This volume comprises the papers presented during the international symposium on “Theoretical Approaches to the Transmission and Edition of Oriental Manuscripts” that was organized in March 2001 in Istanbul, bringing together specialists in the editing theories and techniques from the textual and editorial traditions of Classical Antiquity and Oriental Studies. The contributions address the ‘traveling’ of texts through time and space, taking into account the differences between oral and written traditions; a comparative analysis of intertextuality in different textual traditions, in particular those of classical antiquity and the Near East; the material conditions of and intellectual incentives for the transmission, reproduction, and, indeed, edition, of texts; the interrelation between text genre and object genre; editorial choices, and how they take into account the manner in which a given text was historically reproduced; philological methods that have been developed in order to deal with these issues; and the questions of how and to which extent we can apply established editing methods developed by European medievalists to Near Eastern textual traditions, and which alternatives exist.

Judith Pfeiffer teaches Islamic history at the Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford. Her fields of interest include the Islamic history, historiography, and hagiography of the 13th to 16th centuries.

Manfred Kropp is Professor of Semitic languages and Islamic sciences at Mainz University, Germany. He currently holds the directorate of the German Institute for Oriental Studies, Beirut.
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