

The Cardinal Lorenzo Pucci (1458-1531) and the Reform

Born in Florence in 1458, Lorenzo Pucci comes from a family who had always been closely linked to the Medici. Present in Rome from 1484 onwards, Pucci soon becomes one of the most influent prelates in the immediate environment of Jules II, and is made cardinal right after Leo X's election in 1513. In 1520, Pucci, who had been praised by Erasmus for his efforts to "restore the Christian religion", is appointed *penitenziere maggiore*. As such, he could grant indulgences and was therefore at the heart of the practices strongly condemned by Luther. By using contemporary testimonies, this presentation aims to dwell on the role endorsed by Pucci as *penitenziere* and to examine the conditions that led him to that powerful position. I should also give some clues about his profile as a patron of arts.