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0521619882 - Durer and his Culture
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This volume attempts to extend and deepen understanding of the political, social and cultural contexts through which the meanings of Dürer's works can be perceived, and to focus on images which provide insights into his rich cultural milieu. Expanding views of nature and landscape, cultural strategies of collecting, the construction of national cultural identity, the humanist concern for a moral life, the transgressions of sexual order and the gendered rituals of courtship are just some of the contemporary discourses and practices to which Dürer's works are linked. Also discussed is the manner in which images were viewed in the early sixteenth century, and the powers and dangers with which they were associated, and the volume concludes with an appreciation of the changing historical role which Dürer himself has had within the European cultural tradition.

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IN MEMORY OF BOB SCRIBNER
1941–1998

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[More information](#)

PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK
40 West 20th Street, New York NY 10011-4211, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain
Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa

<http://www.cambridge.org>

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First published 1998
Reprinted 1999
First paperback edition 2005

Typeset in Quadraat 10/14.25pt, in QuarkXPress™ [GC]

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress cataloguing in publication data

Dürer and his culture / edited by Dagmar Eichberger, Charles Zika.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0 521 62037 6 hardback

I. Dürer, Albrecht, 1471-1528-Criticism and interpretation.

II. Eichberger, Dagmar. III. Zika, Charles.

N6888.D8D78 1998

760'.092-dc21 97-27251 CIP

ISBN 0 521 62037 6 hardback
ISBN 0 521 61988 2 paperback

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Acknowledgements

The idea of publishing a collection of articles on Albrecht Dürer and his sixteenth-century cultural environment was first conceived in the context of an international conference at the University of Melbourne, which was planned to coincide with a major exhibition of Dürer's graphic work at the National Gallery of Victoria in 1994. The project has therefore involved a large number of people at its different stages and this book allows us to acknowledge in a public way the support they have given us.

We planned the conference together with Irena Zdanowicz, Senior Curator of Prints and Drawings at the NGV, and we especially thank Irena and her department for the support given to the organisation of the conference and the preparation of this book. We also acknowledge the important part played by Cathy Leahy from the NGV in the conference organisation, and the numerous levels of support from the University of Melbourne, which were provided through Professor Margaret Manion of the Department of Fine Arts and Cinema Studies, and Professor Pat Grimshaw and Lynne Wrouth of the Department of History.

It was the financial support provided by these two departments as well as various grants from the University of Melbourne, the Potter Foundation, the Goethe Institute in Melbourne and the Australian–American Educational Foundation, which enabled this international conference to take place. We thankfully acknowledge their assistance. And it was the involvement of those who spoke at the conference and those who assisted in the numerous organisational tasks which made the conference such a success. As well as the contributors to this book, we wish to thank Lisa Beaven, Ursula Betka, Adrienne Cameron, Megan Cassidy, Sophie Fleming, Angela Hass, Keith Hutchison, Lyndsay Knowles, Christopher Marshall, Rona Mathews, Anne Neville, Mary Stansfield, Bronwyn Stocks and Justine Ullmann.

We have also incurred debts during the writing and editing of this book. Megan Cassidy provided invaluable assistance with the editing process and the collection of illustrations and permissions; Adrienne Cameron provided similar assistance at an earlier stage of the editing; Pat Knight, Monica Raszewski and Kerry Vickers from the Baillieu Library, University of Melbourne, helped us to gain access to on-line bibliographical resources,

while Anne Funke assisted with bibliographical work in Saarbrücken. Stasia Zika made helpful suggestions concerning the introduction; Erica Mehrrens assisted with some final formatting; Anthony Senyard and Nick Wright sorted out the inevitable problems which arise in electronic communication and transmission between editors at the opposite ends of the earth. Ieva Kanepe assisted in providing the illustrations from the NGV; Edwin Hofbauer of Vienna was especially helpful in supplying some of the photographs; as was the Department of Photography and Digital Imaging at the University of Melbourne under Bob Iverson. We thank them all.

Financial support for this stage of the project came from a University of Melbourne Arts Faculty Project Grant, from the Department of History at Melbourne and from the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Canberra. We are grateful for their generosity. We are also grateful to the National Gallery of Victoria for their substantial assistance in providing photographs of their Dürer collection at no cost. Finally, we thank the individual contributors to this volume; and from the Cambridge editorial team, Victoria Cooper, Hilary Hammond, Ann Rex and, for her initial support of the book, Victoria Sellar.