

Duffy underlines however, that the chosen texts cannot be easily typologized as philosophy, reminding us of the fact that the term philosophy in the Middle Ages differs from the modern conception of the term. The collection brings to mind the Byzantine educational sphere, *enkyklios paideia*, i.e. the main curriculum of grammar, rhetoric and dialectic (philosophy) and especially the Byzantine quadrivium (ἡ τῆς μαθηματικῆς τετρακτύς), arithmetic, geometry, music and astronomy .

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MICHAELIS PSELLI *Poemata*. Ed. L.G. Westerink. Teubner, Stuttgart-Leipzig 1992. xlv, 550 p. ISBN 3-8154-1662-0. DEM 198.

L.G.Westerink has done an admirable work by editing and re-editing the verse texts of Michael Psellus, which are preserved in a rather heterogeneous manuscript tradition and partly published here and there during the last hundred years. The collection written in political verse (πολιτικὸς στίχος) consists of 1) *didactica maiora* (1-9) didactic poems (commentaries on psalms, on Canticum, on dogmatics, on church councils, on rhetoric, on grammatics, on laws and on medicine), which were originally composed by the order of the Emperor Constantine X Doukas (1059-1067) for his son's education. 2) *didactica minora* (10-15), very short and compact works on various themes. 3) *ad imperatores* (16-20), poems dedicated to emperors for different occasions: Psellus' own petition for the office of clerk to the Emperor Michael IV, lamentation on the occasion of the death of Scleraine, the mistress of Constantine VIII Monomachos and a poem for the coronation feast of Isaak I Komnenos. 4) *invectiva* (21-22) two defamatory writings both against two monks (Sabbaitae and Iacop). 5) *canones liturgice* (23-24) the first in the memory of Symeon Metafrastes and the second a paraphrasis of a canon of Cosmas of Maiouma. 6) epigrams (25-52) and finally 7) a comprehensive section of *spuria* (53-92) on various themes. The collection is a fine illustration of the socio-cultural milieu in which verse texts were composed.

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MICHAEL MAUSE: *Die Darstellung des Kaisers in der lateinischen Panegyrik*. Paligenesia 50. Steiner Verlag, Stuttgart 1994. x, 317 S. ISBN 3-515-06629-2. DEM 124.

The sources of this study are mainly all those Latin panegyrics that are written in honour of the emperors. After the quite interesting introductory part that deals with the methodology of the study and the position of the panegyrics in the imperial ceremonies and their historical-social context, the author deals with the picture of the emperor in the panegyrics divided into chapters, according to the different aspects that are generally included in these types of poems. An excursus is devoted to the poems to Domitian by Statius, as an example of the first century panegyric poetry. The discussion is many-sided and gives the reader a good cross-section of the treatment of the central topoi in the imperial panegyrics, the study of which seems to have recently attracted an increased amount of interest.

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