

Renaissance and Reformation

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Preface

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Preface

The essays that constitute this issue of *Renaissance and Reformation* / *Renaissance et Réforme* emerged from five panels on sex acts in the early modern world that we organized at the 2013 Renaissance Society of America conference in San Diego, California. We would therefore like to preface what follows with a thank you to the scholars who gave papers at these sessions: Marlen Bidwell-Steiner, Lucia Binotti, Simone Chess, Donald Hedrick, Sergius Koderá, Matt Kozusko, Mika Natif, Sarah Parker, Marc David Schachter, and Cristine M. Varholý. We are also grateful to our panel chairs, Elizabeth (Libby) S. Cohen, Konrad Eisenbichler, Laura Giannetti, and Ian F. Moulton, as well as to everyone who attended the sessions. The discussions and debates that we enjoyed over these three days were so lively, provocative, and productive that we were inspired to solicit deeper investigations into the questions and issues raised.

To that end, many thanks to our six contributors for their enthusiasm and patience throughout the process of bringing their engaging ideas to publication. We are especially grateful to Ian F. Moulton, who not only chaired a panel and attended all of the sex acts sessions in the capacity of vivacious interlocutor but also generously wrote the introduction to this issue. Thanks are also due to the four peer reviewers who commented valuably on the individual articles and on the issue as a whole, as well as to the editorial and production teams at *R&R*. Without their guidance and assistance this issue could never have come to print in polished form.

We dedicate this collection to past and present scholars of sex, sexuality, and gender: those who defined the field and those who continue to nuance, broaden, and adapt its contours to meet our growing comprehension of its relevance and import to our own and earlier cultures.

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