



# Vasari for Bindo Altoviti

## Christ Carrying the Cross

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- Recently rediscovered, Vasari's *Christ Carrying the Cross* has never been published in such detail
- A masterpiece in Vasari's oeuvre: it really stands out in his production
- Documents the friendship between Vasari and Bindo Altoviti, important collector and patrons of the arts
- New information on Altoviti, whose art patronage was investigated in a 2003 exhibit in Boston
- Published to accompany an exhibition at the Gallerie Nazionali Barberini Corsini, Palazzo Corsini, Rome from 24 January, to 30 June 2019

The catalogue presents *Christ Carrying the Cross*, recently rediscovered by Carlo Falciani in a private collection, which was born out of the intense friendship between the painter and art historian Giorgio Vasari (1511-1574) with Bindo Altoviti (1491-1557), important banker and refined art collector and patron. The artwork was painted in 1553, just before Vasari's return to Florence to take service as court painter of the Duke Cosimo I de' Medici. The painting shows the extremely high quality reached by Vasari's production in Rome – where he was working for Pope Julius III and where the Florentine banker Bindo Altoviti had a palace and conducted business – and, at the same time, it shows the experimentations of his manner, characterised by the re-elaboration of modern and contemporary models, in this case works of Michelangelo, Francesco Salviati and Sebastiano del Piombo.

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Text in English and Italian.

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