



De Occulta Philosophia Libri Tres, Vol. 48 (Studies in the History of Christian Traditions)

By Cornelius Agrippa

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Agrippa's penetrating study of 'Occult Philosophy' is widely acknowledged as a significant contribution to the Renaissance philosophical discussion concerning the powers of magic and its relationship with religion. In a discriminating revival Agrippa pursued the 'natural' magic of Ficino and Pico, while relating it to Reuchlin's synthesis of magic and religion. Agrippa broadens the ideas he found in his sources to forge a much more comprehensive conception of the occult. The critical edition of *De occulta philosophia* clarifies a number of controversies about the interpretation of this magical work. More generally, this Renaissance 'magus' proves to be driven by a deep scholarly curiosity, which seeks to come to grips with the intellectual and religious problems of his time.

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"There is enduring interest in Renaissance magic, and scholars will be deeply in the debt of Vittoria Perrone Compagni for providing this splendid new edition of so important a work." Alastair Hamilton, "Heythrop Journal," 1994. "...is a long...critical edition of one of the most important Renaissance works on magic." "Year's Work in Modern Language Studies," 1994. "...an edition of the highest caliber." Robert Mathiesen, "Gnosis Magazine," 1994. "Das besondere Verdienst der neuen Ausgabe besteht m.E. allerdings in der Identifikation und dem Nachweis der Quellen, auf die sich Agrippa stützt." "Freiburger Zeitschrift für Philologie und Theologie," 1995. "A major work of Renaissance scholarship beautifully achieved." "Bibliothèque d'Humanisme et Renaissance," 1993. "...this work will have a serious impact on early modern scholarship. ...Perrone Compagni's edition is a work of high scholarship upon which much future research can be built." William Newman, "ISIS," 1995."

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