

A RENAISSANCE OF CONFLICTS

Visions and Revisions of Law and Society in Italy and Spain

EDITED BY JOHN MARINO AND THOMAS KUEHN

The essays in this collection explore conflict and continuity across the spectrum of political, legal, and spiritual traditions from late medieval Umbria and Tuscany to sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Venice, Rome, and Castile. They point to a shared tradition of dispute and resolution in both ecclesiastical/spiritual and state/secular matters, whether of private conscience or public policy. Continuity of ideals, problems, and modes of resolution suggest that breaks in legal, political, or religious ideals and behavior were not as frequent or sharp as historians have argued. These continuities emerge from common methodological approaches grounded in close, careful reading of key texts and their polyvalent terms. Whether those were the terms of civil or canon law, spirituality, or astrology, each author has had to grapple with multiple possibilities, contexts, customs, and practices that reveal the shifts and continuities in their possible meanings.

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