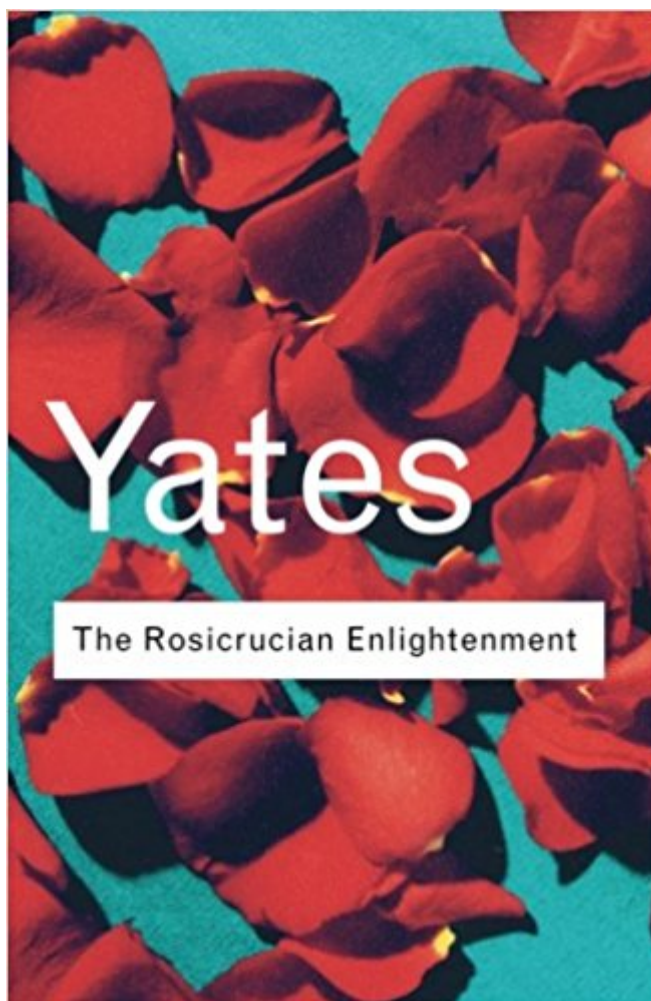


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The Rosicrucian Enlightenment (Routledge Classics) (Volume 98)



Synopsis

A history of the role that the occult has played in the formation of modern science and medicine, The Rosicrucian Enlightenment has had a tremendous impact on our understanding of the western esoteric tradition. Beautifully illustrated, it remains one of those rare works of scholarship which the general reader simply cannot afford to ignore.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

'Zestful, stylish, full of suggestive ways forward, Yates's bold reassessment of Rosicrucianism is provoking, exhilarating and indispensable.' - Diarmaid MacCulloch, BBC History Magazine

Dame Frances Yates (1899 - 1981). English scholar who brought about the revival of interest in the historical role of the occult sciences, demonstrating their link with the rise of modern science.

Frances Yates is well-regarded for her superb study "Giordano Bruno and the Hermetic Tradition" (1964). This book (1972) is a sequel. It places the murky origins of Rosicrucianism in the context of the religious and political rivalries of the early 17th Century. It is an extremely engaging and fascinating study which, unfortunately, was not carried through to its logical end-point--it reads like a draft of a bigger and more definitive book. But a wonderful draft it is! At this moment there is a danger that the collections of the Warburg Institute, which made all of Yates' work possible, may become unavailable to scholars or even dispersed. These collections are irreplaceable--they are the

hard core of scholarship in 16th-17th century cultural evolution. If this book inspires you, please inform yourself and do whatever you can to help preserve this resource for posterity.

Absolutely different and interesting research about the mystical side of early modern history, this kind of book is not written too many times. Most of these kind of books give just shattered "who is who"-collection, but this book investigate the development of magical beliefs, alchemy, science and the connection of these in rosicrucian view, ordinary sources are well attached to the big picture and anachronism is avoided, this is what I call the true historical research. Purely scientific approach to the field that is not considered very scientific. Quite expensive book, but quality costs!

In my opinion this easily ranks among the top books ever written on the Rosicrucian movement. Yates gives prolific detail regarding the earliest developments of this occult group (sometimes overwhelming if you are not already somewhat familiarized with the material). This is a must-read for any serious student of the topic and I highly suggest it to those with an interest in learning more about the order. However I do suggest a bit of research on the Rosicrucians and esotericism in general prior to diving into this one if you want to get the most out of it.

very good

Frances Yates is at top form in this book. She not only gives the history, but many of the connections even to the Enlightenment and to the beginnings of the Scientific Revolution. Unexpected links, and comprehensive coverage. A must for specialists.

Interesting history of the occult roots of modern science. Lot's of historical information.

Anything by Dr Yates is amazing - this is an incredible analysis of Rosicrucianism - never dry or boring.

Valuable information

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