



K.J.P. LOWE

Provenance and Possession

*Acquisitions from the Portuguese Empire
in Renaissance Italy*

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PRAISE FOR Provenance and Possession

"Fascinating and illuminating. What most distinguishes this book is the extraordinarily close reading of the archival sources (some of which Lowe has discovered—itsself an astounding fact in the heavily utilized Florentine archive) coupled with a detailed examination of the extant objects. It is exciting to watch as Lowe weighs the evidence, rejects unwarranted assumptions, corrects previous scholarship, and admits when the trail runs cold."

—DENNIS ROMANO, SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

"Lowe's impressive mastery of archival materials is matched by her vast knowledge and shrewd use of secondary sources. The handling of the visual material (including cartography) is quite sophisticated, as one would expect from a historian who has had substantial experience with major museum exhibitions. The writing is generally clear and accessible, and often eloquent when it evokes the difficult lives of the enslaved."

—PAUL KAPLAN, PURCHASE COLLEGE, SUNY

"In this extraordinarily thorough and thought-provoking book, stories of knowledge found and knowledge lost coalesce to form a radically novel image of the Renaissance: both cosmopolitan and parochial, capable of connecting peoples across oceans and generating chasms that remain with us to this day. A timely and troubling contribution, a must-read for anyone with an interest in early global history."

—ZOLTÁN BIEDERMANN, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

"K.J.P. Lowe transforms our understanding of how Renaissance Italy came to know the wider world. This is a beautifully researched book which interrogates the presence of global goods, exotic animals and enslaved people from the Portuguese empire in sixteenth-century Florence and Rome."

—GIUSEPPE MARCOCCI, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD