

# Emblem Manuscripts 1630-1685

## Affixiones of the Brussels Jesuit College on CD-ROM

This CD-ROM contains the entire collection of Emblem Manuscripts from the 17<sup>th</sup> century Brussels Jesuit College, a collection now housed in the Royal Library in Brussels.

### Affixiones

This, in many ways unique, series of manuscripts with more than 2,500 drawings and poems, preserves for posterity an especially vivid record, in both words and images, of the Brussels Jesuit College's educational activities and involvement in civic life. The manuscripts, which all date from the period 1630 to 1685, represent the fruit of one of the many initiatives by which the Jesuits commended the quality of their educational system to the outside world: the so-called affixiones. These were exhibitions of pupils' work, mostly in the form of emblems or related genres. Some forty commemorative volumes of the work exhibited at these annual events, lovingly illuminated by pen and brush, were compiled in the Brussels College.

The high artistic as well as literary quality which the volumes so often achieve lends the collection moreover a rare distinction: wonderful gouaches (e.g. by Antoon Sallaert), no less splendid calligraphy (e.g. by G.H. Wilmart) and sophisticated, erudite Latin and Greek verses.

The manuscripts almost always mention the name of the Poesis and Rhetorica pupils who had designed an emblem. No other collection of affixiones of such scope, coherence and artistic merit has been preserved.

### The CD-ROM

Over the years, IDC has published more than 1,000 microfiche editions of emblem books. Because the colours of the beautiful illustrations in the

Emblem Manuscripts of the Royal Library of Brussels are so very important IDC decided to publish the material on CD-ROM. We used all of our resources, both technical and financial, to produce perfectly legible text and excellent illustrations. The result is a clear and easy to use interface with simple functions and top quality imaging.

The CD-ROM contains, complete and in full colour, the entire collection of manuscripts from the Royal Library in Brussels with their beautiful emblematic images and calligraphy. Searches can be made either by title description or by exposure using thumbnail screens (miniature depictions of the pages).

### Background information

Detailed background information on the manuscripts and the Jesuit College, together with comprehensive descriptions, a chronological list of the manuscripts and a list of pupils is supplied in the form of a printed catalogue. The catalogue, *Emblematic Exhibitions at the Brussels Jesuit College (1630-1685)*, compiled by prof. dr. K. Porteman (Catholic University of Leuven), published by Brepols (Turnhout, 1996), accompanies the CD-ROM, but is also available separately from IDC Publishers

### System requirements

To use this CD-ROM, we recommend a computer with at least a 486 processor, 8 Mb of internal memory, a CD-ROM drive, a mouse and Windows 3.1 or higher.

### 30-day trial basis

It is possible to receive the CD-ROM on a 30-day trial basis. If you are not satisfied with the CD-ROM, you can return it to IDC Publishers or your local representative. In this case you only have to pay for postage, insurance and handling costs.

### Emblem books on microfiche

IDC Publishers also has a unique collection of 1,000 emblem books available on microfiche. If you wish to receive a free catalogue we will be pleased to send it to you.