



The Renaissance Speaks Hebrew

Edited by Giulio Busi

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- This book contains original content highlighting the great contribution given to the Italian Renaissance from the culture of the Jewish world, so far a little investigated topic
- Edited by Giulio Busi, one of the world's leading experts on the subject of Jewish culture
- Published to coincide with an exhibition at the Museo Nazionale dell'Ebraismo Italiano (the National Museum of Italian Judaism) in Ferrara, Italy, running until September 2019

The volume, investigating the extraordinary season of the Italian Renaissance, highlights the great contribution offered to the culture of that period by the Jewish world, still little documented in today's studies. Indeed, there is no doubt that Judaism, with its long-lasting identity and tradition strongly rooted in territorial states, has made a peculiar contribution to the sphere of arts, literature and humanistic philosophy, contributing to giving many original and inimitable intonations to the Italian Renaissance. The investigation proposed here focuses on the relationship – harmonious in some cases and conflicting in others – between the Christian majority society and the Jewish identity in the period between the early fifteenth and mid-sixteenth centuries, meaning from the full affirmation of the Humanism to the conclusion of the Council of Trento, offering at the same time a precise geographical overview of the phenomenon. The volume is divided into thematic chapters, it contains a rich catalogue of testimonies ranging from liturgical objects to those of daily use, from manuscripts to furnishings to some art masterpieces, and is supplemented by bibliographical apparatus. Essays by: Guido Bartolucci, Giulio Busi, Donatella Calabi, Saverio Campanini, J.H. Chajes, Andreina Contessa, Miriam Davide, Silvana Greco, Maria Giuseppina Muzzarelli, Mauro Perani, David B. Ruderman, Angela Scandaliato, Salvatore Settis, Giacomo Todeschini, Francesca Trivellato, Giuseppe Veltri, Gianni Venturi, Joanna Weinberg.