

# Contents

**Acknowledgements • 7**

**Abbreviations • 9**

**Introduction: Song in the European Middle Ages • 13**

**Ch. 1: On the Wings of Song: The European Afterlives  
of Bernart de Ventadorn's 'Can vei la lauzeta  
mover' • 27**

The Text of 'Can vei' • 31

Occitan Responses to 'Can vei' • 34

The 'Carestia' Debate • 41

The Clerical Reception of 'Can vei' • 54

'Can vei' in Northern France • 69

'Can vei' in Southern Europe • 75

Conclusion: A European Song • 82

**Ch. 2: *Chanson, or puez aler par tout le monde*: Multilingual  
Lyrics and Linguistic Boundaries • 85**

Medieval Theories of Language • 88

Linguistic Boundaries and Literary Conventions: Raimbaut and Cerverí • 95

Dante's 'lingua trina' • 104

Lyrics and Languages in Medieval England • 113

The Multilingual Lyrics of Oswald von Wolkenstein • 118

Raimbaut redux – Conclusion • 131

**Ch. 3: Poetry in and out of Context: Quotation and the Value of Lyric • 139**

- Doctores vulgares* I: Matfre's *Breviari d'amor* • 143  
*Doctores vulgares* II: Dante and the *De vulgari eloquentia* • 149  
Marcabru: Always already community • 155  
Into Narrative: Jean Renart's 'novele chose' • 160  
Raimon Vidal: Poetic Knowledge in Catalonia • 168  
*Vita nova*: Dante's 'libello' and the Creation of Poetic Identity • 176  
Conclusion: The Prose *Tristan* and its Lyric Contexts • 185

**Ch. 4: Making a Language for Song: The Lyric Beyond • 193**

- Catalonia: Cerverí de Girona, the 'last Catalan troubadour' • 197  
Italy I: A New Beginning? • 204  
Italy II: From South to North • 214  
Middle High German in Central Europe: Prague, Wrocław, and back again • 227  
Conclusion: On the outside looking in? • 244

**Conclusion: Lyrics, Languages, and Poetic Community in the European Middle Ages • 247**

**Bibliography • 253**

**Appendix I: Manuscript *sigla* • 275**

- Manuscripts of Occitan Song • 275  
Manuscripts of French Song • 276  
Manuscripts of Italian Poetry • 277

**Appendix II: The *contrafacta* of 'Can vei' and their witnesses • 279**

**Index • 283**