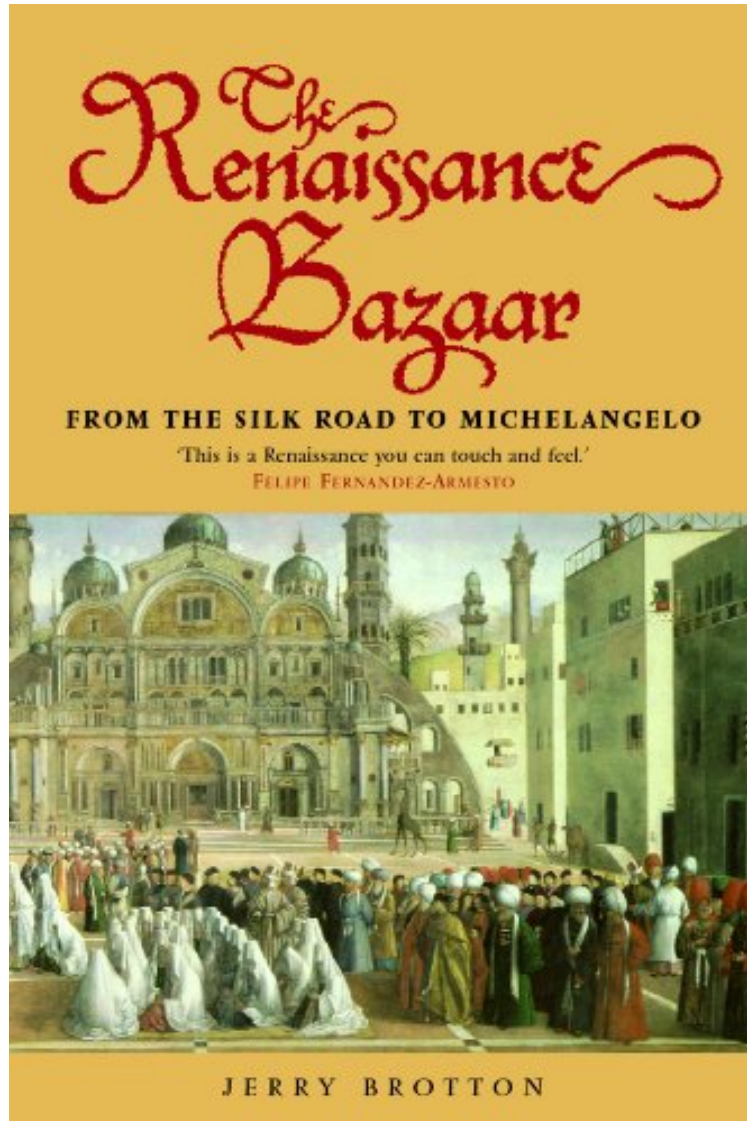


The Renaissance Bazaar: from the Silk Road to Michelangelo

Jerry Brotton

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Jerry Brotton : The Renaissance Bazaar: from the Silk Road to Michelangelo before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Renaissance Bazaar: from the Silk Road to Michelangelo:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Compelling thesis, well written By J. Knott I used this book for my AP European History class, and this was very informative on the cultural exchange between East and West that clearly influenced some aspects of both cultures. 0 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Item arrived good condition. By scholars int'l corp(HM) Item arrived good condition. 7 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Not quite what I expected. By Kaaren S. Brown I found the first few chapters very informative and interesting but the

book as a whole has the flavor of a PhD dissertation, several points extensively discussed.

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 darkerside 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 as a moment of global inclusiveness that still has much to teach us today.

From Publishers Weekly Despite what most of us learned in high school, this scholarly yet accessible book argues that the storied achievements of the Renaissance did not rest solely on the chiseled shoulders of a few Italian men. Instead, posits Brotton, a lecturer at the University of London, the cultivated East had a profound impact on the West during the famously fertile period of 1400-1600. With broad brushstrokes, Brotton applies his thesis to major Renaissance innovations, revealing the Islamic world's contributions to fields as varied as cartography, astronomy, architecture and commerce. Not only did Iberian forays into Southeast Asia and Africa boost Western appetites for "conspicuous consumption" in the forms of spices and frippery, they also heightened Europe's awareness of her own status relative to her wealthy distant neighbors, the Ottoman Empire. Brotton goes north as well, singling out German and Flemish paintings as iconic representations of this East-West exchange. But in his plea for inclusion, he jeopardizes his own coverage: this lean volume suffers from an excess of overview and an absence of focus, which may disappoint, as might his cursory consideration of the regrettable consequences of this meeting of worlds—colonization, and the rise of the slave trade. 25 halftones 8 color plates Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. `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 19/06/2002 energetic and committed agenda` energetic and committed agenda' Financial Times June 2002` excellent text' Good Book Guide` concise survey ... offers some impressive fresh evidence' Independent` exciting and challenging new vision of the Renaissance' The Lady` this book is very much aimed at the general reader' Gabriele Neher, The Art Book` If you're a bit of a culture vulture, and want to brush up on your Leonardo from your Loewenbrau, give this a look before you next European trip' Adventure Travel` his arguments are compelling, this book is very welcome' James Eve, The Times (Play) About the Author Jerry Brotton is a Lecturer in English at the University of London. He is the author of Trading Territories: Mapping the Early Modern World and Global Interests: Renaissance Art between East and West (with Lisa Jardine).