

CONTENTS

VOLUME I

Author's Note to the Second Impression	VI
Preface.....	XV
Abbreviations	XXV
Introduction: The Revival of Plato	3
The Revival of Plato—Motives for the Reception (and Rejection) of Plato—Current Explanations of the Platonic Revival and Their Limits—Towards a Typology of Reading in the Fifteenth Century	
PART I: FLORENCE.....	27
1. Plato and the Defense of the Humanities	29
Bruni and the revival of Greek studies—Cultural controversies of the early Florentine humanists—Plato's role in these controversies—Bruni's translation of the <i>Phaedo</i> —His revolutionary approach to translation—Its results as applied to the <i>Phaedo</i> —Bruni moves to Rome and becomes papal secretary; the cultural climate in Rome—Bruni dedicates the <i>Phaedo</i> to Innocent VII—His early versions of the <i>Crito</i> and <i>Apology</i> —His version of the <i>Gorgias</i> —His reading of the <i>Gorgias</i> .	
2. Plato as Civic Humanist	58
Bruni's second Florentine period—His quarrels with Niccoli and Traversari—The emergence of Bruni's mature attitudes (his "civic humanism")—His changed attitude to Plato—Bruni's "Collected Works of Plato" in Latin—His "Mutilated Fragment" of the <i>Phaedrus</i> —Bruni's attraction to the <i>Phaedrus</i> ' account of Divine Love and poetic inspiration—His second versions of the <i>Apology</i> and <i>Crito</i> —His dedication of Plato's <i>Letters</i> to Cosimo de' Medici and his political motives for doing so—Bruni's presentation of Plato as a "republican"—His version of Alcibiades' Speech from the <i>Symposium</i> .	
3. Minor Translators in Florence and the Papal Court	81
Cencio de'Rustici versions of the <i>Axiochus</i> and <i>De virtute</i> —Rinuccio Aretino's versions of the <i>Crito</i> , <i>Axiochus</i> and <i>Euthyphro</i> —Francesco Filelfo's versions of three <i>Letters</i> and of the <i>Euthyphro</i> —Filelfo's philosophical studies and his attitude to Plato.	
Diffusion and influence of the new translations—Conclusions: Elective affinities between Plato and the early Florentino-Roman school of humanism?.....	95

PART II: MILAN.....	103
1. Uberto Decembrio: Renaissance Signory and the <i>Republic</i>	105
Manuel Chrysoloras comes to Milan—Life and opinions of Uberto Decembrio—Reasons why Chrysoloras and Decembrio translated the <i>Republic</i> : signorial propaganda?—Plato's <i>Republic</i> as a justification for signorial government in Decembrio's later <i>De republica libri IV</i> .	
2. Pier Candido Decembrio's <i>Celestial Polity</i>	117
Pier Candido Decembrio's life and works—His attitude towards translation—Decembrio and the "Ethics Controversy"—The genesis of Decembrio's translation of the <i>Republic</i> —Decembrio's motives for translating the <i>Republic</i> —His patrons—Meeting their expectations—Decembrio's rivals and critics—Their criticisms of Plato: his "disorderliness", "immorality", and paganism—How Decembrio's translation and textual apparatus for the <i>Republic</i> was designed to forestall criticism—Exegetical techniques employed by Decembrio—His use of Plato's political thought in controversies with Bruni and Francesco Barbaro—Decembrio's critique of <i>auctoritas</i> as a defense of the <i>Republic</i> —The defense of Plato against Lactantius and Aristotle in Antonio da Rho's <i>In Lactantium</i> .	
3. The Platonic Translations of Antonio Cassarino.....	154
Cassarino's life and works—His "secularizing" approach to translation—Genesis of Cassarino's Latin <i>Republic</i> —Limits of his ability to render accurately Plato's philosophy.	
PART III: ROME	161
Summary of the achievements of early Quattrocento Platonic scholarship—Cultural changes in the mid-Quattrocento: the new interest in philosophy among humanists, the rise of philological criticism.	
1. George of Trebizond and Plato.....	165
George of Trebizond's life and character—His prophetic attacks on Plato—History of his attitude to Plato and the reasons for his hatred of the Greek philosopher—George's critique of the political philosophy of Plato's <i>Laws</i> .	
2. Trebizond's Translations of the <i>Laws</i> and the <i>Parmenides</i>	180
Motives for George's translation of the <i>Laws</i> : Was George a hypocrite?—Reasons for George's translation of the <i>Parmenides</i> —George's theory of translation and its inner contradictions—The character of George's translations of the <i>Laws</i> and <i>Parmenides</i> —Bessarion's critique of George's version of the <i>Laws</i> .	

3. Pletho and the Plato-Aristotle Controversy	193
<p>Roots of the controversy in Byzantine intellectual history—The religion of Pletho: pagan or heretic?—Pletho’s <i>De differentiis</i> and Western reactions to it—The early stages of the controversy: from Constantinople to Rome—Connection with the “Academic” conspiracy of Pomponio Leto—Use of the printing press to defend Plato—Summary of the causes for the Plato-Aristotle controversy.</p>	
4. Cardinal Bessarion and Plato	217
<p>Bessarion’s early life and education; his debt to Pletho—Bessarion’s use of Platonism for ecumenical purposes at the Council of Union—His Platonic critique of Western scholasticism—Bessarion appointed Cardinal-Legate of Bologna—his Platonic critique of economic “liberalism” and oligarchy—Bessarion’s library and the preservation of Greek culture after the fall of Byzantium—The <i>In Calumniatorem Platonis</i> as a defense of Greek culture—Bessarion’s views on the relationship between Greek philosophy and the Christian religion.</p>	
5. Bessarion vs. Trebizond	236
<p>General estimate and summary of Trebizond’s <i>Comparatio Platonis et Aristotelis</i>—Plausibility of George’s criticisms in the fifteenth century—George’s critical principles—Bessarion’s use of the Neoplatonic tradition of exegesis to defend against George—Contents of the <i>In calumniatorem Platonis</i>—Bessarion’s hermeneutical principles and techniques—Some examples of Bessarion’s exegesis: his defense of Plato’s “disorder”, his account of the transmigration of the soul in Plato, his use of the notion of “Platonic love” to defend Plato from charges of having tolerated homosexuality—The significance of the <i>In calumniatorem Platonis</i> for the reception of Plato.</p>	
PART IV: FLORENCE	265
1. Marsilio Ficino, Doctor of Souls	267
<p>A Platonic <i>consolatio mortis</i> at the deathbed of Cosimo de’Medici—Ficino’s early life and literary education—His attitude to humanism, scholasticism, and Averroism—Ficino’s religious sensibility—His appearance and character—His “spiritual crisis”—His idea of an “ancient theology”—Ficino discovers his vocation; his “culture criticism”—Platonism as the cure for the ills of contemporary culture—Ficino’s methods of spreading Platonism in Florence and Europe.</p>	
2. Ficino and the <i>Platonis opera omnia</i>	300
<p>The history of Ficino’s translations of Plato—Astrological significance of their date of publication—Patronage of his translation—How Ficino established the canon and the order of Plato’s dialogues—Ficino’s use of</p>	

previous translations and subsequent revisions—Character of Ficino's versions—Ficino's Neoplatonic view of inspired translation.

3. Ficino on Socrates, Plato, and the Platonic Corpus	318
The history and plan of Ficino's commentaries on Plato—Ficino's view of Socrates and Plato—his vision of the purpose, structure, and textuality of the Platonic dialogues—his contribution to Platonic scholarship.	
4. The <i>Commentaria in Platonem</i> : Exegesis as Apologetic.....	341
Ficino's conception of exegesis—The formal structure of and models for Ficino's exegesis—Ficino's exegetical techniques: his use of doctrinal, allegoristic, critical and scholastic techniques—The antiplatonic tradition in late fifteenth century Florence—The effectiveness of Ficino's exegesis as a tool of apologetics—Conclusion: Ficino's place in the development of Platonic exegesis in the fifteenth century.	
Conclusion	360

VOLUME II

Preface to Volume II.....	ix
---------------------------	----

PART I: APPENDICES

1. The Dates of <i>Ep. I.1 [I.8]</i> , the Latin <i>Phaedo</i> , the <i>Dialogi ad Petrum Histrum</i> and Some Other Early works of Leonardo Bruni	367
2. The Dates of Bruni's Two Redactions of the <i>Crito</i> and <i>Apology</i> , and of His Versions of the <i>Gorgias</i> , <i>Phaedrus</i> and <i>Epistolae</i>	379
3. Bruni's Translations of Plato	388
A. The <i>Phaedo</i>	388
B. The <i>Gorgias</i>	394
C. The <i>Phaedrus</i>	396
D. The <i>Symposium</i>	399
4. The Translations of the <i>Euthyphro</i> by Rinuccio Aretino and Francesco Filelfo	401
5. The Dates of Filelfo's Translations of Plato.....	404
6. Agostino Dati's Version of the Pseudo-Platonic <i>Halcyon</i> and Renaissance Skepticism	408

7. Uberto and Pier Candido Decembrio's <i>Notabilia</i> to Their Translations of the <i>Republic</i>	412
8. Decembrio's Platonic Studies	415
A. His Supposed Translation of the <i>Sophist</i>	415
B. His Treatise <i>De immortalitate</i>	417
C. His Bowdlerized Version of the <i>Lysis</i>	418
D. Miscellanea.....	420
9. Four Quattrocento Translators of <i>Republic V</i>	422
10. Cassarino's Manuscripts of Plato	427
11. George of Trebizond's Versions of the <i>Laws</i> and the <i>Parmenides</i>	429
12. Pletho's Influence in the Later Quattrocento	436
13. Bessarion's Debt to Proclus in Book II of the <i>Calumniator</i>	441
14. The "Ancient Theology" of Aristotle According to George of Trebizond	445
15. Poliziano's Fragmentary Translation of the <i>Charmides</i>	449
16. Ficino's "Spiritual Crisis"	454
17. The Development of Ficino's "Ancient Theology"	459
18. On the Textual History of Ficino's <i>Platonis opera omnia</i>	464
A. Dependence on Earlier Translations	464
B. Later Revisions.....	477
19. The Dates of Ficino's Arguments and Commentaries.....	482
20. Lorenzo Lippi's Translation of the <i>Ion</i>	485

PART II: TEXTS

Conspectus scriptorum Platonis interpretationem saec. XV illustrantium.....	491
Leonardus Aretinus—Cincius Romanus—Rinucius Aretinus—Franciscus Philelphus—Augustinus Datus—Manuel Chrysoloras et Ubertus	

Decembrius—Petrus Candidus Decembrius—Antonius Cassarinus—
Georgius Trapezuntius—Laurentius Lippius Collensis—Angelus Politia-
nus—Marsilius Ficinus.

PART III: CATALOGS

A. Census of Manuscripts	669
B. Census of Printed Editions	738
Spurious Imprints	796
C. Extracts	797
D. Perdita, Dubia, Spuria	802
E. Bio-bibliographical Note on Sixteenth-Century Translators ...	804
F. Tabula Initiorum	808
G. Indices	816
1. Index of Dialogues	816
2. Index of Translators	819
3. Index of Scribes, Annotators and Decorators of Manu- scripts	822
4. Index of Owners or Vendors of Manuscripts	824
5. Index of Dated and Datable Manuscripts	826
6. Libri annotati	827
7. Index of Printers and Publishers	827
Index of Manuscripts Not Listed in Cat. A	830
Index of Names	833
Addenda	845
Addenda et Corrigenda to Volume I (1991)	848
Corrigenda to Volume II (1991)	848
Addendum (1991) to Part I, p. 76f.	849