
This timely history of republican political culture and republican poetics, which includes examinations of Marvell and Milton in relation to texts by often neglected figures: Fisher, Hall, Marten, May, and Wither, shows how writers re-imagined English political and literary culture during the Puritan Revolution. The book, which appeared in December 1998, on the eve of the 350th anniversary of Charles I's execution on 30 January, 1649, is an attempt at recovering the suppressed "republican element in English cultural history" through literary culture, and more specifically, through poetry" (p. 7). Norbrook takes up the new historicist and cultural materialist concern to interpret literary texts in the context of social rhetoric. This study is an ambitious and rewarding contribution to the relationship between artistic and literary representation in seventeenth-century England, and generated considerable discussion at the Sixth International Milton Symposium in York, U.K., 1999.


Applying diverse approaches generated by the current state of Renaissance criticism and theory, this book examines the "evolving interest in the intersections of gender ideologies, theatricality, and cultural production in early modern England" (p. 2). A multi-authored collection, *Enacting Gender* engages the diverse range of current debates over issues such as the one-sex model, cross-dressing, race and region, and women as the authors, subjects, and objects of theatrical representation, and successfully resists any unified analysis of gender in the English Renaissance theatre. While