

ABSTRACT

The article provides a survey of the available documents relating to the history of printing in Hebrew in Mantua and Ferrara in the 1470s. It gives a new chronological sequence of editions based on textual features in the editions themselves as well as new interpretations of literary and archival documents. Starting with the dating of the *Nofet Tzufim* by Yehudah known as 'Messer Leon' – a possible partner or financial supporter of the printing shop of Estelina and Avraham Conat – the author concludes that the shop was probably established as early as 1473. From 1476, for a brief period, the Conats' printing shop collaborated with the Ferrarese printer Avraham de Tintori from Pesaro, perhaps in response to the competition from the rival Hebrew printing press in Piove di Sacco.