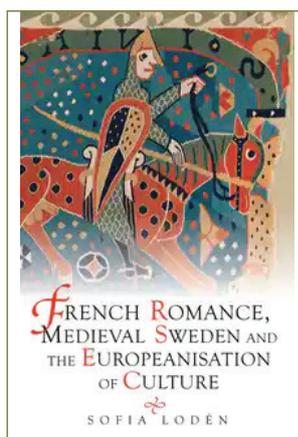


Book launch

*French Romance, Medieval Sweden  
and the Europeanisation of Culture*



SOFIA LODÉN presents her new book  
*French Romance, Medieval Sweden and the Europeanisation of Culture.*

Comments by PAULA HENRIKSON.  
A Q&A session will follow.

Wednesday, 17 March 2021, 4:15 p.m.

The event will be held via Zoom:  
<https://uu-se.zoom.us/j/62705528421>

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#### ABOUT THE BOOK

*French Romance, Medieval Sweden and the Europeanisation of Culture*

Sofia Lodén

(Boydell & Brewer, 2021)

**The adaptation of French texts into medieval Swedish reveals the progress of a Europe-wide literary culture.** Translations of French romances into other vernaculars in the Middle Ages have sometimes been viewed as “less important” versions of prestigious sources, rather than in their place as part of a broader range of complex and wider European text traditions. This consideration of how French romance was translated, rewritten and interpreted in medieval Sweden focuses on the wider context. It examines four major texts which appear in both languages: *Le Chevalier au lion* and its Swedish translation *Herr Ivan*; *Le Conte de Floire et Blancheflor* and *Flores och Blanzeflor*; *Valentin et Sansnom* (the original French text has been lost, but the tale has survived in the prose version *Valentin et Orson*) and the Swedish text *Namnlös och Valentin*; and *Paris et Vienne* and the fragmentary Swedish version *Riddar Paris och jungfru Vienna*. Each is analysed through the lens of different themes: female characters, children, animals and masculinity. The author argues that French romance made a major contribution to the Europeanisation of medieval culture, whilst also playing a key role in the formation of a national literature in Sweden.

#### ABOUT SOFIA LODÉN

Sofia Lodén is Associate Professor of French at Stockholm University and Pro Futura Scientia XII Fellow at the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study in Uppsala. Since 2020, she is a member of the Young Academy of Sweden. Her research focuses on medieval literature in a European perspective. She is interested in how courtly literature spread widely in medieval Europe and to what extent this spread contributed to the Europeanisation of medieval culture.

Lodén has published articles on different aspects of medieval literature. She has also co-edited the books *The Eufemiavisor and Courtly Culture: Time, Texts and Cultural Transfer* (with Olle Ferm, Ingela Hedström, Jonatan Pettersson, and Mia Åkestam, 2015) and *L'expérience des frontières dans les littératures de l'Europe médiévale* (with Vanessa Obry, 2019).

#### ABOUT PAULA HENRIKSON

Paula Henrikson, Professor of Literature at Uppsala University and a previous Pro Futura Scientia Fellow at SCAS, explores in her current research the role of classicism and philhellenism in Swedish romantic literature. Among her publications are books, chapters, and edited volumes on Swedish romanticism, travel writing, and textual scholarship in the long nineteenth century. She is chair of the Swedish Society for Literature (Svenska Litteratursällskapet) and of the Swedish Society for Belles-Lettres (Svenska Vitterhetssamfundet), and she has been awarded prizes from the Swedish Academy, the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities, and the Royal Society of Humanities in Uppsala.