



The Renaissance Dialogue: Literary Dialogue in its Social and Political Contexts, Castiglione to Galileo (Cambridge Studies in Renaissance Literature and Culture)

By Virginia Cox

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This is a full-length study of the use of the dialogue form in Italy from the early sixteenth century until Galileo. Drawing on a wide range of sources, it examines the characteristics which determined the genre's unrivalled popularity in the period as a vehicle for polemic, debate, technical exposition and comic drama. More than simply an account of the development of an individual literary genre, however, the book is a contribution to the broader social and cultural history of the period. As representations of conversation, miniature dramas of persuasion, the dialogues of the Italian Renaissance constitute an extraordinarily rich - and largely untapped - source of information about the ideals and practice of communication in the early modern age.

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Review

Review of the hardback: 'This book is of enormous value to Renaissance literary and social historians.' The Times Higher Education Supplement

About the Author

Virginia Cox is a professor of Italian at New York University and author of *The Renaissance Dialogue: Literary Dialogue in Its Social and Political Contexts, Castiglione to Tasso* and coeditor of *The Rhetoric of Cicero in Its Medieval and Renaissance Traditions*. She is also editor and translator of *Moderata Fonte, The Worth of Women: Wherein Is Clearly Revealed Their Nobility and Their Superiority to Men*, and coeditor and translator of *Maddalena Campiglia, Flori, A Pastoral Drama*.

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