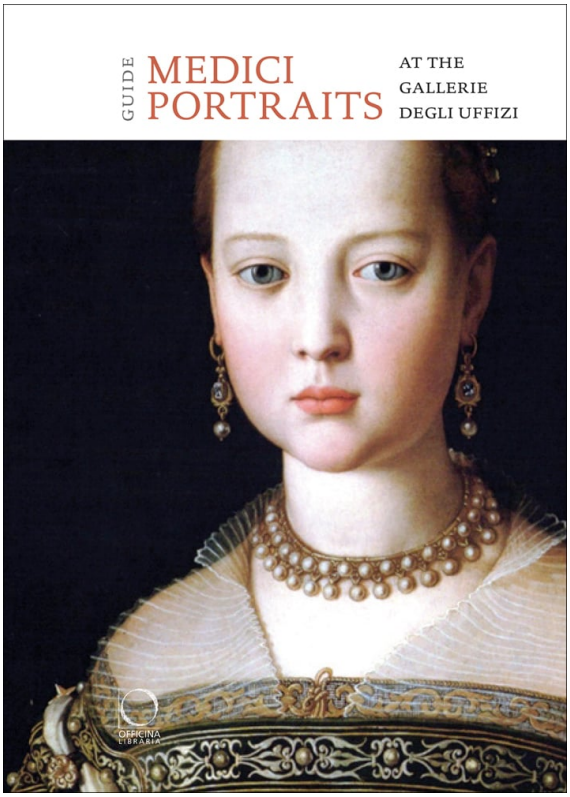
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The Medici Portraits

At the Uffizi and Galleria Palatina

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ISBN	9788833671789
Publisher	Officina Libraria
Binding	Paperback / softback
Territory	World excluding Italy and France
Size	210 mm x 150 mm
Pages	96 Pages
Illustrations	52 color
Price	£14.00

- The Medicis are so well-known that the recent series *Medici: Masters of Florence* was broadcast in 190 countries
- These are the portraits that the family kept for itself and they are housed in the museums (Uffizi and Pitti Palace) that house their collections

The Medici family ruled unofficially and later as dukes the city of Florence and Tuscany, from the end of 14th to the end of the 18th century. Under their patronage the Renaissance was born.
The members of this powerful family were able to build their public image in a sophisticated cultural environment where famous artists such as Raphael, Pontormo, Bronzino, Vasari, as well as poets, men of letters, scientists, humanists, were active. Portraits played an important role in this public relations strategy. The portrait types were quite different: from State portraits to family portraits, from those depicting the young heirs of the family name to those of the women that either ruled or played important roles in the dynastic allegiances.
In this guide the marvellous works, held in Florence's Uffizi Gallery and Palazzo Pitti, are presented in chronological order making possible to trace the main stages in the history and genealogy of the Medici family.

Adele Milozzi is an art historian, her studies are concentrated around two major areas - Tuscan-Emilian painting of the 16th century and Italian photography of the 20th century. She is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Roma Tre with a research project on colour photography in the context of the Italian landscape school.

Published 19th Jul 2023