

Preface

This volume originates from the research projects *Popular Middle Ages. Narratives and Inventories of Fantasy Literature* (Velten) and *'Cheap Images'. The Popularization of Art Historical Knowledge in the Early 20th Century* (Imorde) in the framework of the Collaborative Research Center 1472 »Transformations of the Popular« at the University of Siegen. It is the result of an interdisciplinary conference entitled *Myth and Middle Ages: Paradigms of Pictorial Fantasy Aesthetics / Mythen und Mittelalter. Paradigmen einer Bildästhetik der Fantasy (1880–2020)*, which took place from March 13 to 15, 2023 in the Aula of the Weißensee School of Art in Berlin. We would like to thank all the speakers and contributors to this volume for their willingness to engage with the rather unusual topic and contribute an essay.

For help and support with the preparation in print we thank most of all scientific collaborator Lukas Schrage who organized everything in the best of all manners. During the organization of the conference, we had precious help by student assistants Charlotte Braun, Nalan Dincel and Tobias Holzhauer. Project collaborator Dr. Theresa Specht gave constant and relevant advice. Further, we would like to thank Luisa Bott from transcript for supervising the publication, the Collaborative Research Centre 1472 and its coordinator Dr. Raphaela Knipp for their organizational and financial support.

Siegen & Berlin, March 2024

Hans Rudolf Velten & Joseph Imorde

