# THE CENTRAL ITALIAN PAINTERS OF THE RENAISSANCE

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The central Italian painters of the renaissance by Bernard Berenson

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### **BERNARD BERENSON**

# THE CENTRAL ITALIAN PAINTERS OF THE RENAISSANCE



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BY

#### BERNHARD BERENSON

Author of "Venetian Painters of the Renaissance," "Lorenzo Lotto: An Essay in Constructive Art Criticism," etc.

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## THE CENTRAL ITALIAN PAINTERS OF THE RENAISSANCE.

The consistent pursuit of the Florentine painters was form and movement; of the Venetians, splendour and harmony of colour: what did the Central Italians contribute to the magic of Renaissance art? Rarely does colour penetrate the senses and warm the heart more quickly than in certain frescoes or panels of Simone Martini or Gentile da Fabriano, of Perugino or Raphael. Yet even these great masters could be at times indifferent, or, indeed, harsh, while their inferiors owe slight merit as colourists. Seldom have problems of form and movement been better solved than by Signorelli; but he had few, if any, followers. It is not with the magicians in colour and the creators in form that the Central Italian Painters, as a school, hold high rank.