

Leszek Zinkow

<http://orcid.org/0000-0003-0681-7428>

The Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures of the Polish Academy of Sciences

leszekzi@interia.pl

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## From the Editors

The cover title of the new issue of “Perspectives on Culture” is simple yet very capacious, and the Authors prove that the key to these three words can refer us to extremely interesting and even sometimes intriguing areas of research.

Piotr Wróbel, a medievalist from the Jagiellonian University, analyzes a 15th-century treatise by papal advisor Theodor Spandounes, who surprisingly accurately and critically explained the progress of the Ottoman Turks towards a powerful empire threatening Europe; in terms of the organization of the sultans’ court, the competence of the officials, and the organization of the army, on top of the everyday life of the Ottoman elite. Another article, by Joanna Niewiarowska (Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw), is an interesting contribution to the history of World War I propaganda in the context of the independence activities of Polish writers and literary critics. Karol Litawa of the Pontifical University of John Paul II examines one of the most important liturgical books published in Poland after the Council of Trent, modeled on the *Rituale Romanum*, which not only regulates the rites but also contains precise instructions for priests regarding the performance of the sacraments. Dmitriy Panto (Museum of World War II in Gdansk) and Viktor Bilotas (Vytautas Magnus University) offer a critical, commented edition of Father Leon Czudowski’s fascinating and ethnographically important text about the Omsk parish (Western Siberia) and its inhabitants. In addition, we present two articles in the area of Media Studies: one by Monika Białek from the University of Gdańsk, analytically juxtaposing the forms of documentary radio play and artistic reportage, and one by Tomasz Podlewski (UPJP II) on the ways of presenting death in the media. The last text in the section is by Bogusława Bodzioch-Bryła (Jesuit University Ignatianum) who shows the specificity of literature under the influence of convergent transformations, resulting in the separation of a new literary trend: e-literature (e-poetry).

The regular section of the *Perspectives*, Cross-cultural Management, contains a text by a tandem of authors: Eva Ambrozová (Newton College) and Agnieszka Knap-Stefaniuk (Jesuit University Ignatianum), who write about critical thinking as a basic competence of 21st century leaders.

We offer four publications in the *Varia* section. It opens with a text by Łukasz Burkiewicz (Jesuit University Ignatianum), presenting excerpts from the account of the journey to the Holy Land made in 723–727 by the English monk Willibald, concerning the specificity of political, social, and cultural relations in Cyprus in the 7th–9th centuries, especially between Muslims (Arabs) and Christians (Cypriots and Byzantines). Nicholas Coureas (Cyprus Research Centre in Nicosia) focuses on the settlement of the island under Lusignan rule after the Latin conquest in the light of chronicler accounts from the 13th–16th centuries. Przemysław Załuska (Jesuit University Ignatianum) outlines the personality and work of the German economist and Jesuit, Heinrich Pesch, who developed a “social system of labor” based on the idea of solidarity in the early 20th century. Justyna Łukaszewska-Haberkowa (also Jesuit University Ignatianum) analyses the issue of the protection of intangible cultural heritage (UNESCO Convention of 2003) on the interesting example of the traditional Cracow bobbin lace.

The issue closes with a review by Piotr Franciszek Piasek (University of Łódź) on *Capitalist Realism*, or once again about the end of history, discussing Mark Fisher’s book, one of the best and most convincing diagnoses of contemporary capitalism.

We wish you a scientifically useful and enjoyable read.

**Leszek Zinkow** – his research interests include comparative culture studies, especially the reception of the heritage of the ancient Middle East (mainly Egypt and its historical, mythological narratives and symbolism). Also deals with travel accounts to oriental destinations (editions of texts), the history of museums and collecting, in addition to the history of contemporary culture, the history and practice of the media, the social history of science, transfers, and cultural innovation. He also works at the John Paul II Pontifical University. Member of the International Association of Egyptologists (Mainz), Polish Society of Cultural Studies and the Commission of Classical Philology at the Polish Academy of Sciences (Kraków). Deputy editor-in-chief of the “*Perspectives on Culture*” magazine (editor-in-chief in the years 2013–2016)