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Ardor Literature and the Gods The Book of All Books L'ardore 書籍 書籍 書籍 書籍 書籍

Ardor 2014-11-18

in this revelatory volume roberto calasso whom the paris review has called a literary institution explores the ancient texts known as the vedas little is known about the vedic people who lived more than three thousand years ago in northern india they left behind almost no objects images ruins they created no empires even the hallucinogenic plant the soma which appears at the centre of some of their rituals has not been identified with any certainty only a parthenon of words remains verses and formulations suggesting a daring understanding of life if the vedic people had been asked why they did not build cities writes calasso they could have replied we did not seek power but rapture this is the ardor of the vedic world a burning intensity that is always present both in the mind and in the cosmos with his signature erudition and profound sense of the past calasso explores the enigmatic web of ritual and myth that define the vedas often at odds with modern thought he shows how these texts illuminate the nature of consciousness more than neuroscientists have been able to offer us up to now following the hundred paths of the satapatha brahmana an impressive exegesis of vedic ritual ardor indicates that it may be possible to reach what is closest by passing through that which is most remote as the whole of vedic india was an attempt to think further

Literature and the Gods 2010-06-16

brilliant inspired and gloriously erudite literature and the gods is the culmination of roberto calasso s lifelong study of the gods in the human imagination by uncovering the divine whisper that lies behind the best poetry and prose from across the centuries calasso gives us a renewed sense of the mystery and enchantment of great literature from the banishment of the classical divinities during the age of reason to their emancipation by the romantics and their place in the literature of our own time the history of the gods can also be read as a ciphered and splendid history of literary inspiration rewriting that story calasso carves out a sacred space for literature where the presence of the gods is discernible his inquiry into the nature of absolute literature transports us to the realms of dionysus and orpheus baudelaire and mallarmé and prompts a lucid and impassioned defense of poetic form even when apparently severed from any social function lyrical and assured literature and the gods is an intensely engaging work of literary affirmation that deserves to be read alongside the masterpieces it celebrates

The Book of All Books 2021-11-23

a book that begins before adam and ends after us in this magisterial work by the italian intellectual superstar roberto calasso figures of the bible and its whole outline emerge in a new light one that is often astonishing and disquieting as indeed more than any other is the book from which they originate roberto calasso s the book of all books is a narration that moves through the bible as if through a forest where every branch every verse may offer some revelation where a man named saul becomes the first king of a people because his father sent him off to search for some donkeys that had gone astray where in answer to an invitation from jerusalem s king the queen of a remote african realm spends three years leading a long caravan of young men girls dressed in purple and animals and with large quantities of spices to ask the king certain questions and where a man named abraham hears these words from a divine voice go away from your land from your country and from the house of your father toward the land that i will show you words that reverberate throughout the bible a story about a

separation and a promise followed by many other separations and promises the book of all books the tenth part of a series parallels in many ways the second part the marriage of cadmus and harmony there gods and heroes of the greek myths revealed new physiognomies whereas here many figures of the bible and its whole outline emerge in a new light one that is often astonishing and disquieting as indeed is the book more so than any other from which they originate

L'ardore 2021-02-04T00:00:00+01:00

qualcosa di immensamente remoto dall oggi apparve più di tremila anni fa nell india del nord il veda un sapere che comprendeva in sé tutto dai granelli di sabbia sino ai confini dell universo distanza che si avverte nel modo di vivere ogni gesto ogni parola ogni impresa gli uomini vedici prestavano un attenzione adamantina alla mente che li reggeva mai disgiungibile da quell ardore da cui ritenevano si fosse sviluppato il mondo l attimo acquistava senso in rapporto a un invisibile traboccante di presenze divine fu un esperimento del pensiero così estremo che sarebbe potuto scomparire senza lasciare traccia del suo passaggio nella terra dove vaga in libertà l antilope nera così veniva definito il luogo della legge eppure quel pensiero groviglio composto da inni enigmatici atti rituali storie di dèi e folgorazioni metafisiche ha l indubitabile capacità di illuminare con luce radente diversa da ogni altra gli eventi elementari che appartengono all esperienza di chiunque oggi e dappertutto a cominciare dal puro fatto di essere coscienti così collidendo con molte di quelle che vengono ormai considerate ferme acquisizioni questo libro racconta come attraverso i cento cammini a cui allude il titolo di un opera smisurata e capitale del veda lo Śatapatha brāhmaṇa si può raggiungere ciò che sta davanti ai nostri occhi passando attraverso ciò che da noi è più lontano

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