John Skelton and Poetic Authority: Defining the Liberty to Speak

Citation metadata

Author: Mark Rankin
Date: January-July 2008
From: Yearbook of English Studies (Vol. 38, Issue 1-2)
Publisher: Modern Humanities Research Association
Document Type: Book review
Length: 564 words

Main content

Article Preview:


Recent studies of the enigmatic early Tudor poet John Skelton have emphasized the search for patronage as the primary motivating force behind many or most of the poet's works. In this important and significant new book Jane Griffiths demonstrates convincingly that Skelton's own search for literary authority shaped his written output to an equal or even greater extent than his need for patronage. Searching for legitimating authority that could empower his satirical and didactic agenda, Skelton shifted his interest across his career among the titles of Orator Regius and Poet Laureate as well as the role of vates, or divine spokesman. At the same time, Skelton found ingenious ways to ground his poetic voice...

Source Citation


Gale Document Number: GALE|A181673931

Explore

This is a preview. Get the full text through your school or public library.

Footer

- About
- Contact Us
- Terms of Use
- Privacy Policy
- Accessibility

Reassessing Skelton's place in the English literary canon, it suggests the need to reconsider the conventional distinction between "Medieval" and "Renaissance" poetics. Get A Copy. Amazon. To ask other readers questions about John Skelton and Poetic Authority, please sign up. Be the first to ask a question about John Skelton and Poetic Authority. Lists with This Book. This book is not yet featured on Listopia. John Skelton, Tudor poet and satirist of both political and religious subjects whose reputation as an English poet of major importance was restored only in the 20th century and whose individual poetic style of short rhyming lines, based on natural speech rhythms, has been given the name of. Thank you for your feedback. Our editors will review what you've submitted and determine whether to revise the article. Join Britannica's Publishing Partner Program and our community of experts to gain a global audience for your work! External Websites. Luminarium: Anthology of English Literature - Biography of John Skelton. The result is a highly
idiosyncratic poetics that locates the poet's authority decisively within his own person, yet at the same time predicates his 'liberty to speak' upon the existence of an engaged, imaginative audience. Skelton is frequently treated as a maverick, but this book places his theory and practice firmly in the context of later sixteenth as well as fifteenth-century traditions. Focusing on his relations with both past and present readers, it reassess his place in the English literary canon.