

## CAST OF CONTRIBUTORS

**Thomas More** (1477/78–1535) Author of, as well as character within, *Utopia*. More was a prominent English Humanist, writer, lawyer, and high official of the British Crown, attaining the position of Lord Chancellor at the end of his life (and of saint thereafter). He was beheaded on the charge of treason for refusing to sanction King Henry VIII's divorce and expedient split from the Catholic Church.

**Peter Giles** (1486–1533) Flemish friend to Thomas More, and character in More's *Utopia*. Giles, or Pieter Gillis as he was born, was a well-known Humanist and printer in Antwerp. He contributed the Utopian alphabet, verses in the Utopian tongue, and probably the marginalia in *Utopia*.

**Raphael Hythloday** (1516 to the present) A traveler who discovered the island of Utopia and narrates Book II of *Utopia*. Hythloday, or Hythlodæus as it appeared in the original Latin, is derived from the Greek word for “nonsense” or “idle talk,” while his Christian name, Raphael, recalls the archangel who gives sight to the blind.

**Guillaume Budé** (1467–1540) A well-known French Humanist scholar who provided a commendation for the 1517 and 1518 editions of *Utopia*.

**Jerome de Busleyden** (1470–1517) A Dutch Humanist, statesmen, and patron of learning, as well as friend of More and Erasmus, who provided multiple commendations for *Utopia*.

**John Desmarais** (?–1526) A noted Latin scholar and teacher of oratory at the University of Louvain, and friend of Erasmus. Also known as Jean Desmarez, he wrote a commendation printed in the 1516 and 1517 editions of *Utopia*.

**Erasmus** (1466–1536) A prominent Dutch Humanist scholar, translator, theologian, priest, and friend of More's. Erasmus—or Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam, as he was also known—helped assemble commendations for *Utopia*, as well as supplying one of his own. He may also have contributed to the marginalia.

**Gerard Geldenhouwer** (1482–1542) A Dutch professor of history and theology who oversaw the first printing of *Utopia*, and also contributed a short poem to the volume.

**Cornelius Graphey** (1482–1558) Also known as Cornelius Grapheus, Schreiber, or de Schrijver, Graphey was a distinguished poet in Latin, and friend of Giles and Erasmus. He composed a short set of verses for *Utopia*.

**Beatus Rhenanus** (1485–1547) A printer, scholar, religious reformer, Humanist, and friend to the popular Erasmus, Rhenanus was active in Johann Froben's publishing business in Basel, where the two 1518 editions of *Utopia* were printed. He supervised these printings and contributed his own dedication.