This book is the first major study in English of the duchy of Savoy during the period of the Thirty Years’ War.

Rather than examining Savoy purely in terms of its military or geo-strategic role, *Dynasty and Diplomacy in the Court of Savoy* comprises three interwoven strands: the dynastic ambitions of the ruling House of Savoy, the family interests of an elite clan in ducal service, and the unique role played by one member of that clan, Abate Alessandro Scaglia (1592–1641), who emerged as one of Europe’s most widely known diplomats. Scaglia, the focus of the book, affords insights not only into Savoyard court politics and diplomacy, but more generally into a diplomatic culture of seventeenth-century Europe. With his image fixed by a remarkable series of Van Dyck portraits, Scaglia is emblematic of an international network of princes, diplomats, courtiers and artists, at the point of contact between dynasticism, high politics and the arts.

**Toby Osborne** is Lecturer in History, University of Durham.
This series comprises monographs and a variety of collaborative volumes, including translated works, which concentrate on the period of Italian history from late medieval times up to the Risorgimento. The editors aim to stimulate scholarly debate over a range of issues which have not hitherto received, in English, the attention they deserve. As it develops, the series will emphasize the interest and vigour of current international debates on this central period of Italian history and the persistent influence of Italian culture on the rest of Europe.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AAE Archives du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, Paris
CP Correspondance Politique
ACM Archivo de la Casa Miraflores, Madrid
AGR Archives Générales du Royaume, Brussels
SEG Sécrétairerie d’Etat et de Guerre
AGS Archivo General, Simancas
Est. Sección de Estado y Guerra
ASB Archivio di Stato, Biella
AST Archivio di Stato, Turin
Art. Articoli (Sezione Riunite)
LDS Lettere Duchi e Sovrani
LFI Lettere Forestieri: Inghilterra
LMF Lettere Ministri: Francia
LMI Lettere Ministri: Inghilterra
LMM Lettere Ministri: Milano
LMR Lettere Ministri: Roma
LMS Lettere Ministri: Spagna
LMV Lettere Ministri: Venezia
LP Lettere Particolari
LPD Lettere Principi Diversi
NF Negoziazioni colla Francia
NI Negoziazioni coll’Inghilterra
PCF Patenti Controlli Finanzi (Sezione Riunite)
fasc. fasciculo
m. mazzo
ASV Archivio Segreto, The Vatican
SS Segretario di Stato
Arm. Armarium
BA Biblioteca Apostolica, The Vatican
Barb. Lat. Barberini Latin
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BL  British Library, London
Add. MS  Additional Manuscript
Eg. MS  Egerton Manuscript
BN  Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris
CSPD  Calendar of State Papers, Domestic
CPSV  Calendar of State Papers, Venetian
HMC  Historical Manuscripts Commission
PRO  Public Records Office, London
SP  State Papers
The terms used to describe the territories under the control of the duke of Savoy are deliberate, with implicit reference to the peculiar difficulties of discussing what was in essence a composite state. In general, the English terms ‘Savoy’ and the ‘Savoyard state’ are used as collective titles of these transalpine states, and it is furthermore defined primarily as a north Italian sovereignty, even though it was not limited to the Italian side of the Alps. Where the text refers to specific elements of this composite state, non-English terms are used, such as ‘Savoie’ to describe that duchy alone and ‘Piemonte’ for the principality in isolation. More generally I have employed English for places and proper nouns where there is a common and accepted usage; otherwise I have used the proper nouns according to the appropriate language – thus, ‘Philip IV of Spain’, while ‘Carlo Emanuele I of Savoy’. For major individuals I have, at the first appropriate occasion, given birth and death dates (including ruling sovereigns, rather than their regnal dates). All dates, including those taken from English sources, are given according to the New Style with the year beginning 1 January.