

EDITOR'S NOTE

A powerful socio-cultural movement referred to as the Reformation, initiated by the Augustinian friar Martin Luther on October 31st, 1517 in Wittenberg, left an indelible mark on the history of early modern Europe. Inspired by the desire to revive Christianity by way of return to the sources (that is the Scripture and the tradition of the first Christian communities), it determined new ways of thinking about faith and religion. Soon, the idea of a reform pervaded also contemporary politics, literature, philosophy, and arts. It left its traces in every domain. Texts published in this issue of our journal focus on some aspects of the Reformation and the so-called Catholic Reformation, whose programme was approved at the Council of Trent (1545–1563).

Mariola Jarczykowa presents an image of lay patrons and seniors of the Polish Reformed Church based on selected texts, including mainly dedications and letters. Undoubtedly, their religious patronage facilitated the dissemination of Reformation ideals. Dariusz Chemperek reconstructs the image of the milieu of Vilnian Lutherans that emerges from Jesuit satires. It is exaggerated and grotesque, but nonetheless reveals rhetorical mechanisms that govern the religious polemic. Katarzyna Gara's paper demonstrates unknown Jesuit theatrical programmes discovered during her research conducted in Vilnian libraries. Tomasz Górny, in turn, describes the rhetoric of selected Johann Sebastian Bach's organ chorales. An extensive paper by Anna Jungiewicz presents a critical edition of a sermon by Marcin Białobrzewski on the Eucharist. The section of reviews includes two papers: one discusses an exhibition about the Reformation in Toruń

(Krzysztof Obremski) and the other one reviews Iwona Słomak's Polish translation of *Phoenix rhetorum* (1672), a textbook on elocution by a Jesuit, Jan Kwiatkiewicz (Wojciech Ryczek).

We wish you pleasant and inspiring reading!

Wojciech Ryczek