

reform, and reaffirmation of the Catholic Church (p. 77), a “laboratory” in which confraternities and their art could, and did, play a crucial role—something Carlo Borromeo clearly understood when he undertook an extensive program of reform of lay religious organizations meant to promote a renewed form of individual and collective religiosity.

The second part of the volume consists of the exhibition catalogue itself. This includes a series of full-colour illustrations of some of the various works that were included in the exhibition (pp. 107–135), the *schede* for all the various artworks and other objects in the exhibition (pp. 138–166), and an extensive bibliography of relevant critical works (pp. 168–181).

By offering its readers a learned introduction to Lombard confraternities and their artworks, not to mention a wealth of fascinating illustrations of the various types of artworks they commissioned or owned—canvases, frescoes, illuminations, statues, architecture—this exhibition catalogue helps to draw more attention to the confraternal movement in what was (and still is) one of Europe’s most economically and culturally active regions.

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Curzel, Emanuele, Maria Garbellotti, and Maria Clara Rossi (eds.). *Confraternite in Trentino e a Riva del Garda*. Biblioteca dei Quaderni di storia religiosa, 9. Verona: Cierre Edizioni, 2017. Pp. 237 + 17 colour ill. ISBN 978-88-8314-940-5 (paperback) €16.

The eight articles in this volume focus on various aspects of confraternities in the Italian region of Trentino and the town of Riva del Garda. They originate from papers originally presented at a conference at the Università degli Studi di Trento in 2016 entitled *Le confraternite: metodologie e casi di studio*. The articles engage with such topics as religious rituals and social roles, women in confraternities, the charitable work of laypeople and confraternities, devotion in the modern age, hospital confraternities, comparisons between confraternities in the medieval and the modern era, and the Disciplinati and their church over the course of three centuries.

The incentive for this research came from the historical archive at Riva which holds the papers of many confraternities active in the area during the late medieval and modern periods. The Disciplinati, in particular, played an important part in the religious, economic and social spheres of the region, as the documents in the archives amply reveal.

The opening article, “Le confraternite. Riti religiosi e ruolo sociale” (pp. 9–30), by Maria Clara Rossi presents an examination of the religious

rituals and social role played by the confraternities. In so doing, it presents some comparisons between French and Italian sodalities, and a discussion on the collective nature of their work. Following this, Anna Esposito's article on women's role in Italian confraternities, "*Le donne nelle confraternite italiane tardomedievali*" (pp. 31–48), provides fascinating insights into the broader value of women in medieval society. The contribution by Emanuele Curzo, "*In cerca della salvezza. Impegno religioso dei laici e confraternite in area trentina nel medioevo*" (pp. 49–92), examines lay and confraternal religious activities during the medieval period. Renato Giacomelli's "*Confraternite e devozione nella diocesi di Trento in età moderna*" (pp. 93–124) discusses the changes in the lay religious confraternities as a result of the Council of Trent and their repercussions up to the nineteenth century.

The next two essays address topics touching on hospitals run by confraternities. The first, "*Oltre la carità. Le confraternite ospedaliere trentine in età moderna tra assistenza e modelli educativi*" (pp. 125–146), by Marina Garbellotti provides a very interesting discussion on the space between the spiritual support and the charitable assistance provided by confraternities. This is complemented by Enrico Barbieri's "*La confraternita e l'ospedale della Disciplina di Riva del Garda in età moderna. Appunti dai registri contabili*" (pp. 147–180), which examines the history of the hospital run by the Disciplinati over the course of its three hundred years.

The penultimate article, "*I Disciplinati rivani e la loro chiesa: un percorso di committenza lungo tre secoli*" (pp. 181–194), by Sara Dell'Antonio explores the history of the Disciplinati of Riva del Garda and their church. Marina Gazzini's "*Confraternite tra medioevo ed età moderna: confini e contaminazioni (a mo' di post-fazione)*" (pp. 195–200), brings the volume to a close with an excellent discussion consolidating the themes, chronology, and considerations offered in the other contributions.

This volume presents a refreshing collection of essays covering a broad array of important themes relating to confraternities, taking into consideration the geographical, chronological and social confines. Within the rich body of work dedicated to confraternal studies, these articles successfully fill an otherwise empty space, providing an overview of what is already available and offering a glimpse of the confraternities within the diocese of Trent. The articles in this volume, particularly those providing a more in depth look at the Disciplinati of Riva, provide a rich and invaluable contribution to confraternal studies from the early examples of lay involvement in devotional life to the suppressions of the Napoleonic era.