

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910456786703321
Autore	Randall Michael <1953->
Titolo	The gargantuan polity : on the individual and the community in the French Renaissance // Michael Randall
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Toronto, [Ontario] ; ; Buffalo, [New York] ; ; London, [England] : , : University of Toronto Press, , 2008 ©2008
ISBN	1-4426-8815-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (393 p.)
Disciplina	944/.025
Soggetti	Individualism - France - History - 16th century Renaissance - France French literature - 16th century - History and criticism Electronic books. France Civilization 1328-1600 France Intellectual life 16th century France Politics and government 1328-1589
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. Bottom-Up vs Top-Down Polities: The Council and the Pope -- 2. The Representation of Basel in Chants Royaux Written for the Puy de Rouen -- 3. Late-Medieval Polity and Poetics: Jean Molinet's Ressource du petit peuple -- 4. The King's Two Portraits in Claude de Seyssel and Guillaume Cretin -- 5. Barthélemy de Chasseneuz and the Top-Down Polity -- 6. Rabelais and the Ideal Imperfect Polity -- 7. The Death of Consensual Politics and the Individual in Agrippa d'Aubigné -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Critics and scholars have long argued that the Renaissance was the period that gave rise to the modern individual. The Gargantuan Polity examines political, legal, theological, and literary texts in the late Middle Ages, to show how individuals were defined by contracts of mutual obligation, which allowed rulers to hold power due to approval

of their subjects. Noting how the relationship between rulers and individuals changed with the rise of absolute monarchy, Michael Randall provides significant insight into Renaissance culture and politics by showing how individuals went from being understood in terms of their objective relations with the community to subjective beings. By studying this evolution, he challenges the argument that subjectivity enabled modern political autonomy to come into existence, and instead argues that subjectivity might have disempowered the outwardly directed and highly political individuals of the late Middle Ages. A profound and detailed study of one of the most drastic periods of change, *The Gargantuan Polity* will be of interest to scholars of French literature, the Renaissance, and intellectual history.
