

Contents

List of Illustrations	<i>vii</i>
Introduction	<i>1</i>
1 Petrarch and the Magical Space of the Library	<i>13</i>
2 The Text as a Body and the Resurrection of the Ancients	<i>35</i>
3 Portraits, or The Desire to See the Author	<i>64</i>
4 Reading, Writing, and the Construction of the Self	<i>129</i>
5 Machiavelli's Letter to Vettori	<i>143</i>
6 Montaigne's Tower	<i>161</i>
7 Tasso and the Dangers of Reading	<i>179</i>
Epilogue: Ruskin, Proust, and the "Miracle of Reading"	<i>193</i>
Notes	<i>201</i>
Index	<i>243</i>