

nary delicacy and a circumspection amounting almost to prudery. Even the poems that he did not want to release because he thought them "pornographic," have been found, after their publication, to be quite chaste.

Sandro Penna ranks among the most significant Italian poets of homosexual love, and is particularly significant in the twentieth-century context. In recent years his work and personality have undergone an unceasing process of critical reevaluation, though this had begun before his death. Penna's influence on young Italian homosexual poets is clearly evident today, so that it is not excessive to speak of his formative influence on contemporary Italian gay poetry.

BIBLIOGRAPHY. Gualtiero De Santi, *Penna*, Florence: La Nuova Italia, 1982; Elio Pecora, *Sandro Penna: una cheta follia*, Milan: Frassinelli, 1984.

Giovanni Dall'Orto

PÉREZ, ANTONIO (1540-1611)

Spanish author and political figure. Antonio was publicly the son of King Felipe II's secretary, the priest Gonzalo Pérez, although he may really have been the son of a court noble; he was probably of Semitic ancestry, as were many thinkers and administrators in sixteenth-century Spain. Antonio was well-educated, especially at the universities of Venice and Padua, and was further tutored by Gonzalo for a career in government. He succeeded Gonzalo in the powerful position of royal secretary, and was especially charged with Italian affairs. His hobby was perfumery, and he is also remembered for advances in dental hygiene.

The victim of conservative courtiers, Pérez was arrested on charges of murder and heresy; charges of sodomy were later added. He escaped from prison and fled to Aragon, terrifying the king because of Pérez's possession of documents containing official secrets, probably assassi-

nations. After popular demonstrations prevented the king from immediately recapturing Pérez, he fled to France. His wife and children, whom he was never to see again, were kept as hostages in Madrid to ensure that he did not reveal secrets. In exile in France and England, surviving assassination attempts, Pérez wrote and published on Spain, beginning the long tradition of study of Spain's problems. His works have had considerable influence on Spanish reformist and anti-clerical thinking.

The testimony of the witnesses against Pérez, which has been published only in heavily censored form, speaks of a homosexual underworld among the Spanish nobility. Pérez's cousin Juan de Tovar, also implicated in the scandal and one of the witnesses, is presumably the same Juan de Tovar who composed the first known work in Spanish in which homosexual love is presented positively. This is a lengthy *Eclogue* first published, minus a page torn from the manuscript, in 1985. In it, a boy dies rather than reveal the identity of the man he loves.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: José J. Labrador, C. Angel Zorita, and Ralph A. DiFranco, "La *Egloga* de Juan de Tovar: extenso poema del Siglo de Oro sobre el amor 'que no quiere decir su nombre,'" *El Crotalón—Anuario de Filología Española*, 2 (1985), 365-400; idem, "'A su albedrío y sin orden alguna' (*Quijote*, II, 69), Autor y coincidencias con la *Egloga* de Juan de Tovar," in *Cervantes and the Pastoral*, Cleveland, 1986, pp. 213-33; corrections to their text in *Boletín de la Biblioteca de Menéndez Pelayo*, 63 (1987), 105-06; Gregorio Marañón, *Antonio Pérez*, in his *Obras completas*, VI, Madrid: Espasa-Calpe, 1970, Chapter 13. For the censored testimony, *Colección de documentos inéditos para la historia de España*, XII, Madrid, 1848, pp. 190-95, 224-42, 255-59.

Daniel Eisenberg

PERU

See Andean Societies.