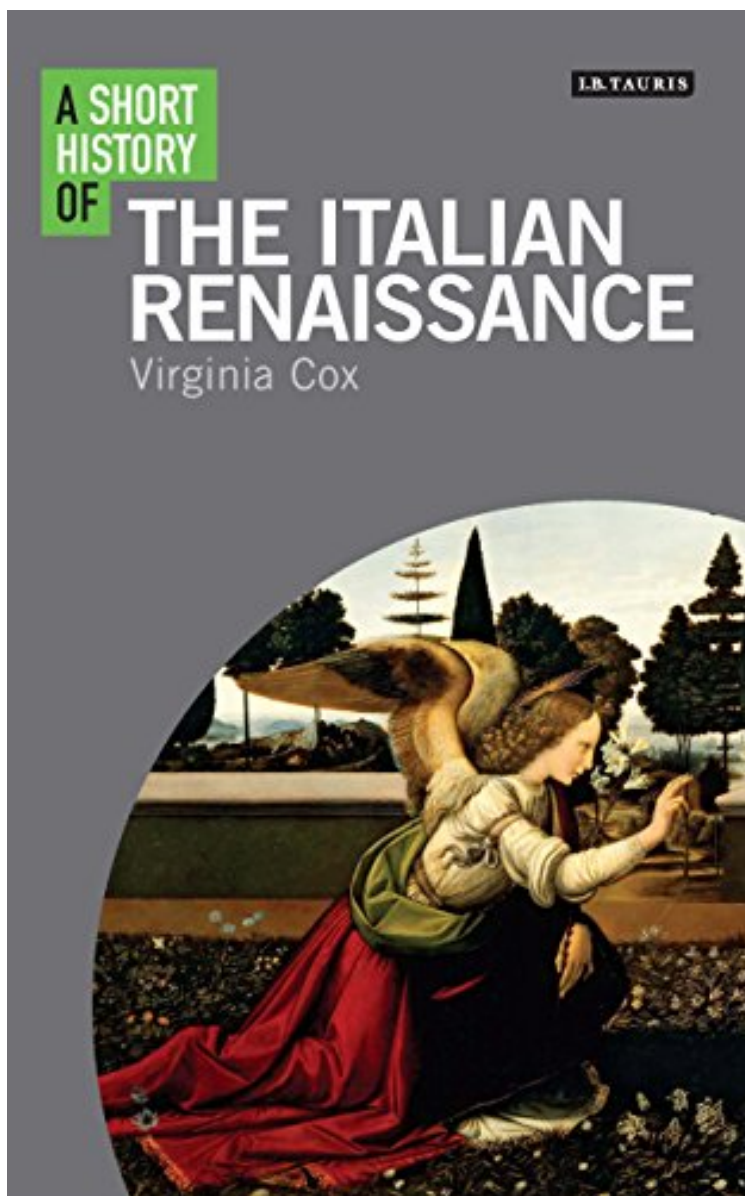


(Mobile book) A Short History of the Italian Renaissance (I.B.Tauris Short Histories)

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Virginia Cox

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Virginia Cox : A Short History of the Italian Renaissance (I.B.Tauris Short Histories) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Short History of the Italian Renaissance (I.B.Tauris Short Histories):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A must for enthusiasts and an excellent starting point for those

wishing to deepen their understanding

By Richard B Virginia Cox's "Short History of the Italian Renaissance" is a very pleasurable read, not only for those with little knowledge of the literature, art, culture of the Italian Renaissance but also for seasoned veterans and well-versed enthusiasts. Presenting a "short" history on such a monumental period is no easy task, nonetheless, the author effectively presents the usual cast of characters (Michelangelo, Leonardo, Raffaello, etc.) along with a series of lesser known actors who help us gain a more complete and profound picture of the period. Concerning those figures who are often only glossed over in similar works, the notable contributions and status of the women of the day receive ample treatment. The book is very readable, offering a well-conceived and deeply informed narrative of the events, themes, and individuals that continue to whet our appetite for the Italian Renaissance. Brava, dottoressa Cox!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great information

By Sarah M. I have to disclose that I received this book for free through Goodreads giveaways and was asked to review it. I am not quite finished with it yet, but I am learning so much. It's a great resource or a fun read for someone that wants to learn more about the Renaissance and factors that contributed to the start of this movement. The maps are very helpful. This book is not written like a textbook at all, which I do like. My one negative about the book is that the author's writing is a little bit elaborate for a nonfiction book. I want to spend my time learning and not deciphering the language. If this book it is truly a short history of the Italian Renaissance I would like to be able to read it quickly, but the author's writing, which may be enjoyable for someone who enjoys literature, slows me down as I have to think about what the author is trying to say.

The extraordinary creative energy of Renaissance Italy lies at the heart of modern western culture. This creativity extended far beyond the visual arts and architecture: dress history, dance history, food history, ritual and ceremonial all contributed to this vibrant rebirth. Virginia Cox here explores the material and economic output of the period, from the late 13th to the 16th century, when Italy led the world in painting, building, science, literature and music. As the medieval period exploded into a new era of self-confidence, a rediscovery of classical authors and their philosophical principles coincided with the political and economic rise of Florence, especially under the powerful Medici princes, and the later ascendancy of Venice and Rome. But the Renaissance enjoyed a rich regionality beyond these familiar centres. The author thus explores the arts in Milan, Ferrara, Mantua, Urbino and even Naples. She examines too the impact of rhetoric and performance on key texts like Machiavelli's *The Prince* and Castiglione's *Book of the Courtier*, as well as the role of women, both as patrons of the arts and creative artists in their own right.

'Renaissance woman', Cox boldly argues, is as important a legacy as 'Renaissance man'.