I owe thanks to many friends and colleagues for their help on this project: to Anne Larsen, Diana Robin, and Veena Kumar Carlson for generously sending me photocopies of Renaissance texts still unedited or not readily available to me; to Virginia Cox and Francine Daenens for sending me articles of theirs not yet in print; to Yelena Matusevich, whose dissertation work induced me to read Gerson; to Evelyne Berriot-Salvadore and Margaret King for helpful replies to my queries; and to all who responded to pieces of this work delivered at conferences, offering me their suggestions and ideas. I am very grateful to the support of the University of Illinois–Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) exchange agreement, which enabled me to pursue important research at the Bibliothèque Nationale and the Arsenal, and thankful to the kind assistance of scholars there, including especially Carla Bozzolo, Darwin Smith, and M. Maillard. Last but not least, I owe fond thanks to my father, who read through the entire manuscript at an early stage, and to the later anonymous readers, all of whom improved the work with their suggestions.