

# Colpa Delle Stelle

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this book presents the first detailed scientific examination of alessandro piccolomini's two early astronomical works *de la sfera del mondo* and *de le stelle fisse* first published in venice in 1540 the two treatises are amongst the earliest scientific texts written in the vernacular italian and were specifically composed to make astronomical principles and practices available to a lay reader whereas *de la sfera del mondo* is essentially an updated adaptation of the theoretical astronomical material contained in sacrobosco's *de sphæra* this book examines his views on a number of key topics such as precession the motion of the solar apogee and the size and distance of the planets from earth the author also presents a radical reassessment of *de le stelle fisse* focusing on the innovative methods piccolomini employed to create a viewer centric approach for identifying the stars as such piccolomini's guide to the heavens should be seen as a distant forerunner of the successful genre of elementary handbooks that were developed in the late 18th century and which remain popular with amateur stargazers even in the 21st century the book also addresses how piccolomini's treatises were used by contemporary astronomers by examining the manuscript notes that were left in various surviving copies of his books it provides a convincing explanation of the unique directional notation on his stellar maps and assesses the relative accuracy of his stellar coordinates against contemporary and modern ephemerides and pictorial sources it also argues that piccolomini probably designed his distinctive series of maps of the constellations and the related tables by using a celestial globe to compile his astronomical data finally the author examines the series of refinements and corrections in the successive editions of piccolomini's two treatises thereby showing the extent to which his two early astronomical treatises remained an on going enterprise for over 60 years this book is a companion volume to alessandro piccolomini's early astronomical works in an exploration of their cultural significance by kristen lippincott in the same series the two volumes are jointly available as print set with isbn 978 3 031 76964 1

in his last days mussolini the tyrant was in the grip of anger shame and depression the german

armed forces that had sustained his puppet government since its creation in september 1943 were being inexorably driven out of italy the frontiers of his fascist republic were shrinking daily and mussolini was aware that german military leaders were negotiating with the allies behind his back in neutral switzerland moseley s well researched and highly engaging tome throws light on the last twenty months of the despot s life and culminates with the dramatic capture and execution of mussolini and his mistress claretta petacci by partisans of the italian resistance on april 28 1945

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a review of astronomy varies

opera recordings have been with us since the creation of the first wax cylinders now at a time when the 25 year reign of the compact disc appears to be coming to an end is the moment to take stock of the history of recordings of arguably the most popular composer of operas giacomo puccini in giacomo puccini a discography librarian and music historian roger flury looks at each opera chronologically from le villi to turandot followed by sections on puccini s instrumental chamber orchestral and solo vocal works details of each complete opera are listed by recording date followed by excerpts in the order in which they occur in the opera recordings of each aria are listed alphabetically by the name of the artist for ease of use flury establishes as the main criteria for inclusion those recordings assigned a commercial issue number and available for purchase this book does not limit itself to mainstream recordings but includes as well unofficial recordings taken from broadcasts or illegally recorded in theaters ensuring that the audio recording history of puccini is free of gaps video and dvd issues whether of staged performances or excerpts in concert are not included unless they have been issued in a sound only format this volume brings together information on nearly 10 000 recordings of puccini s music it provides a comprehensive overview of the recorded history of the composer s works and serves as a useful guide for the transfer of recordings from one format to another

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