



From libraries to picture galleries

Collecting and libertinism in seventeenth-century Italy

Publication type: Journal article

Journal: [Libertinage et philosophie à l'époque classique \(xvi^e-xviii^e siècle\)](#)
2023, n° 20. [Libertins italiens / Libertini italiani](#)

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Abstract: Studying collections can ground research on the rise of libertinism in seventeenth-century Italy. Analysing libraries such as that of Cardinal Brancaccio, of the master of the house Girolamo Mercuri, or of the playwright Giovanni Azzavedo, reveals the link that exist between the interest for libertinism and pictorial genres such as *bambocciata*, landscape painting or animal painting, as well as a subversion of the traditional criteria for displaying art.

Pages: 277 to 294

Journal: [Libertinism and Philosophy in the Classical Period \(16th-18th Century\)](#)

CLIL theme: 3126 -- SCIENCES HUMAINES ET SOCIALES, LETTRES -- Philosophie

EAN: 9782406158486

ISBN: 978-2-406-15848-6

ISSN: 2649-1826

DOI: 10.48611/isbn.978-2-406-15848-6.p.0277

Publisher: Classiques Garnier

Online publication: 09-06-2023

Periodicity: Annual

Language: Italian

Keyword: *bambocciata*, genre painting, landscape, Accademia degli Incogniti

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