

Abstracts

Federico Vercellone, *Living in the Archetype. The New Symbols of Anselm Kiefer*

Through his work, Anselm Kiefer has given substance to a sort of *Dialectic of Enlightenment*. No other artist has blazed such a trail within the idea of modernity, its genesis and its destiny. A trail that also happens to be therapeutic in the time we inhabit. To linear time that promised a messianic culmination, Kiefer seeks to oppose, stressing its necessity, another time, a cyclical time, derived from the cabala of Isaac Luria, in which there is no entropy, nor dispersion of energy. This thesis is quite evident on a figurative level in such an awesome work as *The Seven Heavenly Palaces*. Here, there is something analogous to the lure of the archetype, which releases its evocative power without, however, being really accessible. Against this background, thought assumes a figurative attitude and the work of art a therapeutic vocation.

Kai Bremer – Marcella Costa, *German Studies in Germany and Italy during the Pandemic: A Conversation*

In this article Kai Bremer, Professor of Literature at the University of Osnabrück, and Marcella Costa, Professor of German Linguistics at the University of Turin, discuss the challenges faced by and the opportunities afforded to German studies in Germany and Italy alike during the pandemic. This article, in the form of a conversation, addresses the main critical issues of distance learning and outlines the solutions identified in German and Italian universities, while discussing the innovative potential that may unfold thanks to the teaching and research methods adopted during this public health emergency.

Germanic Studies in Italy in Times of Covid. Presentation of the AIG Survey Results

Between the end of May and June 2020, the AIG Council created a twelve-question questionnaire to be distributed to its members on the subject



of the repercussions of the pandemic on teaching, research and third-mission activities on German scholars based in Italy. The results featured in this paper were presented at a roundtable organized around this topic during the AIG annual meeting that took place online on 24 October 2020.

Stefano Franchini, *Aber die Liebe. Blasphemy and Obscenity in the Early Poems of Richard Dehmel*

This article is devoted to *Aber die Liebe*, Richard Dehmel's most famous collection of poetry – which appeared in 1893 – and in particular to the lyrical cycle entitled *Die Verwandlungen der Venus*. The study explores, even through the use of unpublished archival materials, the historical, biographical and theological context in which the work was conceived and reconstructs the two trials against Dehmel (Munich 1893-1894 and Berlin 1898-1900), in which some provocative verses were denounced for obscenity and blasphemy. The analysis shows the importance of sexuality in Dehmel's life and œuvre, because love was for him not only a mere literary subject, but a living source of inspiration as well as the theoretical foundation of his specific personal take on Modernism called «idealistic naturalism».

Elisa D'Annibale, *Beyond From Hegel to Nietzsche. Delio Cantimori Reads Karl Löwith (1935-1965)*

This essay retraces the relationship between Delio Cantimori and Karl Löwith from their first meeting in Rome in 1935 at the Istituto Italiano di Studi Germanici until the death of the Romagna-born historian. The purpose of this reflection is to highlight the all-too-often conflicting dialogue between the two authors by relying mainly on archival documents (such as the correspondence kept at the Deutsches Literaturarchiv in Marbach) and some writings by Cantimori in which numerous comments on Löwith's works and reflections emerge.

Paola Gentile, *Literary Circulation in Cultural Peripheries. Dutch-Language Literature in Italy*

This paper analyzes the role played by two foundations financed by the Dutch and Flemish governments (the Nederlands Letterenfonds and Flanders Literature) in the circulation of Dutch-language literature in Italy. First, the importance of translation policy in the *transfer* from peripheral literatures will be illustrated by analyzing the 'centre-periphery' model developed by Johan Heilbron and the analysis of the international translation market carried out by Gisèle Sapiro. The emphasis will subsequently be placed on the importance of cultural mediation through an overview of the translators and intellectuals who facilitated the circulation of Dutch-language literature in Italy in the 20th



century. Indeed, the empirical data relating to literary genres and publishers subsidized by foundations demonstrate their key role in consolidating and disseminating Dutch-language literature in Italy.

Ulisse Dogà, *On the Evidential Significance of Futur II in Goethe's and Schiller's Dramatic Literature*

The subject of this essay is the particular and rare use, which can be traced to the linguistic category of evidentiality, of the verbal tense *Futur II* in the dramas by Goethe and Schiller. Evidentiality is a linguistic category whose primary meaning is the source of information, that is, the way in which the speaker becomes aware of the propositional content of the sentence. In the case of *Futur II*, the evidential property will emerge in an attempt to determine more accurately the perfectivity value of this verbal form, separating it from the epistemic values on the one hand, and from the temporal ones (anteriority) on the other. Given the scarcity of specific studies on *Futur II*, some chapters on the formation and grammar of this verbal tense will foreshadow the hermeneutics of evidentiality in literary texts.

