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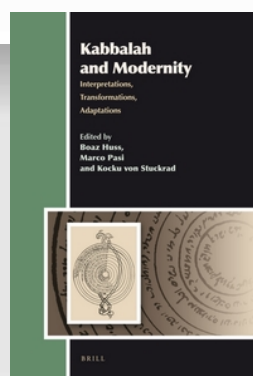
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Oriental Kabbalah And The Parting Of East And West In The Early Theosophical Society



Author: [Marco Pasi](#)

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Overview

Chapter Summary

One of the most interesting aspects of the academic study of Western esotericism, as it has developed in the last t

qualification of this phenomenon as Western, on which there seems to be general agreement among the specialist empirical-historical approach advocated by scholars such as Faivre and Wouter J. Hanegraaff rejected the universalist and religionist approaches and, as a consequence, made the reference to a specific cultural framework (i.e., the West) in one of the crucial moments of the story, when the idea of a Western tradition of esotericism took shape, and to kabbalah in it. Before the nineteenth century, esotericism in Europe was pursued both within and without the domain of Christianity. An interest for kabbalah was present in the Theosophical Society from the very beginning.

Keywords: Christianity; empirical-historical approach; kabbalah; Theosophical Society; Western esotericism



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