

CASA GUIDI WINDOWS



Edited with an Introduction and Notes by Julia Markus

On 12 September 1847 the Brownings celebrated their first wedding anniversary in Florence as witnesses to a massive and joyous political demonstration. This episode in the Italian Risorgimento, and the disillusioning aftermath, formed the basis of Elizabeth Barrett Browning's most ambitious political poem, *Casa Guidi Windows* (1851). Dr. Julia Markus writes in her Introduction: "In re-evaluating *Casa Guidi Windows*, . . . it is first essential to place the poem within its contemporary milieu, so that we can appreciate Mrs. Browning's intelligent response to her times. Once we learn to trust her voice again, we will be able to uncover the significance of the very intimate 'I' narration of the poem. For the daring subjectivity of voice is a conscious and confident assertion of the moral and social role of the poet in her times."

This is the first volume of Mrs.

Browning's verse to be edited by modern scholarly standards. In addition to a reliable text of the poem, it provides an Introduction, illustrations, an appendix which includes a hitherto unpublished drawing by Mrs. Browning (showing what she actually saw from the windows of Casa Guidi), historical and critical notes, and textual notes which record variant readings from three manuscripts and two printed versions of the poem. The color frontispiece is a newly discovered portrait of Mrs. Browning by Field Talfourd, never before reproduced.

Julia Markus is a novelist and critic who has written extensively on the Brownings, and has lived and worked in Italy.

Publication date: 12 September 1977 • 176 pages • \$10 (\$8 to members of the Browning Institute) • Add \$1 for postage and handling

THE BROWNING INSTITUTE, INC.

Box 2983, Grand Central Station, New York, N. Y. 10017

OTHER TITLES AVAILABLE FROM
THE
BROWNING INSTITUTE

William S. Peterson, *Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning: An Annotated Bibliography, 1951-1970*. 1974. 224 pages. "Literally indispensable . . . no Browning library of any size can afford to be without it."—Philip Drew, *Browning Society Notes*. List price, \$25; members' price, \$18.75.

Browning Institute Studies. Volume 1 (1973): 226 pages. Volume 2 (1974): 240 pages. Volume 3 (1975): 224 pages. Volume 4 (1976): 224 pages. Volume 5 (1977): 242 pages. List price, \$20 each; members' price, \$12 each.

Peter N. Heydon and Philip Kelley, editors, *Elizabeth Barrett Browning's Letters to Mrs. David Ogilvy*. 1973. 256 pages. List price, \$7.95; members' price, \$7.15.

Maisie Ward, *The Tragi-Comedy of Pen Browning*. 1972. 192 pages, including 32 pages of illustrations. List price, \$8.50; sale price, \$1.50.

Emily Blanchard Hope, "Saving Casa Guidi." Reprinted from *Browning Institute Studies*, 1 (1973). 30 pages. List price, \$3; members' price, \$1.50.

Peter N. Heydon, "Whatever Became of the *Pauline* Poet?" Reprinted from *Browning Society Notes*, 3 (March 1973). 22 pages. List price, \$3; members' price, \$1.50.

Edward R. Moulton-Barrett, *Talking about the Barretts: A Prologue and an Epilogue to the Play 'The Barretts of Wimpole Street'*. A lecture given to the Browning Society meetings in New York and Boston, October 1973. 16 pages. List price, \$2.50; members' price, \$1.25.

William S. Peterson, *Interrogating the Oracle: A History of the London Browning Society*. Ohio University Press, 1969. 296 pages. List price, \$10; sale price, \$4.40.

Please enclose \$1 for handling and postage with your order.

THE BROWNING INSTITUTE, INC.
Box 2983, Grand Central Station, New York, N. Y. 10017

AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE BROWNING INSTITUTE



After Elizabeth's death in their Florentine apartment on 29 June 1861, Robert Browning commissioned the above painting, *Salon at Casa Guidi*, by his friend George Mignaty. Since the painting (now in the Goewey Collection of Mills College Library) provides a remarkably detailed record of the room's appearance in 1861, it is one of the chief sources of evidence being used by the Browning Institute, the present owner of Casa Guidi, in plans for restoration. Today the Browning rooms are open once more to the public, and by joining the Browning Institute you can contribute to the restoration of Casa Guidi as a museum and study center.

Members paying \$15 or more in dues receive a free copy of *Browning Institute Studies*, and all members are placed on the mailing list of *Through Casa Guidi Windows: The Bulletin of the Browning Institute*. In addition, members are entitled to discounts on other titles published by the Institute.

The Browning Institute is a nonprofit organization chartered in the State of New York. A copy of the last annual report of the Institute filed with the New York State Board of Social Welfare may be obtained upon request by writing to the New York State Board of Social Welfare, Office Tower, Empire State Plaza, Albany, N.Y. 12242, or to The Browning Institute, Inc. at the address shown below.

The following categories of membership are available: Life membership, \$1000; Sponsor, \$250; Contributing, \$100; Sustaining, \$30; REGULAR, \$15; Library, \$15; Student, \$3; Foreign (except Canada), \$5; Browning Societies and cultural organizations, \$1 per active member; Corporate, \$250 (minimum). Dues and contributions are tax-deductible.

Send dues and contributions to: *The Browning Institute, Inc.*, Box 2983, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10017.