

## IN BRIEF / SCHEDE

**Dante Alighieri**, *La divina commedia*, Edizione Multimediale Interattiva su CD-Rom, a cura di Gualtiero e Roberto Carraro. Editoria Elettronica, 1995.

The set of three Interactive Multimedia CD-Roms allows the *Divina commedia* to be explored in a number of ways. By doing a word search, one can find all the verses which contain a specific word. There are hypertext links from the texts of the various *canti* to the notes, comments and summaries by Umberto Bosco and Giovanni Reggio (the text used is the 'Le Monnier Edition', edited by Bosco and Reggio). While consulting the text, one can listen to a reading of the *Commedia* by Giorgio Albertazzi and other well known actors. One can also follow Dante's journey visually, by making use of the more than 300 illustrations which make up the graphic element of the multimedia *Commedia*.

In order to use the CD-Rom, the following is required: an IBM compatible PC configured for Multimedia; a CD-Rom reader; a Super VGA (256 x 480, 256 colours) or VGA (640 x 480, 16 colours) video display unit; a Windows compatible audio card. The PC must run on Windows 3.1.

Installation of the CD-Rom is fairly simple and anyone with a good working knowledge of Windows should be able to manage it. The booklet provided with the set does not, however, give very clear instructions on the installation procedures or on using the set, with the result that one does need a certain degree of perseverance.

Once the CD-Rom is up and running, it is a pleasure to use, and the various options it offers should add immensely to one's enjoyment of the *Commedia*. I especially enjoyed listening to the reading of some of the *Canti*. Although it would not be feasible for the average student to acquire a multimedia *Commedia*, it is my opinion that it should be available in any serious Italian library collection.

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