

Françoise Graziani

The etho-poetics of the Mediterranean space: towards a reconciliation of the ancients and the moderns

From Homer to Boccaccio and into the modern era, the Mediterranean has been considered an *open centre*, a commonplace accessible in every sense, dedicated to movement and to cultural and social exchange. How can we reinvest with meaning today the *ethos* of the ancient poets, those heirs to Orpheus who never ceased to interpret the power of language in their music, inspiring revolutions in the spheres of aesthetics and *ethos* in the process? By more fully appreciating this community of varied and varying *traditions*, which have the power to transform themselves over time and convey knowledge, which are antagonistic but not dogmatic, and which rather than acceding to a single hegemony, constantly reform to create new accords.