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## Arab Culture and Ottoman Magnificence in Antwerp's Golden Age (Studies in the Arcadian Library)

*Alastair Hamilton*

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1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Extraordinary book, magnificent illustrations.By ZoraidaThis is an extraordinary book, with magnificent illustrations. The introduction by Profesor Hamilton is erudite and eminently readable. A sumptuous edition!

The theme of this richly-illustrated book is the impact and image of the Maghrib and of the Levant on European

learning and culture during the Renaissance and the Golden Age, with special reference to Antwerp's pivotal position as a great trading and printing city. Publication of the English language edition is timed to coincide with an exhibition of rare books and manuscripts at the Plantin-Moretus Museum of Printing History, taking place in Antwerp in late 2001/early 2002. It includes an extended introduction by Alastair Hamilton accompanied by a list of the exhibits. The majority of the exhibits derive equally from the holdings of the Plantin-Moretus Museum, and from the Arcadian Library, an outstanding, private library dedicated to the history of Levantine influences in Europe.

^ from other book by this author 0-19-714400-4 Europe and the Arab World (1994). Winner of the Redwood Books Award for excellence in book production (1994) 'I learned a great deal from Hamilton's text and was entertained by it [but] the chief emotion I experienced was simple envy. I envied the Arcadian Group their collection. Not only are the featured books beautiful and desirable in themselves, but some of them have been previously owned by other great book collectors.'" Robert Irwin, TLS 24 June 1994 About the Author Educated at Eton and King's College Cambridge. Taught at the University of Urbino from 1977 to 1992, Professor of the History of the Radical Reformation at the University of Amsterdam from 1987 to 2001, and Dr. C. Louise Thijssen-Schoute Professor of the History of Ideas at Leiden University from 1985 to 2005. Now Arcadian Visiting Research Professor at the School of Advanced Study, London University, attached to the Warburg Institute and General Editor of the Arcadian Series (London/Oxford). Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy.