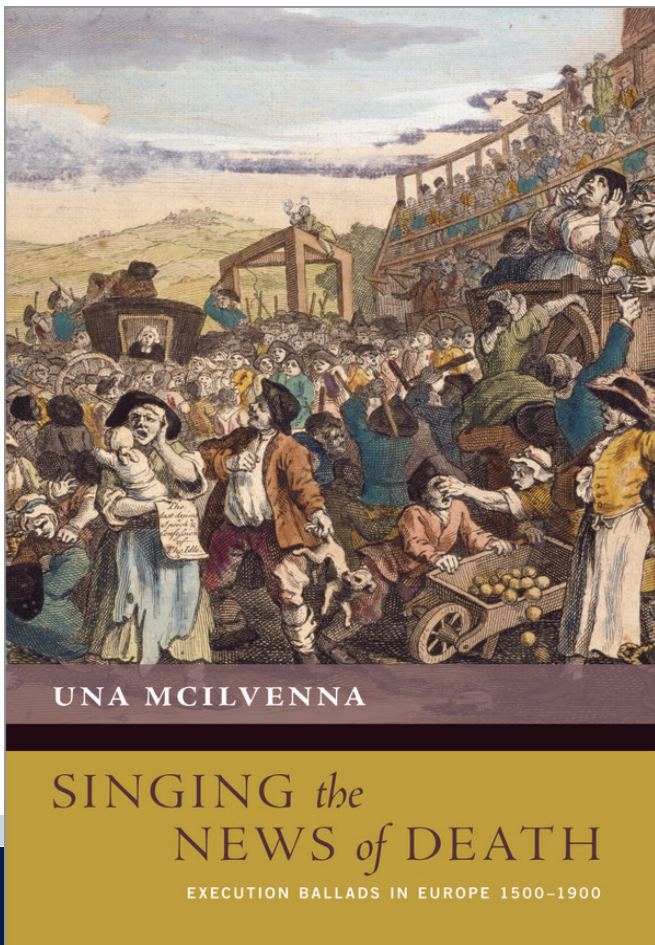


Singing the News of Death

Execution Ballads in Europe 1500-1900



Ballads were frequently written in the first-person voice, and often purported to be the last words, confession or 'dying speech' of the condemned criminal, yet were ironically on sale the day of the execution itself. Musical notation was generally not required as ballads were set to well-known tunes. Execution ballads were therefore a medium accessible to all, regardless of literacy, social class, age, gender or location.

Features

- Explores the largely unknown but universal tradition of singing the news of execution
- Relies on the author's familiarity with five languages and covers four centuries of history
- Discusses lyrics and melodies, as well as famous executions like Marie Antoinette and Charles I

THE AUTHOR: Una McIlvenna

Una McIlvenna is Honorary Senior Lecturer at the Australian National University.

June 2022

Hardcover

9780197551851

560 pages

\$125.00 **\$87.50** | £81.00 **£56.70**

Order online at www.oup.com with promotion code **AAFLYG6**



OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS