[Malatesti’s academic lecture on Triumphus Amoris II.184-87]

ENTRY TYPE
Manuscript

Manuscript Details

CURRENT LOCATION

Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale
Florence
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Magl. VII. 391

CREATOR
Antonio Malatesti

DATE
seventeenth century (after 1637)

COPYIST
Antonio Malatesti

TITLE PAGE

‘Lezione fatta nell’Accademia degl’APATISTI il di 6 di Maggio 1637’ (fol. 156r)

MODE OF EXEGESIS
Lecture

RELATED TO PETRARCH'S

Triumphus Amoris II.184-87

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: FORMAT

200x137 mm; II + 575 + I fols. (numbered 1-286, 247^{2}-286^{2}, 287-535).

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: TEXTBLOCK

paper; seventeenth-century cursive hand; single lines or small sections of Petrarch’s poems set either on left or in central columns, with prose text of lecture distributed across the page beneath either every single line or section of text.

INTERNAL DESCRIPTION

fols. 156r-176r: Malatesti's academic lecture on *Triumphus Amoris* II.184-87 ('Lezione fatta nell'Accademia degl'APATISTI il di 6 di Maggio 1637'; <inc> Grande ardire e stato veramente il mio Vener[abi]le Priore, e Gentiliss[i]mi Uditori, conoscendomi privo di tutte quelle scienze, che son necessarie a chi vuol discorrere p[er]l'Accademie a lasciarmi p[er]suadere a montare su questa Cattedra; <exp> Molte altre cose ci sarebbon da dire sopra q[ues]ta materia, ma no[n] essendo io abile a farlo cercherò di lasciar la lezione seguente ap[er]sona che possa suplire a i miei mancanti e qu[el]la sara il Sig[no]re N.N.');

fol. 176r: colophon: Fine;

Other contents:

The ms. is Malatesti's *zibaldone*, and includes a selection of hundreds of poems and a few prose texts in draft, with many erasures, corrections, interlinear and marginal insertions. Both the prose texts, such as the 'Ambasceria a un Principe del Carnevale' (fols. 90r-93r), and the poems share a frivolous and facetious tone. The poetry section includes: forty-nine out of the fifty sonnets that make up his celebrated collection of erotic poems, *La Tina*; correspondence sonnets with other authors; compositions linked to academic happenings, such as the death of a member.

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NOTES

Though self-confessedly 'ignorantissimo', Malatesti composes a very erudite lecture. Commenting on *Triumphus Amoris* II (184-87), Malatesti relies on Aristotle's theory of love to analyse the reactions provoked by love in different types of people. He provides an extensive series of quotations, ranging from classical to early modern authors. He also shows a marked interest in astronomy, investigated through the quotations of poetic authorities, and in relation to the mythological figures cited by Petrarch (Pygmalion, Cidippe). The lecture is written only in the *rectos* of the fols.; in the *versos* are Malatesti's poems.

At fol. 149 Malatesti dedicates a playful misogynous tercet from one of his poems to Petrarch's and Laura's love: 'Il Petrarca da Laura altro che inchini | no[n] hebbe che le donne anco in quei tempi | no[n] uoleuan sonetti ma quattrini'.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Della Torre 1909; Haan 1998, 196; Messina 2014, 36-8