

THE DANCE OF DEATH WAS A PROMINENT ARTISTIC, POETIC, AND RELIGIOUS THEME THROUGHOUT THE MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE PERIODS. ALTHOUGH THE CONCEPT EVOLVED THROUGH MANY INTERPRETATIONS AND TRANSLATIONS, ITS CONSISTENT PURPOSE HAS BEEN TO REMIND PEOPLE OF THEIR OWN MORTALITY. IN THE DANCE, DEATH APPEARS IN THE FORM OF A SKELETON OR QUICKENED CORPSE TO LEAD A DYING MORTAL TO THE NEXT WORLD. SOME VICTIMS SUBMIT QUIETLY, WHILE OTHERS STRUGGLE IN VAIN. BUT DEATH, THE INEVITABLE VICTOR, ALWAYS EMERGES AS THE ONLY CERTAINTY IN LIFE.