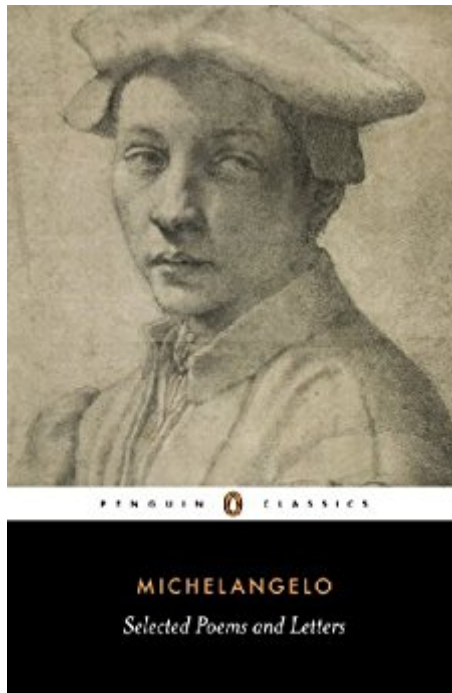


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Poems And Letters: Selections, With The 1550 Vasari Life (Penguin Classics)



Synopsis

Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475-1564) is universally celebrated as one of the greatest artists of all time, yet iconic Renaissance creator was also a prolific and gifted poet. The verses collected here are primarily devoted to love and religion. Intense and passionate, the love poems focus on two figures: Tommaso de Cavalieri and Vittoria Colonna; with the sonnets and madrigals dedicated to de Cavalieri revealing a highly charged, homoerotic fervour - previously obscured in the original versions. Michelangelo's later religious poetry moves away from his earlier wordly concerns, while his letters provide a fascinating insight into his family relations and day-to-day life as a working artist. The result is a revealing picture of one of the towering figures of the Renaissance.

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The introduction and the translation provide insight into the artist's work. If you are interested in the life of the artist, this may be your best avenue to understanding--as long as you grasp the fashion of the time for hyperbole (by today's standard) in poetry.

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