth and beginning of the seventeenth centuries: a much neglected group, as attention has generally been limited to Florentines and Genoese.

Crivelli's book spans the reigns of King Sebastian and Philip II of Portugal, a period of tumultuous change for Portugal and its imperial world. The Milanese merchants, which Crivelli so thoroughly describes, are first enticed to Portugal under Sebastian's courting of foreign merchants to help finance imperial trade in Asia and the Americas by sharing the costs of shipping with Portuguese partners. The Milanese grew into a veritable mercantile community, firmly ensconced in Portugal where they integrated into its social and economic life over several decades. Through letters of credit, their mobility, and their ability to finance Portuguese public debt, they became a fixture, acting as veritable cultural and commercial mediators between the Iberian and Italian peninsulas: true cultural brokers, to use the parlance of recent historiography.

Crivelli's book is organized into five chapters. The first discusses the financial elite: how it was constituted and how it interacted with the dynamics of Iberian imperial power. Chapter 2 deals with the organization of the financial structure, taking into account international trade which spanned the globe, and the inner workings of public debt. The third chapter looks at social and economic networks and how they were articulated and managed over time, with ample attention to the kinds of business ventures and activities the Milanese were involved with. The fourth fleshes out the life of this group as a mercantile community in Lisbon and their carefully planned strategies for integration and settlement through their business interests and their active participation in Portuguese social life and in institutions like the Italian "national" church of *Nossa Senhora de Loreto*. Finally, chapter 5 provides readers with an overview of

the development of the merchants' networks over time and in different places, and some of the examples of conflict that ensued among them.

The result of Crivelli's foray into this veritable maze of characters and financial activities is a lively fresco of people, places, commodities, and travel. She brings to life the names and activities of these men of commerce who lived between worlds, bringing together major financial centres in Asia, Europe, and the Americas through the products they were involved in transporting and purveying, and by their mercantile and financial activities at the highest levels. Crivelli treats readers to an often-intimate portrait of a community intent on establishing roots in a new place while holding steadfastly to a distinct identity—and how that community evolves and changes over several decades. The book, the fruit of extensive archival work in Italy, Spain, and Portugal—with abundant use of that great resource, the correspondence of the Spanish merchant Simón Ruiz—fills a scholarly void, allowing us to see these Milanese merchants at work in several contexts, engaged in high finance and in regular contact with economic and political powers. Of interest to economic historians in particular, the book will also surely resonate with cultural and social historians of the early modern period, especially those of us who work on the Italian and Iberian worlds.

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Dahan, G. et A. Noblesse-Rocher, éd.

La Bible de 1500 à 1535.

Bibliothèque de l'École des Hautes Etudes, Sciences Religieuses 181. Turnhout : Brepols, 2018. 366 p. + 41 ill. ISBN 978-2-503-57998-6 (broché) €70.

Comme le soulignent les deux médiévistes Gilbert Dahan et Annie Noblesse-Rocher dans l'introduction du volume, cet ouvrage contient les actes d'un colloque international tenu à Troyes en juin 2016 et consacré à la Bible en Occident, de 1500 à 1535. Dans un style à la fois érudit et très lisible, les deux éditeurs replacent le travail humaniste sur les Écritures dans le temps long de l'étude de la Bible et rappellent l'ensemble des productions bibliques