

D*isputed Messiahs: Jewish and Christian Messianism in the Ashkenazic World during the Reformation* is the first comprehensive study that situates Jewish messianism in its broader cultural, social, and religious contexts within the surrounding Christian society. By doing so, Rebekka Voß shows how the expressions of Jewish and Christian end-time expectations informed one another. Although the two groups disputed the different messiahs they awaited, they shared principal hopes and fears relating to the end of days. Drawing on a great variety of both Jewish and Christian sources in Hebrew, Yiddish, German, and Latin, the book examines how Jewish and Christian messianic ideology and politics were deeply linked.

“Voß makes an important contribution to the history of Jewish messianism, entering a field long studied by a variety of scholars, but offering a new and original take on the sixteenth century and on the significance of messianic calculation and activity in Germanic lands. She is also highly original in offering a comparative perspective on Jewish and Christian messianic enthusiasts, their awareness of the other, and their fascinating entanglements. Her contribution to comparative and ‘connecting histories’ represents her most significant addition to the existing literature on the subject.”

—**DAVID B. RUDERMAN**, Joseph Meyerhoff Professor Emeritus of Modern Jewish History, University of Pennsylvania

“Voß combines a deep knowledge of both Jewish and German thought with rare linguistic and analytical skills. She is thus able to place the messianic impulses of Jews and German-speaking Christians, so prominent and potent in the early modern world, side by side—the way they existed at the time. Voß shows us how powerful messianic and apocalyptic ideas were to both Jews and Christians, demonstrating their deep impact in religion, politics, culture, and literature. It is careful, insightful, creative, brilliant work.”

—**MATT GOLDISH**, Samuel M. and Esther Melton Chair in History, Ohio State University

REBEKKA VOß is an associate professor of Jewish history at Goethe University, Frankfurt. Her research focuses on Jewish cultural history in early modern Europe, with a particular interest in cultural transfer between Jews and Christians.