

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910813484503321
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Titolo	Aretino's satyr : sexuality, satire and self-projection in sixteenth-century literature and art / / Raymond B. Waddington
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Toronto, [Ontario] ; ; Buffalo, [New York] ; ; London, [England] : , : University of Toronto Press, , 2004 ©2004
ISBN	1-281-99468-5 9786611994686 1-4426-7097-5
Edizione	[2nd ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (358 p.)
Collana	Toronto Italian Studies
Disciplina	858/.309
Soggetti	LITERARY CRITICISM / European / Italian Criticism, interpretation, etc. Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	; 1. Ostentatio genitalium: Revaluing Sexuality ; 3 -- Priapus and the Satyr ; 11 -- Aretino as Counter-Petrarch ; 20 -- ; 2. Aretino and Print Culture ; 33 -- Printing and Prostitution ; 34 -- The New Man of Letters ; 45 -- ; 3. The Better Image: Portraits in Words, Wood, and Bronze ; 57 -- Portraits of the Artist as a Middle-Aged Man ; 61 -- Aretino and Medals ; 69 -- Leone Leoni ; 75 -- Alessandro Vittoria ; 78 -- Adria's Medal ; 83 -- ; 4. Satyr and Satirist ; 91 -- Truth and the Satyr ; 93 -- Veritas Odium Parit ; 96 -- Images of Truth ; 103 -- Phallic Satyrs ; 109 -- ; 5. Serious Play: From Satyr to Silenus ; 117 -- Arcimboldo's Composite Portraits ; 122 -- The Silenus of Alcibiades ; 124 -- Satyr Art and Satyric Portraits ; 132 -- Marsyas ; 144 -- Epilogue: Titian's The Flaying of Marsyas ; 153.
Sommario/riassunto	Pietro Aretino's literary influence was felt throughout most of Europe during the sixteenth-century, yet English-language criticism of this writer's work and persona has hitherto been sparse. Raymond B. Waddington's study redresses this oversight, drawing together literary and visual arts criticism in its examination of Aretino's carefully

cultivated scandalous persona a persona created through his writings, his behaviour and through a wide variety of visual arts and crafts. In the Renaissance, it was believed that satire originated from satyrs. The satirist Aretino promoted himself as a satyr, the natural being whose sexuality guarantees its truthfulness. Waddington shows how Aretino's own construction of his public identity came to eclipse the value of his writings, causing him to be denigrated as a pornographer and blackmailer. Arguing that Aretino's deployment of an artistic network for self-promotional ends was so successful that for a period his face was possibly the most famous in Western Europe, Waddington also defends Aretino, describing his involvement in the larger sphere of the production and promotion of the visual arts of the period. Aretino's *Satyr* is richly illustrated with examples of the visual media used by the writer to create his persona. These include portraits by major artists, and *arti minori*: engravings, portrait medals and woodcuts.

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