Foreign Women – Women in Foreign Lands

Studies on Foreignness and Gender in the Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East in the First Millennium BCE

Ed. by Angelika Berlejung and Marianne Grohmann

[Fremde Frauen – Frauen in fremden Ländern. Untersuchungen zu Fremdheit und Gender in der Hebräischen Bibel und im vorderen Orient im ersten Jahrtausend v. Chr.]

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The volume presents a collection of papers read during three workshops held in Leipzig (2016), Jerusalem (2017), and Vienna (2018). International scholars from different disciplines and methodological approaches explored gender-specific constructions of foreignness/strangeness in the Old Testament, Egypt, and Mesopotamia from their particular perspectives. They showed that when combined, strangeness/foreignness and gender can take on very different forms. Various processes of the »othering« of women are of importance, which differ from the »othering« of men. The contributions investigate specific questions, individual female figures and individual phenomena as model cases. The basic question was when, where, how and for what purpose the categories of foreignness and gender were connected and activated in literary tradition. The collection is a preliminary and basic work for further study of gender-specific concepts of foreignness/strangeness in the ancient Mediterranean cultures of the first millennium BCE.

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Angelika Berlejung is Professor for »History and Religion of Israel and its Environment« at the Faculty of Theology of the University of Leipzig, an Extraordinary Professor for Ancient Studies at the University of Stellenbosch/South Africa, a Visiting Full Professor for Biblical Archaeology at Bar Ilan University/Israel, and a Full Member of the Saxon Academy of Sciences.
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4556-9167>

Marianne Grohmann is professor for Old Testament Studies at the University of Vienna in Austria.
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0896-7094>

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