

THE CONTRIBUTORS

George Aquilina OFM joined the Maltese Franciscan Province of the Friars Minor in 1955. He completed his philosophical and theological studies at the Province's *studium* in Valletta. He pursued doctoral studies at the Order's Università Pontificia 'Antonianaum' in Rome (1965-1969) during which time he also obtained diplomas after following courses at the Pontificio Istituto d'Archeologia Cristiana (1966) and at the Scuola Vaticana di Archivistica e Diplomatica (1967). He has lectured in Church History at the Maltese Province's *studium* (1969-1987) and has been his Order's librarian and archivist since 1970. His publications include two books: *Marco di Viterbo (1304-1369)*, *Ministro Generali dei Frati Minori, Cardinale e Nunzio Apostolico* (Rome, 1971) and *Il-Gimgha l-Kbira tal-Belt* (Malta, 1984).

Gerard Bugeja was born at Gżira in 1950. He obtained his secondary education at the Minor Seminary, Floriana. After studying at the Junior College, he read the B.A. (Hons) course in Italian at the University of Malta. He subsequently proceeded to Pisa University where he graduated in 1980 with a thesis on the Maltese poet and historian, G.A. Ciantar. He has since published articles on art and Italian literature, in Malta and in Italy. At present he teaches Italian at the Junior College.

Charles Dalli teaches medieval history at the University of Malta. He is currently pursuing doctoral studies at the University of Cambridge, England.

Stanley Fiorini B.Phil., M.A. (Oxon), Ph.D. is Professor and Head of the Department of Mathematics at the University of Malta. His main interest in Maltese History is the late medieval period on which he has written a number of papers and books, including: *Santo Spirito Hospital at Rabat, Malta. The early years to 1575* (Malta, 1989) and *The 'Mandati' Documents at the Archives of the Mdina Cathedral, Malta: 1473-1539* (Malta 1992). Former president of the Malta Historical Society, he is editor of the present volume and a number of other publications of the same society.

Albert Ganado B.A., L.L.D., is a Knight of Magistral Grace, S.M.O.M., Lawyer and internationally recognized authority on the cartography of Malta on which subject he has published many scholarly articles. He is contributor to *Encyclopedia Britannica* on Maltese history and current events, and to *Imago*

Mundi (London), *Imago et Mensura Mundi* (Rome) and *Lexicon zur Geschichte der Kartographie* (Vienna) and *Florilegium Cartographicum* (Leipzig). He has published in academic journals studies on various aspects of Maltese history and co-authored with Joseph C. Sammut *Malta in British and French Caricature 1798-1815* and, with Maurice Agius-Vadalà, *A Study in Depth of 143 Malta Siege Maps*. He is currently President of the Malta Historical Society and Chariman of the National Archives Advisory Committee. In 1994 the Malta University Library produced a Festschrift in his honour, *Liber Amicorum Dr Albert Ganado*.

Joseph Muscat was born at Rabat in 1934. He received his education at the Lyceum and at St Michael's College for Teachers. He is an active member of the Society of Christian Doctrine (M.U.S.E.U.M.), the Malta Historical Society and the Society for Nautical Research of England. In 1988 he was appointed secretary to the Provisional committee of the Maritime Museum and is currently assisting in the setting up of this Museum. He has a lifelong interest in Maritime history of Malta with particular emphasis on the Navy of the Order and the development of traditional Maltese ship and boat technology and iconography. Besides carrying out extensive archival research he studied other related subjects such as ship graffiti and votive paintings. He has produced numerous writings on Maritime subjects in both Maltese and foreign publications besides being a ship model-maker and restorer of old ship models.

Keith Sciberras is a Ph.D. candidate in History of Art. He holds an M.A. from the University of Malta and is an Assistant Lecturer in the Art Unit at the same University. His area of specialization is 18th-Century painting and sculpture.

Conrad Thake graduated BE & A (Hons.) at the University of Malta in 1988, M.A. (Planning) at the University of Waterloo, Canada, in 1991 and is reading for a Ph.D. degree in Architectural History at the University of California at Berkely, U.S.A. He is an architect in private practice and works as an urban planner on a part-time basis with the Planning Authority.

Karmenu Vassallo Lecturer and co-ordinator of Hispanic Studies at the University of Malta. He has researched extensively in Spain, Portugal, France, Italy, Tunisia and, of course, Malta itself on the Island's commercial network in the Early Modern Period. Current research interests are Maltese Trade in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries with particular reference to the role of the Chamber of Commerce.