

CONTENTS

Introduction to the Series vii

Acknowledgments xxvii

Moderata Fonte and "The Worth of Women"
Introduction 1 • Life and Early Works 2
Structure and Arguments 6 • The Question of Unity 9
"The Worth of Women" and Renaissance Literary Tradition 12
Fortunes and Influence 20 • Suggestions for Further Reading 23

Key to Abbreviations 24

Note on the Text 25

A Note on Fonte's Sources 26

The Worth of Women

Dedicatory Letter 27 • Life of Moderata Fonte 31

First Day 43 • Second Day 119

Appendix
The Theme of Women's Equality with Men
in Moderata Fonte's "Floridoro" 261

Works Cited 265

Index 279