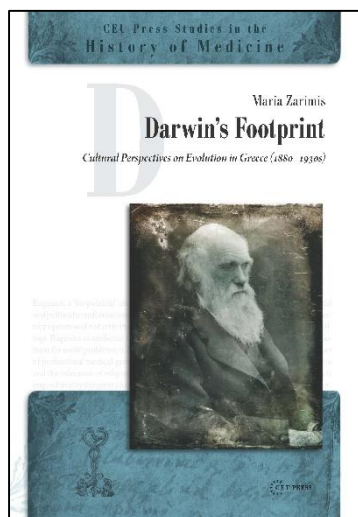


DARWIN'S FOOTPRINT

CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES ON EVOLUTION IN GREECE (1880-1930s)

MARIA ZARIMIS



Darwin's Footprint is dealing with the impact of Darwinism in Greece, investigating how it has shaped Greece in terms of its cultural and intellectual history, and in particular its literature.

The book demonstrates that in the late 19th to early 20th centuries Darwinism and associated science strongly influenced celebrated Greek literary writers and other influential intellectuals in various areas such as 'man's place in nature', the nature-nurture controversy, religion, as well as class, race and gender.

In addition, the study reveals that many of these individuals were not just dealing with important issues from social, political or philosophical perspectives, as has been the general thought till now, but they were also considering alternative approaches to these issues based on Darwinian and associated biological post-Darwinian ideas. These issues included the Greek race or nation, its culture, language and identity; also politics and gender equality.

Zarimis's monograph devotes considerable space to Xenopoulos (1867-1951), notable novelist, journalist and playwright.

"The original and significant contribution this book makes to scholarship in its field derives from the fact that so little has been written, so far, about the influence of Darwin's writings and Darwinism on Greek literary and social culture. Thus the manuscript opens up an area of study that has been sadly neglected in Greek cultural life." — Peter Bien, Professor of English, Dartmouth College.

"Maria Zarimis' book is a thorough and in-depth analysis of how mainstream Western scientific ideas found their way into the planning of the modern Greek society through the intermediation of literature. In this sense it strongly contributes to various academic fields, expanding from literary studies and history of science to social history and cultural studies." — Antonis Liakos, Professor of Contemporary History and History of Historiography, University of Athens.

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