



You have downloaded a document from  
**RE-BUŚ**  
repository of the University of Silesia in Katowice

**Title:** Introduction

**Author:** Patrycja Matusiak

**Citation style:** Matusiak Patrycja. (2020). Introduction. „Scripta Classica” (Vol. 17, 2020, s. 7-10), DOI: 10.31261/SC.2020.17.01



Uznanie autorstwa - Na tych samych warunkach - Licencja ta pozwala na kopiowanie, zmienianie, rozprowadzanie, przedstawianie i wykonywanie utworu tak długo, jak tylko na utwory zależne będzie udzielana taka sama licencja.



---

## Introduction

We are delighted to present you the seventeenth, special issue of *Scripta Classica*, dedicated to professor Tadeusz Aleksandrowicz. Professor Aleksandrowicz played a great role throughout the existence of the Department of Classical Philology as one of its directors (in 2004–2014, first as a curator and then head) and the good spirit of the place almost from its inception. Combining his competences of a historian and literary scholar, he specializes in the study of Roman intellectual culture *nobilitas*, on which he published three monographs<sup>1</sup> and almost a hundred articles. Always patient and having time for his students, Tadeusz Aleksandrowicz was the supervisor of 36 MA theses, 5 bachelor's theses and 3 doctorates<sup>2</sup>. As an inspirer of cathedral activities, he contributed to the founding of the *Scripta Classica*, and together with the Young Classics Club he helped found *Classica Catoviciensia. Scripta Minora* and start the Young Classics Rally which aimed at integrating students and was organized annually in the fall and for some years also in the spring and in which he always participated. He is a member of scientific societies<sup>3</sup>, and in 2014 he was awarded the golden badge "For merits for the University of Silesia". Professor Aleksandrowicz is also a popularizer of knowledge about antiquity – through columns and popular science lectures also given in high schools and a tireless companion of students

---

<sup>1</sup> *Kultura intelektualna rzymskich konsulów w schyłkowym okresie Republiki*, Katowice 2002; *Elita władzy a oratorstwo w schyłkowym okresie Rzeczypospolitej Rzymskiej*, Katowice 1996; *Zainteresowania literackie rzymskiej „nobilitas” w schyłkowym okresie Republiki*, Katowice 1990.

<sup>2</sup> „Musa illa rustica. Rośliny w sielankach Wergiliusza”, Maciej Helbig, 2020. Doctoral co-advvisor: prof. Barbara Tokarska-Guzik; „Recepcja antyku w twórczości Grzegorza z Sanoka”, Ewa Kurek, 2014; „Obraz Hannibala w literaturze antycznej”, Patrycja Matusiak, 2010. Doctoral co-advvisor: prof. Jerzy Kolendo.

<sup>3</sup> Polskie Towarzystwo Filologiczne, Polskie Towarzystwo Historyczne, Polskie Towarzystwo Bibliologiczne, Komisja Filologii Klasycznej PAU, Komisja Historycznoliteracka Oddziału PAN w Katowicach and Komisja Historyczna Oddziału PAN w Katowicach.

on their trips to Cieszyn, Racibórz and Kraków, which shed new light at antiquity through inscriptions, museum exhibitions and lectures.

Professor Aleksandrowicz retired at the end of summer term of 2018/2019, on the last day of the Department of Classical Philology, which as of 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2019 after its 27-year-long history chronicled by Professor Aleksandrowicz was dissolved, together with other departments and its employees found themselves in new institutes, according to their field of expertise: the Institute of Literary Studies, Linguistics and History. Ms Wanda Strykowska of Classical Library, the other pillar of our community, also retired on the very same day. It marks a symbolic end of the old world as we knew it. *Scripta Classica* vol. XVII is a tribute to this old world and at the same time it is a continuation of the idea of the founders of the journal and a symbol of hope that in this new world there is still room for classical philologists<sup>4</sup>.

Vol. XVII is thematically diverse, it can even be said that its multicoloured, this ancient *poikilia* gives an overview of the directions of research on antiquity and at the same time fits into the broad interests of Professor Aleksandrowicz. The issue opens with an article on ancient history – Norbert Rogosz focuses on Caesar's moves during his quaestor career, especially the consequences of speeches made at the funerals of his aunt Iulia and wife Cornelia in the text „C. Iulius Caesar's quaestorship and the development of his career in the following years”. The section devoted to the study of literature and language begins with a translation from Greek by Marian Szarmach. This is a translation of two *dialexeis* by Maximus of Tyre, a representative of the Second Sophistic, dedicated to friendship: „How to make a friend?” (XXXV) and „How do you distinguish a friend from a flatterer?” (XIV). Agata Sowińska in „*Hermetica Oxoniensia III*” comments on excerpts from hermetic works, located in *Codex Clarkianus* gr. 11,


<sup>4</sup> *Dwadzieścia pięć lat studiów filologii klasycznej w Uniwersytecie Śląskim w Katowicach*. In: *Szkice o antyku*. T. V: *Antyczne techniki perswazyjne*. Ed. E. Gryksa, P. Matusiak. Katowice 2019, pp. 159–171; *Stan i perspektywy studiów nad antykiem w Uniwersytecie Śląskim w Katowicach*. In: *Szkice o antyku*. T. I: *Antyk na nowo odczytany*. Ed. A. Kucz, P. Matusiak. Katowice 2014, pp. 143–156; „Dwadzieścia lat studiów filologii klasycznej w Uniwersytecie Śląskim”. *Classica Catoviensia. Scripta Minora* 18 (2013), pp. 7–14; „Historia krótka, ale bogata w sukcesy”. *Gazeta Uniwersytecka UŚ* 6 (2013), pp. 10–11; *Geneza i rozwój filologii klasycznej w Uniwersytecie Śląskim w Katowicach*. In: *Liber amicorum Professoris Ioannis Malicki*. Ed. D. Rott and P. Wilczek. Katowice 2011, pp. 31–40; *Katedra Filologii Klasycznej na Wydziale Filologicznym Uniwersytetu Śląskiego w Katowicach*. In: *Historia starożytna w Polsce. Informator*. Ed. R. Kulesza, M. Stępień. Warszawa 2010, pp. 68–77; „Quinze années des études classiques à l'Université de Silésie à Katowice”. *Scripta Classica* 5 (2008), pp. 9–18; „Piętnaście lat filologii klasycznej w Uniwersytecie Śląskim w Katowicach”. *Classica Catoviensia. Scripta Minora* 11 (2007), pp. 6–14; „Ten Years of the Department of Classics at the University of Silesia in Katowice”. *Scripta Classica* 1 (2004), pp. 9–16; „Katedra Filologii Klasycznej w Uniwersytecie Śląskim w Katowicach w latach 2000–2002”. *Meander* 58 (2004), pp. 131–133; „Dziesięć lat filologii klasycznej w Uniwersytecie Śląskim w Katowicach”. *Classica Catoviensia. Scripta Minora* 3 (2002), pp. 49–55.

dating back to the turn of the 13th and 14th centuries and available at the Bodleian Library in Oxford. Then we give the reader three translations from Latin by wonderful translators: Elżbieta Wesołowska, Tatiana Krynicka and Tomasz Sapota. Elżbieta Wesołowska translated, commented on and prefaced the introduction of letter XII from the collection *Heroids* written by Ovid in the early stage of the work („Medea to Jason. Ovid, *Heroides* XII”). Tatiana Krynicka translated and commented on the correspondence of Isidor of Seville and bishop Braulion of Zaragoza from the 6th century A.D. („*Dulce mihi fuit diu ad te loqui* (Braulio, *ep.* 5.107): correspondence between Isidor of Seville and Braulion of Zaragoza”). The third translation from Latin is a translation of *Vita Donati*, one of the four preserved ancient lives of Virgil, by Elius Donat, a grammarian living in the 4th century A.D. („Elius Donat, *The Life of Virgil. An Annotated Translation*”) by Tomasz Sapota. There are three articles in the literature section. Hubert Wolanin introduces the grammarian Publius Nigidius Figulus, an erudite from the 1st century B.C., who appears in the work of Aulus Gellius („Publius Nigidius Figulus on the cards of *Attica Nights* by Aulus Gellius: a portrait of the grammarian”). Katarzyna Niesporek describes the contexts of three translations of Homer’s *Odyssey* by Joseph Wittlin. They appeared in 1924, 1931 and 1957 and are clear evidence of how much the Greek rhapsode grabbed the heart of the Polish poet and prose writer („»Homer’s homeland is Pain«. Around Joseph Wittlin’s Three *Odysseys*”). Bogdan Burliga and Michał Mauks wrote article about *descriptio* of female beauty in the Byzantine historiography („From History of Byzantine Aesthetics: ἔκφρασις and Beauty of Living Dolls in Anna Comnena’s *Alexiad*, 3.2.4 and 3.3.3–4”). Linguistic material can be found in an essay by Kacper Kardas who engages in etymological considerations related to the Latin word *vīnum* („Some remarks on the etymology of Latin *vīnum* ‘wine’”). Staying on the subject of wine, Dorota Gorzelany-Nowak introduces the reader to the subject of art history. The author analyzes the decorations on black and red figure ceramics, purchased in Italy and Paris by Władysław Czartoryski and included in the collection of the Princes Czartoryski Museum („At the bottom of the cup: decorative motifs in the context of the symposium”). Studies on the reception of the antiquity by two historians, Agata A. Kluczek and Agnieszka Bartnik, move the readers to later eras. „*Commentaires historiques* by Jean Tristan de Saint-Amant (1595–1656) as a source for the study of the image of Aeneas” by Agata A. Kluczek is a reconstruction of the image of Aeneas as depicted in the forgotten today work of a connoisseur and a collector of ancient numismatics in the 17th century, while „*Hyena, corocotta, leucrocotta...? About the origin of the medieval beast*” by Agnieszka Bartnik tracks down hyenas in medieval bestiaries, also relying on the accounts of ancient authors. A film expert Joanna Aleksandrowicz addressed the theme of eternal Rome in the films of Paolo Sorrentino, whose 2013 „*La grande bellezza*” is one of the Professor Aleksandrowicz’s favourite films („In defiance of passing.

*Roma aeterna* in Paolo Sorrentino's films"). The number closes with an essay by Marian Kisiel „A Walk with Anna Achmatowa. On Rachel Boymvol's *Stroll*". It is an analysis of the poem „A stroll" („Прогулка") by Rachel Boymvol, a poet originally writing in Yiddish, bringing together the antiquity and silence of extinct languages with the present.

We very much hope that the content of the volume will be truly enjoyed by our readers and, above all, by its addressee, Professor Tadeusz Aleksandrowicz, to whom we would like to thank in this way for all the years together and for being a good spirit of the Department of Classical Philology. Personally, as editor of the volume, I would like to thank Professor for being a wonderful teacher, a patient advisor and an irreplaceable Master.

*Patrycja Matusiak*

 0000-0002-4752-5942

*University of Silesia in Katowice*