In the wake of the extensive debates over terminology that have occupied historians of the “Renaissance” over the last few decades, there seems to be some movement towards a compromise solution that postulates both a rebirth and a multifaceted continuum. Such a compromise allows for the awareness of a “rebirth” clearly evident in intellectuals and artists of the Renaissance, for the reformulation of that awareness as a historical construct by nineteenth- and twentieth-century scholars, and also for the idea of a slowly developing continuum in European society leading up to the “modernity” that is us. The articles in this collection seek to contribute to the ongoing debate on the Renaissance and further our understanding of this brilliant period in European history and culture. The collection’s premise is that there obviously was some continuity from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance, but also that the world did change dramatically and that this change is evident, in part, in the manner the “Renaissance” used, adapted, and manipulated its “medieval” inheritance.