



BIBLIOTECA MEDICEA LAURENZIANA



The exhibition celebrates the 14th centenary of the death of Pope Gregory the Great who reigned over Christianity between 590 and 604 and was one of the main writers of the Italian peninsula during the Early Middle Ages as well as being the centre of contemporary political life having contacts with major exponents of politics and religion in both the Eastern and Western worlds. Thirty eight manuscripts containing his works, on loan from Italian and foreign libraries, will be on display; the codices have been chosen amongst the oldest and the most significant for textual, iconographic or artistic reasons. The exhibition's itinerary is articulated in two sections: the first is devoted to Gregory the Great; the second to Gregorian agiographies. In both the sections the manuscripts are in chronological order. Thus, it is possible to understand the diffusion of Gregorian works in the period comprised between Pope Gregory's death and the beginning of the Renaissance. The exhibition has been organized by the Comitato Nazionale per le Celebrazioni del XIV centenario della morte di Gregorio Magno and the Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana together with the Stiftsbibliothek di St. Gallen (CH) and sponsored by the Ente Cassa di Risparmio di Firenze and the Regione Toscana.