

The Lost Michelangelos

Antonio Forcellino

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Antonio Forcellino : The Lost Michelangelos before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Lost Michelangelos:

Translated by Lucinda Byatt This book tells the remarkable story of a rare discovery: the uncovering of two lost paintings by the great Renaissance artist Michelangelo. Like many stories of artistic loss, this one begins in a library in

Italy, where Antonio Forcellino - a distinguished Michelangelo scholar and restorer - stumbled across some unpublished letters among the papers of Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga, son of Isabella d'Este and an extremely important figure in the Italian Renaissance. These letters comment on the paintings of Michelangelo in a way that is completely at odds with what was to become the dominant critical tradition of Michelangelo scholarship, an inconsistency that set Forcellino off on a journey that took him to Dubrovnik, Oxford, New York and Niagara Falls and culminated in the discovery of two magnificent paintings: Pieta with Mary and Two Angels, now in a private collection in America, and Cavalieri Crucifixion, now held by an educational institution in England. Through a combination of careful historical research, extensive restoration and meticulous radiographic analysis, Forcellino shows convincingly that these paintings can be traced back to the studio of Michelangelo. This extraordinary story, brilliantly retold, calls into question the received view of Michelangelo's work and fills in a missing piece in our understanding of one of the greatest artists of all time.

"As much a story about the intransigence of the art establishment and the gaps in its tradition-bound methods for considering authentication claims as it is about the ultimate fate of the painting itself." New York Times "An art mystery for the ages." New York Post "An unlikely and rather miraculous piece of art history." Bay Area Reporter "In reconstructing the history of two lost paintings, Forcellino transforms the material into a cinematic plot worthy of a spy movie." Il Manifesto "This is an intriguing piece of artistic detective work...Reading Forcellino's investigations is like watching a jigsaw being painstakingly pieced together." The Saturday Age nbsp; The story behind The Lost Michelangelos has garnered a lot of media attention including features in the following news outlets: The Huffington Post The Independent The Daily Mail BBC Oxford Sky News Daily News Analysis nbsp; "In compelling fashion, Antonio Forcellino traces the remarkable journey of a painting from Rome to Dubrovnik to Berlin, and finally to Buffalo, NY: could it be a masterpiece by the greatest genius of the Italian Renaissance? William Wallace, Washington University, St Louis "Forcellino's new book reads like a detective story, draws on his expertise as a restorer and makes a good case for the rediscovery of two lost paintings by Michelangelo." Peter Burke, University of Cambridge From the Back Cover Translated by Lucinda Byatt This book tells the remarkable story of a rare discovery: the uncovering of two lost paintings by the great Renaissance artist Michelangelo. Like many stories of artistic loss, this one begins in a library in Italy, where Antonio Forcellino - a distinguished Michelangelo scholar and restorer - stumbled across some unpublished letters among the papers of Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga, son of Isabella d'Este and an extremely important figure in the Italian Renaissance. These letters comment on the paintings of Michelangelo in a way that is completely at odds with what was to become the dominant critical tradition of Michelangelo scholarship, an inconsistency that set Forcellino off on a journey that took him to Dubrovnik, Oxford, New York and Niagara Falls and culminated in the discovery of two magnificent paintings: Pieta with Mary and Two Angels, now in a private collection in America, and Cavalieri Crucifixion, now held by an educational institution in England. Through a combination of careful historical research, extensive restoration and meticulous radiographic analysis, Forcellino shows convincingly that these paintings can be traced back to the studio of Michelangelo. This extraordinary story, brilliantly retold, calls into question the received view of Michelangelo's work and fills in a missing piece in our understanding of one of the greatest artists of all time. About the Author Antonio Forcellino is an art historian and restorer. As a leading scholar of the Renaissance and a recognised expert on Michelangelo, Forcellino was responsible for the restoration of Michelangelo's Moses and the Piccolomini altar in Siena.