



The Cambridge Companion to Horseracing

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People have been racing horses for thousands of years, all over the world. Yet horseracing is often presented as an English creation that was exported, unaltered, to the colonies. This Companion investigates the intersection of racing and literature, art, history, and finance, casting the sport as the product of cross-class, cosmopolitan, and international influences. Chapters on racing history and the origins of the thoroughbred demonstrate how the gift of a fast horse could forge alliances between nations, and the extent to which international power dynamics can be traced back to racetracks and breeding sheds. Leading scholars and journalists draw on original research and firsthand experience to create vivid portraits of the racetracks of Newmarket, Kentucky, the Curragh, and Hunter Valley, exposing readers to new racing frontiers in China and Dubai as well. A unique resource for fans and scholars alike, this Companion reopens essential questions regarding the legacy and importance of horseracing today.

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Review

"... a serious book ... recommended for libraries, fans and experts alike."

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"... [this] volume is a great starting place for those interested in the subject, and the reader will come away wanting to learn more ... highly recommended"

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About the Author

Rebecca Cassidy is Professor of Anthropology at Goldsmiths, University of London. She has written and edited a number of books on horseracing, animal domestication and gambling, including *Horse People* (2007) and *Sport of Kings: Kinship, Class and Thoroughbred Breeding in Newmarket* (2002).

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