

*Tears, Sighs and Laughter. Expressions of Emotions in the Middle Ages.* Kungl. Vitterhets Historie och Antikvitets Akademien (KVHAA). *Konferenser 92.* Stockholm 2017. 330 pp.

#### *Abstract*

In the 1990s a new interest for research on emotions and affectivity in the humanities and the social sciences began to develop. This movement, later referred to as “the affective turn”, has been a most productive and vigorous field of research in the past decades as it opens up for new interpretations of historical source materials and enables studies of the relationship between states of mind and materiality. In addition, it prompts questions of, for example, gender, power and religiosity, thus being conducive to a fuller understanding of historical events, places and persons.

This anthology is the result of the Marcus Wallenberg symposium at the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities in early spring 2014. All studies included concern the interpretation of emotional expression in medieval art and literature, written by scholars representing a wide variety of disciplines.

#### *Keywords*

Middle Ages, affectivity, expressions, emotions, medieval studies, material culture, humor theory, medieval texts, representation

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