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VISUAL AND MATERIAL CULTURE, 1300-1700



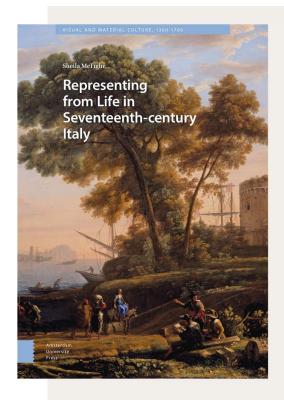
## Sheila McTighe

## Representing from Life in Seventeenth-century Italy

In drawing or painting from live models and real landscapes, more was at stake for artists in early modern Italy than achieving greater naturalism. To work with the model in front of your eyes, and to retain their identity in the finished work of art, had an impact on concepts of artistry and authorship, the authority of the image as a source of knowledge, the boundaries between repetition and invention, and even the relation of images to words. This book focuses on artists who worked in Italy, both native Italians and migrants from northern Europe. The practice of depicting from life became a self-conscious departure from the norms of Italian arts. In the context of court culture in Rome and Florence, works by artists ranging from Caravaggio to Claude Lorrain, Pieter van Laer to Jacques Callot, reveal new aspects of their artistic practice and its critical implications.

"Attending to recent focus in the discipline on the methods of artistic practice, the book sheds new light on little-understood aspects of early modern artistic working methods, from Caravaggio's 'true doubles' to Callot's miniaturization devices, to Claude's perspectival instruments. Through a rich historical contextualization, it also brings to the fore a range of interdisciplinary influences on art-making of the period, from court wit to instruments of vision, to mapping and measurement, and theatrical scenography."

Professor Genevieve Warwick, University of Edinburgh



Sheila McTighe is Senior Lecturer at the Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London.

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