

LEADING ARTICLE

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This special issue of RIFAJ is dedicated to Metaphysics. *First Philosophy*, as Aristotle called it, is certainly the most theoretical enterprise undertaken by our philosophical tradition. Among the huge amount of topics inquired within the last two millennia, this issue aims to provide an outline of this attractive discipline following three different themes.

The first one concerns the relationship between contemporary analytic metaphysics and the great philosophers of the past, in particular Aristotle, Aquinas and Hegel. In this regard, the interviews with Enrico Berti and Francesco Berto provided by Pietro Casati and Fabio Ceravolo illustrate the strong connections that contemporary metaphysics hold (or could hold) with two main philosophical traditions, the Aristotelian thought and the Hegelian dialectic.

Moreover, Fabio Ceravolo, with his review of *To be o esse: La questione dell'essere nel tomismo analitico* by Giovanni Ventimiglia, shows how the presence of Aquinas' reflections in the current debate is still vivid.

The second theme regards the growing interests that many students and young researchers manifest in contemporary metaphysics. On one hand, Mattia Sorgon interviewed the *Forum Theoretical Philosophy*¹, a network for young academics established by a group of German graduate students which in the last year has focus its main activities on metaphysics; while Lovro Savić, editor-in-chief of the Croatian student journal *Scopus*², reviewed *A Metaphysics of Psychopathology* by Peter Zachar, exploring a new interesting field of inquiry.

On the other hand, Leda Berio interviewed Paolo Valore, principal investigator and coordinator of *OntoForMat*³, a challenging and intriguing research project which aims to systematize in a unique paradigm the most promising metaphysical positions.

The third theme underlines the incredible poetical potential that could be situated in metaphysical speculations. Stefano Canali unveils some of this literary elements in his review of *Le Tribolazioni del filosofare. Comedia Metaphysica ne la quale si tratta de li errori & le pene de l'infero*, the extraordinary philosophical epic poem discovered by Achille C. Varzi and Claudio Calosi. We are also extremely proud to publish in our Ex-Cathedra a new unreleased part of the poem, *De li accidiosi che sono avversi al possibile*, provided directly by

¹See <http://theoretical-philosophy.net/>.

²See hrcak.srce.hr/scopus?lang=en.

³See <http://www.ontofomat.com/>.

the authors, who we would like to thank. Unfortunately, only Italian speakers will have the pleasure to really appreciate and enjoy the metaphysical Dante's tercets.

In addition, two interesting events are reported in this issue: *Ontology, Mind and Free Will. A Workshop in Memory of E.J. Lowe*, by Mattia Sorgon and Matteo Grasso, which took place at the University of Macerata on March, 3rd and discussed E.J. Lowe's thought, a great metaphysician who recently passed away with enormous regret; and *GRSelona 2: Gender, Race and Sexuality. Issues in Metaphysics*, by Matilde Aliffi and Martina Rosola, held in Barcelona on May, 29th-30th and focused on a particular and recent metaphysical debate.

Futhermore, Martina Rovelli's review of *Forme, relazioni, oggetti. Saggio sulla metafisica del "Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus"*, by Giorgio Lando, yields an overview of the philosophy of the so-called "first" Wittgenstein.

Finally, the most important contributions. This special issue on Metaphysics presents four peer-reviewed articles: *What is the Nature of Properties*, by Lorenzo Azzano; *On the relationship between Four-Dimensionalism and Perdurantism*, by Michele Luchetti; *L'identità diacronica fra ontologia e metafisica*, by Francesco Franda; and *Mondi di Wittgenstein. Metaontologia del "Tractatus" e teoria dei truthmakers di Armstrong*, by Simone Cuconato.

We would like to close this editorial with two further short points.

First of all we thank the participants of the *Workshop on Metaphysics* and the research centre *Labont Roma*⁴, without which it would not have been possible to organize the event, which took place in the best way June 26th in Rome.

Finally, we would like to just share with our readers satisfaction at the growing "bilingualism" of the contributions of RIFAJ, through which we hope to make the magazine more accessible outside of Italy.

⁴See <http://labont.it/roma>.