

# SEBASTIANO DEL PIOMBO AND THE SACRED IMAGE

Mediating the Divine  
in the Age of Reform

Marsha Libina

BREPOLS

# Contents

LIST OF FIGURES .....	5
INTRODUCTION. SEBASTIANO DEL PIOMBO AND MICHELANGELO: A COLLABORATION IN ART AND REFORM .....	
The crisis of the image and religious reform before Trent.....	20
Sebastiano as a reform artist .....	25
Reinventing Michelangelo and the sacred image.....	30
Imitation, collaboration, and dual authorship .....	36
The scope of the study .....	46
<b>1 PICTURING TIME AND ETERNITY.....</b>	<b>59</b>
Motion, stillness, and separation .....	66
The senses, time, and eternity .....	74
The mutability of nature.....	77
Temporality in the devotional image .....	81
<b>2 MEDIATION AND SCRIPTURE'S INTERPRETERS.....</b>	<b>93</b>
Prophetic preaching and scriptural exegesis.....	97
Pictorial layering and framing.....	101
The book as a path to enlightenment .....	109
Mimesis and metaphor in picturing the divine .....	118
The Old Testament as prophetic text .....	121
<b>3 IMITATIO CHRISTI AND THE INTERNAL IMAGE.....</b>	<b>135</b>
<i>Imitatio Christi</i> and personal salvation .....	141
Faith alone and Christ's portrait .....	152
Between event and vision in the devotional close-up .....	162
Colorito, shadow, and painting on slate.....	174
<b>4 THE HOLY FACE AND THE FACE OF ART .....</b>	<b>183</b>
Devotion to relics.....	185
Transforming Michelangelo and the Man of Sorrows .....	186
Substitutes for the body of Christ .....	197

CONTENTS

Debate on the cult of relics.....	200
The Holy Face and divine presence.....	206
A hierarchy of holy objects.....	208
The cult of art and the cult object.....	211
CONCLUSION. MEDIATED TRUTHS AFTER THE COUNCIL OF TRENT.....	221
BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	241
INDEX .....	261