

# DONATELLO

SCULPTING  
THE RENAISSANCE

EDITED BY  
Peta Motture



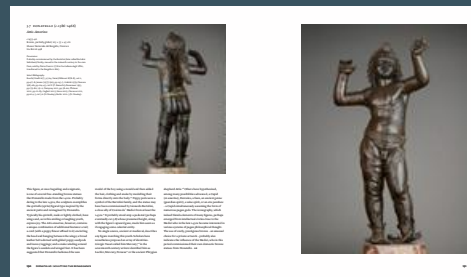
## Donatello: Sculpting the Renaissance

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Arguably the greatest sculptor of all time, Donatello (about 1386–1466) was at the vanguard of a revolution in sculptural practice in the early Renaissance. Combining ideas from classical and medieval art to create his own innovative style, he had an unparalleled ability to portray emotions in works intended to inspire spiritual devotion. Working in marble, bronze, wood, terracotta and stucco, Donatello contributed to major commissions of church and state; was an intimate of the Medici family and their circle in Florence, and highly sought after in other Italian cities. This book explores Donatello's extraordinary creativity within the vibrant artistic and cultural context of 15th-century Italy, surveying his early connection with goldsmiths' work and the collaborative nature of his workshop and processes. It also reflects on Donatello's legacy, exploring how his sculpture inspired subsequent generations in the later Renaissance and beyond.

Peta Motture is Senior Curator of Sculpture at the V&A.