

The Critical Voices From the
Joyous Gard: the Homosocial
and the Feminine in the
Stanzaic Morte Arthure

Justin Brock

University of Oregon

Friday, November 1, 2013

12:00—1:00 PM

Mesa Vista Hall 1104

(History Commons)



Detail from MS BL Royal 20 C vi f. 150

(c. last quarter of 13th century)

The *Stanzaic Morte Arthur* remains a marginal work in the study of medieval Arthurian literature, steeped in a strong tradition of critiquing its aesthetic value by noting its condensed and confusing narrative. In this presentation, however, Justin Brock will argue that through the complex interweaving of narratives and juxtaposition of various characters, the *Stanzaic Morte* presents a critique of the homosocial and masculine Arthurian court as an aggressive mess of kinship ties and chivalric expectations. At the center of this discussion is Lancelot, whose shifting alliance between the Arthurian court and women outside the court becomes the main drive of this critique.



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