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**INTERTEXTUALITY
IN MODERN ARABIC
LITERATURE SINCE 1967**

Edited by

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Preface and Acknowledgements

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The chapters of the present volume represent edited versions of papers originally presented at the Conference on Intertextuality in Modern Arabic Literature since 1967 held at the Jagiellonian University, Kraków in May 2003 under the auspices of EMTAR (European Meeting of Teachers of Arabic Literature):¹

The subject of intertextuality has aroused a good deal of interest in recent years, both on a theoretical and a practical level, and the investigation of the phenomenon in the context of modern Arabic literature, with its twin roots in the Middle Eastern and Western literary traditions, is a particularly fruitful one. Since the 'watershed' year of 1967, which witnessed the disastrous Arab defeat in the so-called 'Six-Day' War with Israel, many Arab authors have, for a variety of reasons, deliberately chosen to incorporate intertextual elements in their works. The present volume, which opens with a general account of the subject by Roger Allen, explores this phenomenon from a variety of angles, and includes discussion of a number of lesser known authors as well as some more familiar ones. It is hoped that the papers included in the volume will not only make a useful contribution to the field but also perhaps inspire others to pursue further research into the subject.

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¹ Subsequently renamed EURAMAL (European Association for Modern Arabic Literature).