

Reviews

Aranda Linares, Carmen, with Enrique Hormigo Sánchez, and José Miguel Sánchez Peña. *Scultura lignea genovese a Cadice nel Settecento. Opere e documenti*. Special issue of *Quaderni franzoniani*. Semestrale di bibliografia e cultura ligure. Vol. 6:2 (1993). 213 pp., 91 illustrations.

The book is divided into four sections treating, respectively, Cadiz in the 18th century (pp. 15-38); Cadiz and the Genoese (pp. 39-64); the artists and their works (pp. 65-126); and a lengthy section devoted to a chronological bibliography, as well as illustrations and indexes of names, places, graphics, and illustrations (pp. 127-213).

The study progresses from the exhaustive documentation of the city's rapid demographic growth, mercantile and financial expansion, as well as its urban and cultural development through the centuries, to show how a community of artisans and artists from Genoa managed to become a part and play a significant role in the commercial, financial and cultural life of Cadiz.

Following in the footsteps of De Sopranis and Jimenez's *Escultura mediterranea* (1966), and the more recent Genoese exhibit "Genova e Siviglia, l'avventura dell'Occidente" (1988), the authors of the present study have dug even deeper to bring to light works of sculpture by relatively obscure Genoese artists in Cadiz.

A field of study that for very long has been ignored, the wooden sculptures of these little-known masters and their Cadiz-born sons are shown to be of specific importance for the activities of confraternities in which the works were preserved. The confraternities contributed to the Genoese community's integration by bringing together members of various guilds and thus strengthening their position in the Cadiz society.

Although the sculptures have deteriorated over time, they and their chapels reveal a profound devotional component and a strong feeling of community among the membership.

By approaching the topic from a broader socio-historical perspective, the authors have contributed to scholarship not only on confrater-

nities and the history of religious art, but also on economic and cultural ties between Genoa and Cadiz.

Robert Buranello
Erindale College
University of Toronto

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Barnes, Andrew E. *The Social Dimension of Piety. Associative Life and Devotional Change in the Penitent Confraternities of Marseilles (1499-1792)*. New York and Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1994. x, 285 pp. ISBN 0-8091-3395-4. US \$12.95 (paperback).

This book examines the penitential confraternities of Marseilles from the foundation of the first in 1499 right up to their dissolution during the Revolution. Marseilles had more such confraternities (13 that lasted any length of time) than any other French city, so it is a rich source for their study. However, the book concentrates mainly on a small number of well-documented confraternities and focuses particularly on the 18th century. Within this limitation, the book provides a wealth of material on the subject, enhanced by various case studies illuminating particular themes. Successive chapters detail: the social composition of the various confraternities and the role of different sub-groups within them; their government, structure and operations; the way they handled internal conflicts; their devotional life, both material and ritual; and their relationship with the clergy, both the regular orders who sponsored them and the increasingly active bishops.

The lengthy time period enables the author to discover developments in all these subjects. The confraternities began as small groups, but expanded considerably during the Wars of Religion, in the process changing their nature. With the advent of the Counter-Reformation, new "reformed" confraternities were formed that remained smaller and more exclusive. All of the confraternities participated fully in the "Baroque" piety of the 17th century. However, Barnes takes issue with the conventional view that the confraternities declined in the 18th century, showing rather that this was a period of retrenchment that preserved their vigour.

The author refers extensively to sociological theory in order to understand the dynamics involved in the operation of these societies. The main theme of the interpretation, on which the title is based, is the link between sociability and piety. Barnes emphasizes that the sociability of the confraternities was as important as their pious nature in