

EDITORIAL

As in the previous years, also this issue of the journal offers a large variety of articles ranging from ancient to modern philosophy, while including some notes on various themes of Digital Humanities. Contributions focus on authors like Parmenides, Aristotle, Lucretius, Galileo, Leibniz, and Kant – only to mention the most famous – and cover various topics in the domains of the history of cosmology, physics, and arithmetic, the ancient criticism of rhetoric, philosophy of language, epistemology, and natural law.

A special attention, however, is paid to Leibniz thought, because of a particular reason.

2016 is a year of celebrations and memories for Leibnizian scholars since it marks the third centenary of the death of the great German philosopher and mathematician, which took place in Hanover on November 16, 1716. Our Institute has largely been involved in studies on Leibniz in the last three decades both in terms of research and text-editing so that, when planning this issue of *Lexicon Philosophicum*, it was easy to agree that our journal would contribute in some way to these celebrations.

To this aim, we thought it would be appropriate to restrict the *Invited Papers* section of this issue to contributions provided by some of the most distinguished scholars in Leibnizian studies who had participated in recent ILIESI initiatives, while encouraging some young colleagues in the same field to submit in response to our 2015 Call for Papers. As a result, the current issue of the journal includes three articles out of seven dedicated to various aspects of Leibniz's philosophical and scientific thought; two of them constitute the

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Invited Papers section, as planned, while the third has been accepted by the editorial board after being successfully peer-reviewed.

We are very pleased to host on the pages of *Lexicon Philosophicum* the contributions of two masters of Leibnizian studies, namely Heinrich Schepers and Michel Fichant.

Schepers' article is dedicated to his impressive interpretation of Leibniz's metaphysics of monads seen as self-constituting simple substances, as proposed in the last years in various occasions among which the International Conference co-organised by ILIESI in Milan in September 2014 on the *Principes de la nature et de la grâce*. A small volume has been published recently in Germany, collecting Schepers' original text together with an English, a French, and a Spanish translation, to celebrate the author's ninetieth birthday. We are proud to publish now the authorized Italian translation of that text and to honour in this way a master to whom several generations of scholars owe a lot.

Michel Fichant's seminal essay on *Les dualités de la dynamique Leibnizienne* originates from the lecture he gave in Rome on October 20, 2015 in the framework of a series of conferences organised by ILIESI on the theme *Metafisica e scienza tra antico e moderno*. We warmly thank Michel Fichant for having accepted our invitation to contribute.

Also Mattia Brancato's submitted article on *Leibniz, Weigel and the Birth of Binary Arithmetic* is based on a conference previously held in Rome on December 14, 2015 organised by ILIESI and the Italian *Sodalitas Leibnitiana*.

Three generations of scholars, three different cultural traditions converge and meet in this issue of our journal under the aegis of Leibniz, whose encyclopaedic spirit still inspires research and reflection.

*Antonio Lamarra
Roberto Palaia*