1. Record Nr. UNINA9910819241603321 Autore Toffolo Sandra **Titolo** Describing the city, describing the state: representations of Venice and the Venetian Terraferma in the Renaissance / / by Sandra Toffolo Pubbl/distr/stampa Leiden, The Netherlands;; Boston:,: Brill,, [2020] ©2020 **ISBN** 90-04-42820-8 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource Studies in medieval and Reformation traditions;; Volume 221 Collana Disciplina 940.21 Renaissance - Italy - Venice Soggetti Venice (Italy) Description and travel Venice (Italy) Politics and government 697-1508 Venice (Italy) Historiography Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Acknowledgements -- List of Figures -- A Note on the Book --Introduction -- 1 Geographical Descriptions, the Myth of Venice, and the Venetian Terraferma -- 2 Placing Texts within Literary Contexts --3 Constructing a Mainland State -- 4 Outline of the Book -- part 1: Perceptions of Venice in Its Urban Setting -- 1 Venice, Religious City --1 God's Role in the Foundation of Venice -- 2 Divine Protection throughout History -- 3 Connections to Saint Mark -- 4 External Religious Structures -- 5 The Piety of the Venetians -- 2 Venice, Centre of Material Culture -- 1 A City Situated 'in the Stormy Fury of the Sea' -- 2 Urban Structure -- 3 Wealth -- 4 Commerce -- 5 Industry -- 6 Art and Scholarship -- 3 Venice, Seat of an Ideal Government -- 1 The Development of a Political Narrative of Venice -- 2 Elements of a Political Venice -- 3 The Ideal of a Mixed Constitution -- 4 The Concept of Liberty -- 5 Politics and Morality -- 4 Venice, Morally Exemplary City -- 1 'It Presses Every Gathered Virtue to Its Bosom' -- 2 A Moral Venice from Its Foundation -- 3 Morality and Poetry -- part 2: Perceptions of Venice and the Terraferma as a State -- 5 Venetian

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Sommario/riassunto

In Describing the City, Describing the State Sandra Toffolo presents a comprehensive analysis of descriptions of the city of Venice and the Venetian Terraferma in the Renaissance, when the Venetian mainland state was being created. Working with an extensive variety of descriptions, the book demonstrates that no one narrative of Venice prevailed in the early modern European imagination, and that authors continuously adapted geographical descriptions to changing political circumstances. This in turn illustrates the importance of studying geographical representation and early modern state formation together. Moreover, it challenges the long-standing concept of the myth of Venice, by showing that Renaissance observers never saw the city of Venice and the Venetian Terraferma in a monolithic way.