Castles Of The Mind: A Study Of Medieval Architectural Allegory

Christiania Whitehead

Castles of the Mind: A Study of Medieval Architectural Allegory. C Whitehead. Culpeper J. The study of allegory as a discourse form reveals both a set of universal pragmatic constraints and the way in which these constraints are exploited by specific contexts to produce unique generic constructs such as that of Prudentian allegory. View. Show abstract. Castles of the Mind is a major new contribution to our understanding of the symbolic structures and ideological systems underpinning medieval literary and cultural representations. For well over a thousand years, scholars exploited the potential of architecture for allegorical representation. Regardless of whether they were describing the characteristics of romantic love, the framework of the medieval education syllabus, the community of the church, the virginal body or the contemplative vocation, writers turned repeatedly to the trope of the textual building. What was it about architecture that enabled it to fulfil such diverse functions over such a long timespan?