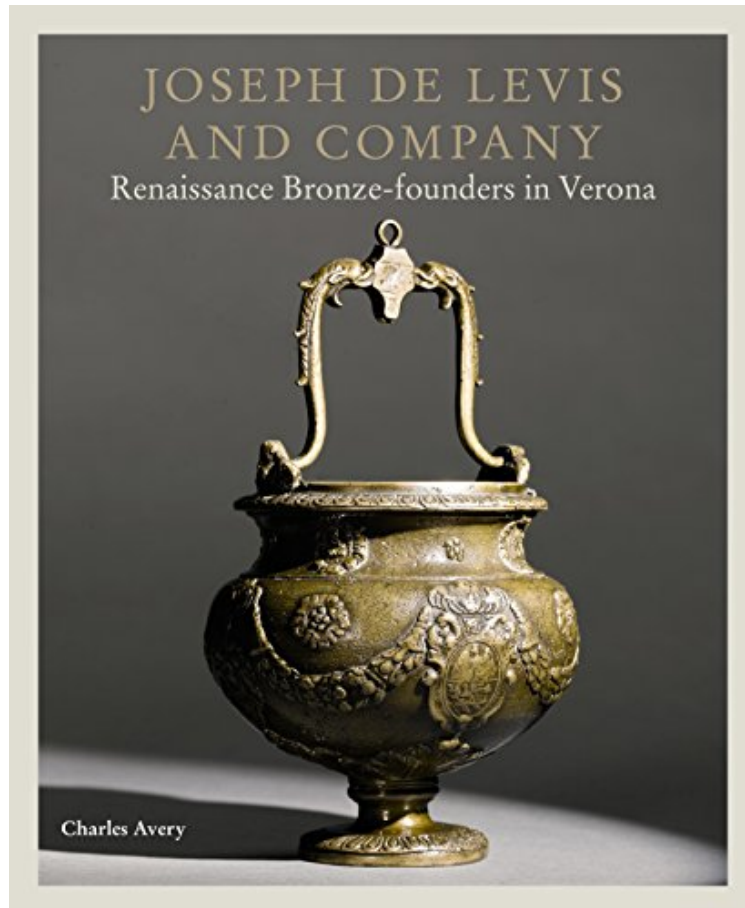


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## Joseph de Levis and Company: Renaissance Bronze Founders in Verona

Charles Avery

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**Charles Avery : Joseph de Levis and Company: Renaissance Bronze Founders in Verona** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Joseph de Levis and Company: Renaissance Bronze Founders in Verona:

Joseph de Levis applied his distinctive signature (between 1577 and 1605) to a whole range of fantastic, Mannerist, bronze artifacts, some 45 in all. They range from large church bells-some still in situ-and miniature table bells, to mortars, inkstands, perfume burners, door knockers, firedogs, statuettes, and even a portrait-bust. Joseph's sons and nephews continued the family business into the seventeenth century, signing a similar range of artifacts in an early Baroque style. This book provides a unique cross-section of the production of a hardworking and resilient renaissance foundry. Frequently inscriptions and coats-of-arms specify his wide ranging clientèle, from civic and church

authorities, to guilds and confraternities (all-important in society at the time), nobility, merchants, and connoisseur-collectors. Bronzes by the De Levis dynasty are now dispersed among museums in Europe, the USA and Israel, and in Old Master collections. A notable collector being the late Robert H. Smith, whose foundation purchased in 2002 the eye-catching Ewer from the Salomon de Rothschild Foundation in Paris for £276,000. This well illustrated catalogue raisonné is important to both art history and from the perspective of the Jewish Diaspora in Renaissance Italy.

“a fascinating glimpse of an all but hidden world” (David Ekserdjian, Evening Standard 2016-12-22)“Avery’s understanding of the bronze-founder’s world and its daily associations is unsurpassed...compelling” (Donald Johnson, Apollo)About the AuthorDr. Charles Avery is a specialist on European sculpture, particularly Italian, French, English, and Flemish. A graduate of Cambridge University and the Courtauld Institute of Art he later obtained a doctorate from Cambridge. He is a Cavaliere of the Order of Merit of Italy, and has been a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London, and a Trustee of the British-Italian Society. He was the Deputy Keeper of Sculpture at the Victoria Albert Museum for twelve years, a Director of Christie's, and - since 1990 - has been an independent historian, writer, and lecturer. His published works include Giambologna: The Complete Sculpture; Renaissance and Baroque Bronzes in the Frick Art Museum; Donatello: An Introduction; David Le Marchand (1674-1726): An Ingenious Man for Carving in Ivory; Bernini, Genius of the Baroque and The Triumph of Motion: Francesco Bertos (1678-1741).