

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910787506303321
Titolo	Waterborne pageants and festivities in the Renaissance : essays in honour of J.R. Mulryne // Margaret Shewring, Linda Briggs
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London : , : Routledge, , 2016
ISBN	1-351-87358-X 1-315-23428-9 0-7546-9876-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (474 p.)
Collana	European festival studies, 1450-1700
Altri autori (Persone)	ShewringMargaret
Disciplina	394.2694
Soggetti	Festivals - Europe - History Pageants - Europe - History Theater - Europe - History Renaissance Europe Social life and customs
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	First published 2013 by Ashgate Pub.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Contents; J. R. (Ronnie) Mulryne; Acknowledgements; List of Illustrations; Notes on Contributors; Introduction; 1 French Renaissance Waterborne Festivals in the Sixteenth Century; 2 Lyon: a Centre for Water Celebrations; 3 Parisian Waterborne Festivals from Francis I to Henri III; 4 Water Festivals of the Reign of Charles IX of France; 5 Renaissance Venice and the Sacred-Political Connotations of Waterborne Pageants; 6 Rex Christianissimus Francorum: Themes and Contexts of Henry III's Entry to Venice, 1574 7 Water Policy and Water Festivals: the Case of Pisa Under Ferdinando de' Medici (1588-1609)8 Arbitrary Reality: Fact and Fantasy in the Florentine Naumachia, 1589; 9 Lepanto Revisited: Water-fights and the Turkish Threat in Early Modern Europe (1571-1656); 10 Mary, Queen of Scots' Aquatic Entertainments for the Wedding of John Fleming, Fifth Lord Fleming to Elizabeth Ross, May 1562; 11 Looking Again at Elvetham: An Elizabethan Entertainment Revisited; 12 The Ice Festival in Florence, 1604; 13 The Thames en Fete; 14 Royal River: The Watermen's Company and Pageantry on the Thames

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Sommario/riassunto

As the first book-length study of waterborne festivities in Renaissance and early modern Europe, this collection of essays draws on a rich array of sources, many previously un-researched, to explore aspects of scenography, choreography, music, fashion, painting, sculpture, architecture, stage-and personnel-management and urban planning as evinced in spectacles staged on water. Often taking the form of re-enactments of naval battles or legendary seaborne quests, these festivals seek to buttress civic and national pride, make claims to mastery over the sea and landscape, and explore the imagination
