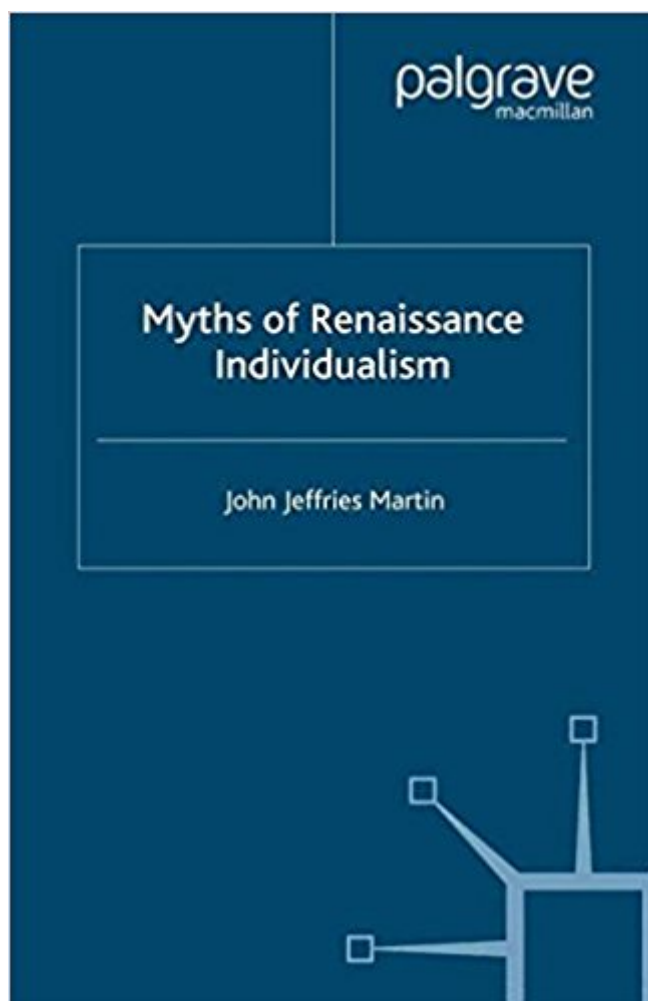


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Myths Of Renaissance Individualism (Early Modern History: Society And Culture)



Synopsis

The idea that the Renaissance witnessed the emergence of the modern individual remains a powerful myth. In this important new book Martin examines the Renaissance self with attention to both social history and literary theory and offers a new typology of Renaissance selfhood which was at once collective, performative and porous. At the same time, he stresses the layered qualities of the Renaissance self and the salient role of interiority and notions of inwardness in the shaping of identity. *Myths of Renaissance Individualism*, in short, will interest students not only of history but also of art history, literature, music, philosophy, psychology and religion.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Using the church documents of Inquisitions from the 16th-century Italy, Venice in particular, as the prisms into the lives and thoughts of the Renaissance Italy, the author sketches out 5 forms of selves, conforming, prudential, performative, porous and sincere, in the Renaissance period, dispelling the myths by both Burckhardt's notion of individualism, and the postmodern notion of fictive self, as being originated in this period. What emerges is an investigative-report style of narrative, and a protean and mosaic picture of the concept of self in the Renaissance Italy, not the coherent, well-defined individualism as portrayed by Burckhardt. This is a small volume, the main text only 133 pages, but well-argued, convincing and thought-provoking.

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