

## Scientific Works by Women in Medieval Abbeys

Presented by Lady Isobel of Carnewyth

Known World Science Symposium &

University of Atlantia Session 107 - June 12, 2021

[isobelofcarnewyth@gmail.com](mailto:isobelofcarnewyth@gmail.com)

<https://carnewythapotheca.wordpress.com/>

### Overview:

This lecture gives a broad context for the 12th century Abbess Polymaths with a focus on Hildegard, Héloïse, and Herrad. Scientia is defined and scholarly opportunities for women are discussed including the reasons why women sought sanctuary in abbeys. The views of the cosmos and man as microcosm are compared between Hildegard and Herrad (*Scivias, Liber Divinorum Operum, Hortus Deliciarum*) before focusing in on Hildegard's medicinal and natural history works (*Causae et Curae, Physica*) which combine a theological and humoral framework. Finally, a commonality of the women scholars mentioned is a legacy of challenges to authorship.

### Recommended Resources:

#### Translations:

- Hildegard, ., & Throop, P. (1998). Hildegard von Bingen's Physica: The complete English translation of her classic work on health and healing. Rochester, Vt: Healing Arts Press.
- Green, M. H. (2002). The Trotula: An English translation of the medieval compendium of women's medicine. Philadelphia: PENN, University of Pennsylvania Press.
- Hildegard, ., & Throop, P. (2008). Causes and cures: The complete English translation of Hildegardis Causae et Curae Libri VI.
- Berger, M., & Hildegard, . (1999). Hildegard of Bingen: On natural philosophy and medicine : selections from Cause et cure. Cambridge: D.S. Brewer.
- Campbell, N.M. & Hildegard, . Liber Divinorum Operum  
<http://www.hildegard-society.org/p/liber-divinorum-operum.html>

#### Illuminations and academic texts:

- Joyner, D., & Penn State University Press. (2016). Painting the Hortus deliciarum: Medieval women, wisdom, and time. University Park, Pennsylvania: The Pennsylvania State University Press.
- Griffiths, F. J. (2007). The Garden of Delights: Reform and Renaissance for Women in the Twelfth Century.
- Fox, M., & Hildegard, . (2002). Illuminations of Hildegard of Bingen. Rochester, Vt: Bear & Co.
- Hildegard, (1174) Liber Divinorum Operum digital manuscript  
<https://www.wdl.org/en/item/21658/>
- Campbell, Nathaniel M.. "DOUBLE BOOK REVIEW: Danielle Joyner, Painting the Hortus deliciarum: Medieval Women, Wisdom, and Time (University Park, PA: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2016)." Peregrinations: Journal of Medieval Art and Architecture 6, 2 (2017): 134-142. <https://digital.kenyon.edu/perejournal/vol6/iss2/17>