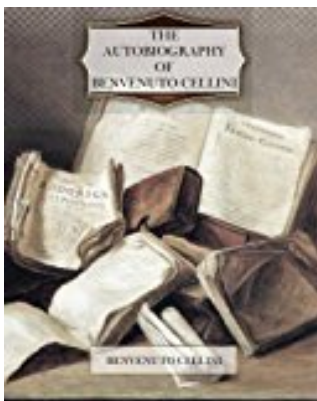


[PDF] The Autobiography Of Benvenuto Cellini

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Books Details:

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Description:

From Library Journal Although most of Cellini's works in precious metals have been melted down, one surviving gold saltcellar, which he completed for Francois I of France, and a number of major sculptures have secured his reputation as one of the finest Italian artists in the generation after Michelangelo. But he is most celebrated for his autobiography, which chronicles with unflagging energy and force one of the most tempestuous lives—and one of the largest egos—in all of history. Cellini served dukes, bishops, cardinals, and kings and queens of several nations, and he quarreled

with them all, including two popes, one of whom, by Cellini's account, tried to murder him. He confesses to several murders himself, at least one rape, a notorious prison-break, innumerable fights and feuds. He also claims a pivotal role in defending Rome against invasion. From its first appearance in 1728 (150 years after his death), this portrait of a fanatical individualist helped define our notion of the Renaissance. The vigorous translation by John Addington Symonds (uncredited by the producer? a recurring fault) is superbly realized by British narrator Robert Whitfield, successfully bringing to tape Cellini's unforgettable story. Highly recommended for all collections. Peter Josyph, New York

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