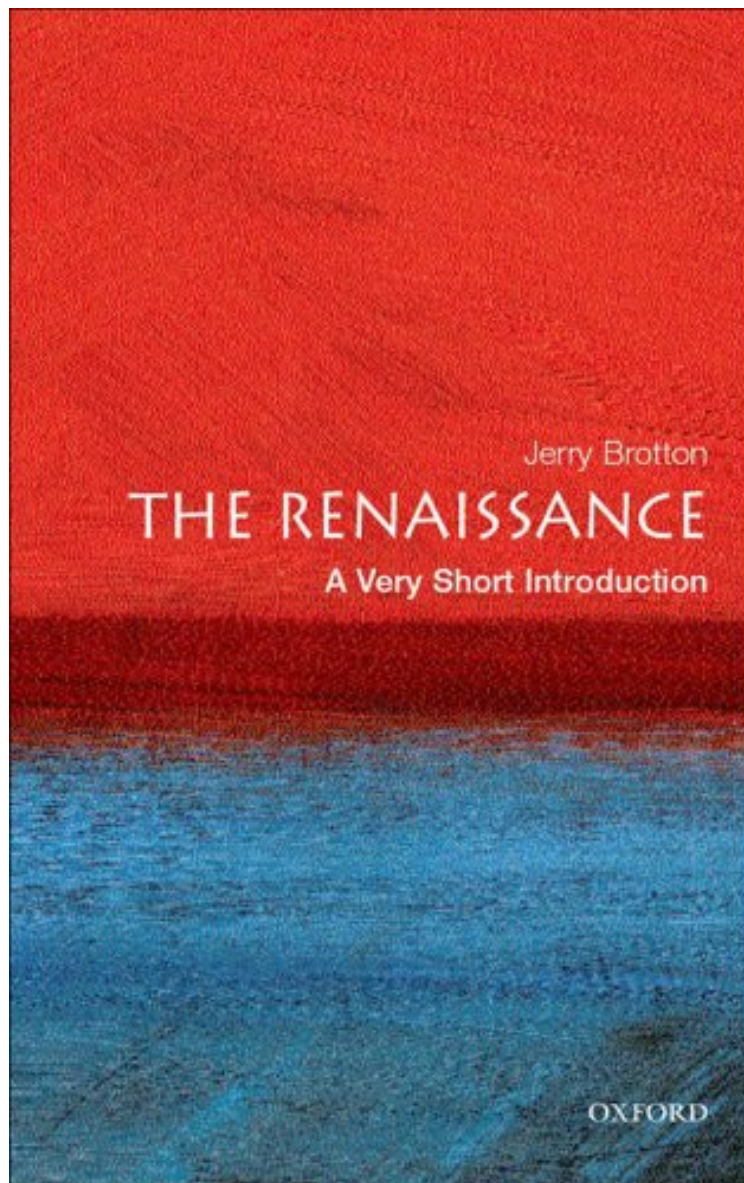


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The Renaissance: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)

Jerry Brotton

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Jerry Brotton : The Renaissance: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Renaissance: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An Excellent Short Survey By Frank Bellizzi Well, I have to say, this is the first book in the Very Short Introductions series that I have enjoyed this much. (I've read maybe five others). The

authors of the series are true experts. The trouble, in my opinion, is the format. The size of these books means they're more than an article, less than a complete survey. It's a tough job for an author. But Jerry Brotton manages to pull it off, I think. His coverage of "the Renaissance" begins with a good survey of the historiography, and includes sections on art, literature, humanism, religious reformation(s), women, exploration, etc. Like I said, at least several volumes in this series strike me as being too much and too little at the same time. But I think that this particular book is actually a very good short survey. I give it four stars and not five, only because many of the illustrations are mediocre (which seems to be a trend in the publishing business). I think Oxford University Press can do better. Judging from just the text, I give it five stars. Those who don't agree with this opinion might consider what it would be like to write your own book covering the Renaissance in the same number of pages. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A fine, engaging "very short introduction" By J This is a very good, but imperfect, introduction to the Renaissance. Although one might quibble with phrasings that might be clearer or interpretations that might be more fully spelled out to avoid ambiguity, this is a fine "very short introduction" to the subject. The author makes use of a number of pieces of art well, even in the black and white format of the book. He also touches on the interaction between "east and west" in ways that seem unavoidable when studying the Renaissance; however, this was an area where I thought the subject matter invited and demanded more discussion. The final chapter on literature and the Renaissance seemed rushed, particularly the section on Shakespeare (the discussion of the sonnets was better than that of the plays). Although imperfect, this slim volume still accomplishes its aim, and its engaging brevity can propel readers both to explore more on their own and to be more informed, having read this book, when doing so. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. How We Got Here By Edward Vaughn Gods bless the Greeks, and then the intellectuals of Florence, for without them we would still be awash in the miasma of Bible-think. A concise introduction to the exit ramp from that swamp and into the fresh light of reason and sanity. Thanks to the Medici Family.

More than ever before, the Renaissance stands as one of the defining moments in world history. Between 1400 and 1600, European perceptions of society, culture, politics and even humanity itself emerged in ways that continue to affect not only Europe but the entire world. This wide-ranging exploration of the Renaissance sees the period as a time of unprecedented intellectual excitement and cultural experimentation and interaction on a global scale, alongside a darker side of religion, intolerance, slavery, and massive inequality of wealth and status. It guides the reader through the key issues that defined the period, from its art, architecture, and literature, to advancements in the fields of science, trade, and travel. In its incisive account of the complexities of the political and religious upheavals of the period, the book argues that Europe's reciprocal relationship with its eastern neighbours offers us a timely perspective on the Renaissance that still has much to teach us today. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

` from previous edition a young Turk who likes to entertain . . . Brotton's book is full of arts and crafts . . . engaging and alluring . . . This is a Renaissance you can touch and feel 'Sunday Times` energetic and committed agenda 'Financial Times` offers some impressive fresh evidence 'Independent` this is a Renaissance you can touch and feel Felipe Fernandez-Armesto About the Author Dr. Jerry Brotton is a Lecturer in English at Royal Holloway, University of London.