

**LUCA
DELLA ROBBIA**

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Luca della Robbia by L. Burlamacchi

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L. BURLAMACCHI

**LUCA
DELLA ROBBIA**

The Great Masters
in **Painting and Sculpture**
Edited by **G. C. Williamson**

LUCA DELLA ROBBIA

LUCA DELLA ROBBIA

BY THE
MARCHESA BURLAMACCHI



LONDON
GEORGE BELL & SONS
1900

NB
623
R72
B8

Luca della Robbia's blue eye medallions
are the soul of Florence.

MAURICE HEWLETT.

Much fine praise has been spent upon
the effort to analyse the æsthetics of
della Robbia ware. Its inexhaustible
charm is unquestionable.

MAURICE HEWLETT.

PREFACE

AN ever increasing number of documents, due to the assiduous researches of learned historians and art critics, added to fresh personal investigations and detailed inquiries, have enabled me to offer here a more complete and accurate catalogue of Luca della Robbia's works than has yet been given to the English public.

Permanent residence in Italy, together with a thorough knowledge of the localities in which Luca della Robbia's works are to be found, and of the language in which manuscripts and documents have been written, added to the courteous guidance of the Directors of National Museums and Libraries, and of several learned monks and professors, and, lastly, my friendship with some of the fortunate possessors of Luca della Robbia's bas-reliefs, have afforded me exceptional opportunity of research in my long and laborious work. In compiling this volume, I have carefully collated those of Vasari, Barbet de Jouy, Milanesi, Cavallucci and Molinier, Perkins, and the more recent ones of Bode and Burckhardt, Allan Marquand and Marcel Reymond.

I have personally examined nearly all the works I have described. They are classed according to their dates, or their approximate dates when there is no distinct documentary evidence. A list of the unauthenticated and contested works of the Robbia family in

Italy and elsewhere is also appended, giving the opinions of numerous authorities. All the works attributed to the Robbias in the smaller towns of Italy are now for the first time scheduled and described. Bas-reliefs sold at public and private sales have been mentioned.

In the Appendix will be found several interesting documents relating to Luca della Robbia, which have not hitherto been presented to the public.

Neither time nor trouble has been spared to give the reader information on everything which is to be known on the subject.

L. B.

FLORENCE,
November 1900.

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