exclusive and were evolving, perhaps not entirely due to demographic pressures, from private-active to public-passive participation, even before the Catholic Reformation. Koenraad Jonckheere explains how Italian and antique models had a growing impact on Antwerp's artistic activity during the sixteenth century but also how economic matters, image theoretical debates and persisting artistic traditions contributed to shaping Antwerp's Renaissance art.

A series of chapters then leads the reader out of the workshops to the great outdoors: places of exchange and the streets. Jeroen Puttevils researches the contours of Antwerp's trade and shows how Low Countries native merchants managed to grow despite Antwerp's tendency to favour foreign merchants. Krista De Jonge, Piet Lombaerde and Petra Maclot track the evolutions of Antwerp's urban fabric throughout the sixteenth century with particular attention to the major stylistic changes inspired by antiquity. Erik Swart explains how the use of classical references in a military context was seen as a sign of virtue, notably to help justify and initiate changes or local experiments.

Back inside, Dave De Ruysscher visits offices and demonstrates that changes in Antwerp's law resulted from an interplay between mercantile practices, late medieval legal literature and contemporary humanist interpretations. Anne-Laure Van Bruaene shows how Antwerp's festive traditions, often organized within chambers of rhetoricians, were constantly reinterpreted by newcomers and infused with new ideas during the sixteenth century, and argues that this created a means of overcoming urban divides. According to Herman Pleij, chambers of rhetoricians were also at the heart of literary changes, as members drew on classical models without copying them. Finally, this journey through important places within the city is mirrored in Jelle De Rock's fascinating chapter discussing changes in city representations, with a particular emphasis upon how the viewpoint from which Antwerp was depicted changed in relation to cartographers' goals throughout the sixteenth century.

One of the many interests of this book is that it shows how fruitful it is to intersect geographical scales of analysis when investigating the complexity of a city's evolution: Antwerp's specific dynamics are continuously explored by considering both very local factors (demographic growth, industrialized hinterlands, etc.) and more global ones (strong ties with Italy, the international market, etc.). This book demonstrates how this permanent mix of scales and factors underlies the unique qualities of Antwerp's history.

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Maarten Prak and Patrick Wallis (eds.), *Apprenticeship in Early Modern Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020. xii + 322pp. 22 figures. 30 tables. £75.00 hbk.
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Apprenticeship is frequently mentioned in pre-modern histories but there has been little research into the institution itself. *Apprenticeship in Early Modern Europe*

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comprises ten chapters on the topic, nine being local case-studies from towns and cities across western Europe.

Until recently, apprenticeship was often discussed as part of broader studies on urban guilds. This was based on a belief, challenged across the chapters in this volume, that apprenticeship was closely tied into the guild system and used to control entry into the crafts. In some regions, such as the Holy Roman Empire, the Low Countries and England, guilds had some role in drawing up contracts. More often, however, the role of guilds amounted only to setting a framework of rules, with contracts being produced privately and enforced through the courts. This has implications for the decline of apprenticeship in the modern period. Rather than being a consequence of the demise of the guild system, it occurs later with the emergence of larger firms, greater opportunities in urban centres, new technology and the division of labour (p. 316).

The volume also challenges any preconception of apprenticeship as being an institution solely for young men. Although well below 10 per cent of the total, girls formed a proportion of those trained in the crafts across the case-studies and training was carried out by mistresses as well as masters. The presence of young women was particularly common in the cloth-related crafts. Yet Patrick Wallis' findings for England find most trades had at least some female apprentices (p. 270).

Individual chapters sometimes feel a little detached from each other rather than cohering as a whole. Several themes recur in numerous chapters, such as the contract process, pay arrangements and retention rates, but without comparisons to one another. Overarching themes are addressed in the introduction and conclusion, yet Prak and Wallis make little reference to the volume's contributions. A few apparent inconsistencies between chapters, perhaps representing regional differences or ambiguities of terminology, might also have been addressed. Ruben Schalk states that the cost of buying a shop was a financial barrier to becoming a master (p. 201). Yet Giovanni Colavizza, Riccardo Cella and Anna Bellavitis found that masters sometimes worked for other masters, presumably with no shop of their own (pp. 108–9).

Apprenticeship is closely associated with urban history and most of the chapters draw their evidence from towns and cities. In contrast, Merja Uotila offers urban historians a fascinating insight into how urban practices influenced rural communities through her research into Finland. Uotila finds a system inspired by urban practices but adapted to the local situation. Masters reported new apprentices to their parish priest. This presumably implied a spiritual dimension to acknowledging the boy or girl's place in the household but also acted as a register, with priests being turned to in cases of runaway apprentices (p. 177).

Having explored apprenticeship through case-studies, Prak and Wallis' concluding analysis serves the important function of identifying common practices. Their contributions emphasize the areas of similarity. Contrasting practices also emerge from the chapters, which might have been discussed further. One such area is the retention of apprentices and the enforcement of contracts. Evidence from Germany and the northern Netherlands finds legal processes permitting mid-contract changes to new masters (pp. 157, 202–3). Ruben Schalk finds this occurred for 8.6 to 14.1 per cent of apprentices in the northern Netherlands, with the switch

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being an opportunity either to change craft or to negotiate a higher rate of pay owing to the skills already gained. This would appear very different from the southern Netherlands, where guilds were fined heavily for hiring runaway apprentices (p. 233). Differences in enforcement affected the nature of the contracts. In the southern Netherlands, longer contracts could be negotiated at a lower price on the condition that apprentices worked for masters below the market rate in their final years (p. 224). Such contracts would not have been desirable for masters had it been too easy to leave early.

Future research might turn its attention to questions beyond the remit of this collection. First, is the origin of apprenticeship. The private negotiation of contracts, independent of guilds, is a common theme across the chapters. This raises the intriguing question of whether the practices predate the development of craft guilds. Secondly, is the black market in labour. Surviving documents are biased towards above-the-board arrangements, often backed up by contracts. The black market is alluded to by a number of contributors, in particular Clare Haru Crowston and Claire Lemercier, but is a central theme for none.

The chapters of this volume are essential reading for urban historians studying the social and economic structure of the region or city in question. Collectively, they have a wealth of information for those interested in broader themes relating to apprenticeship, but readers may find themselves needing to join the dots between the case-studies.

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Chris Otter, *Diet for a Large Planet: Industrial Britain, Food Systems, and World Ecology*. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, 2020. 400pp. 65 halftones. $49.00 cloth. $48.99 eBook.
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The modern 'Western Diet' – one dependent on animal proteins, processed grains and sugar – dominates the world. This food system produces abundance and waste; it meets nutritional needs for hundreds of millions while creating new types of health concerns and epidemics; and it fosters local cultures and consumer tastes while giving rise to ecological devastation. In his wide-ranging book, *Diet for a Large Planet: Industrial Britain, Food Systems, and World Ecology*, Chris Otter dives deep into the historical foundations of this paradoxical diet. He explores how Britain, between 1820 and 1914, became the architect of a global agro-industrial food system that took over the world. This planetary system was partly the project of political economy and Britain's position as a global and colonial power. However, power also resided in distributed infrastructures, technologies, dispositions and subjectivities around food. The notion of 'cheap food' became part of British consumer rituals, in recurring purchases of roast beef and loaves of white bread.

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