

THE AFTERLIFE OF RAPHAEL'S PAINTINGS

Raphael is one of the rare artists who have never gone out of fashion. Acclaimed during his lifetime, he was imitated by contemporaries and served as a model for painters through the nineteenth century. Because of the artist's renown, his works have continuously been subject to care, conservation, and restoration. In this book, Cathleen Hoeniger focuses on the legacy of Raphael's art: the historical trajectory – or “afterlife” – of the paintings themselves. The appreciation of Raphael was expressed and the restoration of his works debated in contemporary treatises, which provide a backdrop for probing the fortune of his paintings. What happened to his panel paintings and frescoes in the centuries after his death in 1520? Some were lost altogether; others were severely damaged in natural disasters; and many were affected by uncontrolled climatic conditions, by travel from one place to another, and by the not-always cautious or careful hands of restorers. This book reveals the 500-year story of many of Raphael's best-known paintings.

Cathleen Hoeniger is Associate Professor of Art History at Queen's University in Canada. The author of numerous journal articles and book chapters, she has recently contributed to *Conservation: Principles, Dilemmas and Uncomfortable Truths* and *The Cambridge Companion to Raphael*. She is also the author of *The Renovation of Paintings in Tuscany, 1250–1500* (Cambridge University Press, 1995).

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*This book is dedicated to
Geoffrey, Julia, Dana, and my father, David.*

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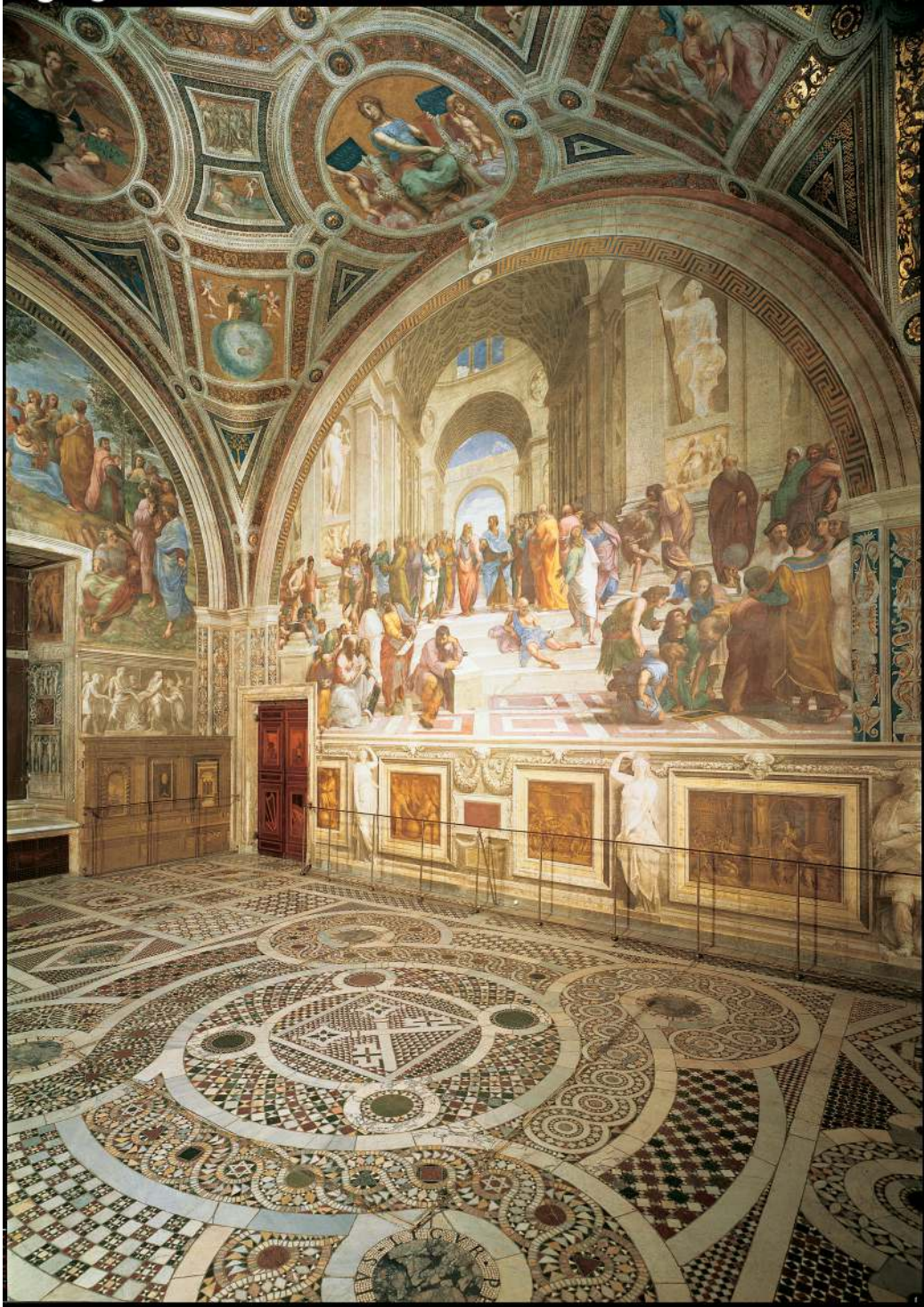
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8. Raphael and Evangelista da Pian di Meleto, *Eternal Father*, and *Virgin Mary*, from the *Coronation of St. Nicholas of Tolentino*, Museo di Capodimonte, Naples (© TASCHEN GmbH, Cologne)