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diretta da
C. Ossola, B. Papàsogli
F. A. Pennacchietti, M. Rosa, B. Stock



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diretta da

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MARCO GIARDINI

ANTE LEGEM, SUB LEGE, SUB GRATIA: MODELLI DI TRIPARTIZIONE DELLA STORIA UNIVERSALE NEL XII SECOLO

The article examines the doctrinal tenets and the twelfth-century developments of a scheme of periodization that subdivided world history into three eras (*ante Legem, sub lege, sub gratia*), marked by different degrees of spiritual knowledge. This tripartition, grounded on Pauline teachings, presupposed a gradual unveiling of the divine, which culminated in the final Revelation of Christ. While the first traces of this doctrine already appeared during the first two centuries of the Christian era, its most complete elaboration in the Latin West was provided by Augustine. After reconstructing the essential aspects of his interpretation, the paper attempts to examine the manifold reception of this doctrine in some authors of German origins (Hugh of Saint Victor, Honorius Augustodunensis, Otto of Freising, Gerhoch of Reichersberg, Rupert of Deutz, and Anselm of Havelberg), who understood the tripartite pattern as one of the fundamental subdivisions of universal history. The Augustinian teaching, according to which nothing new has to be expected with regards to divine knowledge, which has already reached its apex through Christ's Revelation, is generally maintained; some of their works, however, pave the way for a new prophetic interpretation of this periodization scheme, which seems to envisage a future increase of spiritual understanding under the aegis of the Holy Spirit. Insofar as this new explanation appears in tight connection to a Trinitarian perspective (especially in Rupert of Deutz and Anselm of Havelberg's speculations), the last part of the article examines the analogies and possible lines of continuity (both theoretically and historically) between these conceptions and Joachim of Fiore's theology of history.

MATTEO LEONARDI

BENEDICITE APOCALYPSIM: VARIETÀ E UNITÀ NEL CANTICO DI FRATE SOLE

The debate on the unity or otherwise of the *Cantico di frate Sole* by Francis of Assisi (inspired by the sensitive change of tone, already noted by Leo Spitzer, in the stanzas dedicated to man) is intimately connected to the ones on the occasion of composition, on the sources, on its artistic value. Giovanni Pozzi's intuition that the unworthiness of human language to mention (mentovare) the Altissimo is remedied by praise through creatures, God's "word", exalts the contradiction of a transcendent God who is immanent in creaturely materiality and fully manifested in the most fragile and corruptible of creatures, namely man. In this light, the *Cantico* regains a paradoxical unity, as a coherent revelation of God's omnipresence even in his absence, which does not erase but dialectically transfigures the otherness of creation to the Creator, culminating precisely in the victory over the "great temptation" of believing that God is not even in the abjection of human misery and mortality. The joy of the *Cantico* is assimilated, in this, to the *vera et perfecta laetitia* of confessing oneself at the same time miserable and saved by the love of the Deus omnia.

DANIELA CARACCIOL

«SAVIEZZA IN ISCHIFAR LE PROFANITÀ NELLE IMMAGINI SACRE».
LA Pittura in giudicio (1697) DI CARLO GREGORIO
ROSIGNOLI

The article investigates the *Pittura in giudicio* of Carlo Gregorio Rosignoli published in 1697 with the objective of demonstrating the relationship between the content of the text and sacred painting. This essay examines the strategies supporting the entire structure of a work in which texts by more or less contemporary authors (Domenico Ottonelli, Daniello Bartoli, Pietro Sforza Pallavicino, Giovan Battista Marino, Giovanni Paolo Oliva, Pietro Giustinelli) are the subject of a “rewrite” by the author. The content of the *della Pittura in giudicio* is related to the concept of “decorum”: Rosignoli here addresses the problem of bending the expressive means of the arts to the truth of the Catholic faith useful to the moral and religious faithful uncultured. In conclusion, the center of the theoretical reflection of Rosignoli identify pedagogical needs in respect of the rhetoric of persuasion.

CONCETTO DEL POPOLO

DUE REDAZIONI DELLE *MEDITAZIONI DELLA VITA DI CRISTO*

The discussion on the *Meditations on the Life of Christ* is enriched by two new witnesses, which, although coming from two different linguistic areas, from Northern and from Central Italy), offer a so-called minor version, derived from a Latin text. The ms. dated March 4, 1457 and signed by Iohannes Benedicti Pauli de Nursia (Giovanni di Benedetto Paolo da Norcia) has in the Prologue the name Friar Iacomo de l'ordene de frati minuri, that some scholars think is the true author of the *Meditations*, rejecting the traditional Iohannes de Caulibus, who in turn had supplanted San Bonaventura. Some discussion points, including a locus criticus, deal with the relationship between the Oxford codex, Bodleian Library, ms. Can. It. 174 and other witnesses, with the conclusion that are certainly vulgarizations.

EDLIRA TONUZI MACAJ

IL RUOLO DELLA SCUOLA GESUITA DI SCUTARI NELLA CULTURA ALBANESE

The education in Albania is the result of many changes in historical, social and cultural context. The development should take into account the activity of some special institutions, which have had a significant function, such as the Jesuit school in Shkodra that has contributed in a relevant way. It had a dynamic activity since when it was opened until its violent closure in 1946, due to the installed regime after the war. After the fall of the dictatorial regime it reopened in 1992. In addition to its primary purpose which was the religion, the school also supported and encouraged an educational activity characterized by scientific and cultural research. It is important to specify the role of the Jesuits in the field of culture, especially in the linguistic and literary one. The research presented here is also closely related to the active role of the Society of Jesuit in the cultural impact that the various publications promoted by the society have had, specifically the interdisciplinary journal of that time entitled: L.E.K.A. The review gave to Jesuit school' students an opportunity to elaborate their creative and critical thinking in its published issues. There studied the most noted Albanian linguists and poets, who later played an important role in the national cultural development. If we do not consider this role of education and training of the Jesuit school in Albania, the historical framework of the educational and cultural process would be fragmentary. Even if the analytical approach is modest it is at least an attempt to understand more of this historical and cultural background.

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