

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996248155403316
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Titolo	The Throne of Wisdom // Ilene H. Forsyth
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Princeton, NJ : , : Princeton University Press, , [2019] ©2019
ISBN	0-691-65574-X 0-691-19672-9
Edizione	[Princeton Legacy Library edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xviii, 226 pages) : illustrations
Collana	Princeton Legacy Library ; ; 5366
Disciplina	731/.88/550944
Soggetti	Wood sculpture, French Christian saints in art Wood sculpture, Romanesque - France Christian art and symbolism - Medieval, 500-1500
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	A revision of the author's thesis, Columbia, 1960.
Nota di bibliografia	Bibliography: p. 209-218.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Preface -- Introduction -- CHAPTER I. The Character of the Sculptures -- CHAPTER II. Function -- CHAPTER III. Origins: The Throne of Wisdom Statue and the Revival of Freestanding Sculpture -- CHAPTER IV. Statues of the Throne of Wisdom Prior to 1100 -- CHAPTER V. The Twelfth Century -- Register of Principal Examples -- Appendix I -- Appendix II -- Selected Bibliography -- Index -- Illustrations
Sommario/riassunto	The wooden statue of the Mother and Child enthroned, known as sedes sapientiae, the Seat or Throne of Wisdom, reached the brilliant culmination of its development as a genre of religious sculpture in the twelfth century. As a visible expression of the mystery of Incarnation, its iconography dated back to the early church. Translated by the Romanesque sculptor into a fully plastic, freestanding form, its style conveys convincingly the medieval vision of humanity and divinity interfused. The recent cleaning and restoration of a number of these wood-carved figures of the Madonna in Majesty has now made possible a full appraisal of the genre. Mrs. Forsyth's discussion examines the character, function, iconography, and history of the statues; distinguishes types and regional styles; considers their role within the

broader context of medieval art; and assesses their artistic merit. Her register of principal examples includes 110 sculptures dating from twelfth century France, some of which have never been published before. 192 illustrations accompany the text. Ilene H. Forsyth is Associate Professor in the Department of the History of Art, at the University of Michigan. Originally published in 1972. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.
