

# The Arthur of the Iberians: The Arthurian Legends in the Spanish and Portuguese Worlds (Arthurian Literature in the Middle Ages)

From University of Wales Press



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This book fills the Iberian linguistic and geographical gap in Arthurian studies, replacing the now-outdated work by William J. Entwistle (1925). It covers Arthurian material in all the major Peninsular Romance languages (Spanish, Portuguese, Catalan, Galician); it follows the spread of Arthurian material overseas with the seaborne expansion of Spain and Portugal from Iberia into America and Asia in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries; and, as well as examining the specifically Arthurian texts themselves, it traces the continued influence of the medieval Arthurian material and its impact on the society, literature and culture of the Golden Age and beyond, including its presence in Don Quixote, the influential Spanish Arthurian-inspired romance Amadis de Gaula, and in Spanish ballads. Such was its influence that we find an indigenous American woman called 'Iseo' (Iseult); and an Arthurian story appeared in an indigenous language of the Philippines, Tagalog, as late as the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.



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#### **Editorial Review**

#### Review

"This is a superb collaborative enterprise by eleven leading authorities. Ranging across the Romance languages of Iberia, including their territories overseas, and extending chronologically into the twentieth century, it takes into account the many scholarly developments and discoveries since the classic surveys by Entwistle (1925) and Lida de Malkiel (1959). The essays study in detail how the Matter of Britain spread widely in the Peninsula, shaped home-grown genres such as chivalric and sentimental romances, including *Don Quixote*, and even came to serve at times as a model for life in the early modern period. Edited with skill and precision by David Hook, this book will establish itself for many years to come as an invaluable resource for scholars, graduate and undergraduate students, as well as the general reader." (Edwin Williamson, University of Oxford)

"This volume is indeed an outstanding achievement, a tour de force which has resulted in a remarkable book. Because of its ample chronological scope, and of the vast chronological period it covers, this Arthur of the Iberians is a veritable Summa Arturiana Hispanica, a research tool which will be essential to any scholar wishing to investigate the presence of Arthurian material in the Hispanic world."

(Juan-Carlos Conde, Magdalen College Oxford)

About the Author

**David Hook** is a research fellow in the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages at the University of Oxford.

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