

mano da Miklos Boskovits⁷⁷. L'abito alla moda, che lascia le spalle nude, il vezzoso copricapo in tessuto lavorato, il profilo disegnato con un tratto netto, gli incarnati in pasta morbida, suggeriscono che il pittore ingaggiato dai Carraresi fosse al corrente di quanto contemporaneamente si faceva presso altre corti vicine, e non è escluso che conoscesse direttamente l'opera eponima dell'artista noto col nome di Maestro di Casa Minerbi.

Le testimonianze superstiti dei partiti decorativi e le notizie riportate dalle fonti, permettono di intravedere lo sfarzo che caratterizzava il palazzo padovano alle sue origini, quando ben poteva competere con altre corti italiane ed europee. Una *domus*, pertanto, veramente *imperatoria*, degna dei potenti principi di Padova.

Abstract

The essay is devoted to the fresco cycles painted during the 14th Century in the reggia carrarese, the imposing palace where the Carraresi, rulers of Padua, lived and exerted their power. As part of the glorification of the rulers, the palace was richly decorated with fresco cycles painted by the main artists of that age, among which Altichiero, Jacopo Avanzi and Guariento.

The palace has been deeply altered during the following centuries. The main part of its pictorial decoration has been destroyed, and its architectural structure has been modified as well. Despite the fact that only fragmentary portions of the original structures remain today, the palace is nevertheless one of the most important building of the city.

Through the new analysis of the surviving paintings (among which some unpublished fragments located in private places), the accurate study of ancient sources and documents, and the comparison with coeval context of courtly art, the author proposes new hypothesis that throw light on the original layout, meaning and function of the painted cycles. She also proposes new attributions, that enable to complete the fragmentary and partial framework of 14th Century Paduan painting.

Parole chiave: Cultura e arte di corte; Reggia carrarese; Pittura padovana (XIV secolo); Petrarca; Guariento; Altichiero; Jacopo Avanzi; Maestro di Casa Minerbi.

Keywords: Courtly art and culture; da Carrara Palace; Paduan painting (14th Century); Petrarch; Guariento; Altichiero; Jacopo Avanzi; Maestro di Casa Minerbi.

⁷⁷ Boskovits, *Per Stefano da Ferrara* cit., p. 57.