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978-0-521-78166-4 - Bronzino: Renaissance Painter as Poet

Deborah Parker

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Bronzino

Bronzino's stature as one of the great painters of the Florentine Renaissance has long been recognized. By contrast, his literary achievements as a poet have been neglected. This is the first modern study to focus on the poetry of Bronzino. His work in two mediums places him in a distinguished group of artist-poets that includes Michelangelo, William Blake, and Dante Gabriel Rossetti. In clarifying the meaning of Bronzino's poems, Deborah Parker argues that they are considerable literary achievements. Importantly, she demonstrates that our understanding of Bronzino's paintings is incomplete without careful attention to his creative work as a poet. Situating Bronzino's achievements within the broader social and cultural context of mid-sixteenth-century Florence, this study also contains numerous translations of Bronzino's poetry.

Deborah Parker is professor of Italian at the University of Virginia. She has been awarded grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Villa I Tatti – The Harvard Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, and the Folger Shakespeare Library. She is the author of *Commentary and Ideology: Dante in the Renaissance* and has contributed to *Renaissance Quarterly*, *Modern Language Notes*, and *Dante Studies*, among other professional journals.

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For Mark



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Tutto nel mondo è burla.

L'uom è nato burlone,

Nel suo cervello

Ciurla sempre la sua ragione.

Tutti gabbati!

Verdi, *Falstaff*

Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction	i
CHAPTER ONE	
A Poetry of Transgression: Bronzino's <i>Rime in Burla</i>	14
CHAPTER TWO	
The Comfort of Friends in Bronzino's <i>Canzoniere</i>	40
CHAPTER THREE	
The World of Art in Bronzino's Poetry	80
CHAPTER FOUR	
The Poetics of Bronzino's Painting	128
Conclusion	168

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[More information](#)

CONTENTS

APPENDIX I

**BNF Magl. VII 730: Benedetto Varchi's Letter to Bronzino and
Tribolo, May 1539**

171

APPENDIX II

BNF Magl. II IX 10: Dalle rime del Bronzino pittore

173

Notes

187

Bibliography

219

Index

229

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-78166-4 - Bronzino: Renaissance Painter as Poet

Deborah Parker

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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