

limited scope. In any case, from the viewpoint of the international epigraphical community this volume can be seen as a definitive collection of Professor Susini's published work. And what is especially pleasing is that the volume includes, in addition to articles, some of them of great length, published in various journals and collections of papers, also *Il lapicida romano*, that most remarkable monograph published originally in 1966 and reproduced here on pp. 7–69.

It is not easy to assess the work of a scholar who is one of the most eminent authorities on his field of study. It goes without saying that most of the contents constitute obligatory reading for those wishing to attain a deeper knowledge of epigraphy. Those familiar with Professor Susini's work of course know that the accent is often on the genesis and on the "production" of inscriptions, this meaning the whole process from the planning to the realization of an epigraphical text. Susini's work on this field can, in fact, be thought of as revolutionary.

The collection is divided into three parts. The first part consists of papers of a more general character, these including *Il lapicida romano* and some other well-known papers (e.g. *Paralipomeni di epigrafia* from *Epigraphica* 44 (1982)); the second part consists of papers dealing with the epigraphical material from certain places (here one finds e.g. the most remarkable paper *Società e cultura della Renania romana: il linguaggio dell'epigrafia* from *Renania romana. Atti dei Colloqui Lincei*, 1976); and the third part consists of papers dealing mostly with individual texts (here my favourite is the paper on the double inscription of C. Quintus Iunianus from *Strenna Storica Bolognese* 20 (1970)). The fact that this collection includes a paper published in this journal from Bologna illustrates the uses of collections of this type: without the existence of this volume, the paper would remain practically inaccessible.

So I must conclude by saying that this is indeed an extremely welcome and desirable ... But wait! Isn't something missing at the end? A close inspection of the volume does not disclose any traces of that indispensable part of any collection of papers, namely the index (or rather the indices, as inscriptions and persons and many other things should be listed separately). This is most disappointing, as the existence of detailed indices would greatly facilitate the work of those who wish to familiarize themselves with Professor Susini's thought. (Note that also the index which was added to the English translation of *Il lapicida romano* has been omitted.) One wonders why those who prepared the volume chose to omit this part – which would no doubt have been welcomed by Professor Susini himself –, especially as the preface refers to Daniela Rigato being occupied with the business of indexing precisely this material.

*Olli Salomies*

*Inscriptiones Sanctae Sedis 3: Indice della raccolta epigrafica di San Paolo fuori le mura*, a cura di *Giorgio Filippi*. Città del Vaticano 1998. Distribuzione esclusiva: Edizioni Quasar di Severino Tognon Srl, Roma. 388 p., 259 fig. ITL 150.000.

The series ISS continues with a volume dedicated to the ancient inscriptions housed in the Basilica of S. Paolo fuori le mura along the via Ostiense. This is one of the most extensive epigraphic collections in Rome, amounting to some 2380 pieces still preserved in

the complex of S. Paolo (of these, 2306 have an inventory number). However, considering the now lost inscriptions that were found in the Basilica, the adjacent monastery, or in the vicinity, as well as those which have been erroneously attributed to S. Paolo or which have been transferred to other places, the total of inscriptions is ca. 3200 (note, moreover, that there are some 80 pieces which are either re-used or inscribed on both sides). All this material is indexed in this catalogue. The major part of the material falls into the category of marble slabs; also represented are altars, urns, sarcophagi, *tituli picti*, brick stamps, graffiti, and some other types. Some 1000 inscriptions are pagan, while ca. 1100 come from an (ancient) Christian context. Mediaeval or later texts are in a clear minority. There are ca. 200 Greek documents. What is remarkable is that Giorgio Filippi has been able to discover 506 unpublished pieces (Ch. 4; some of these were already known from brief mentions by de Rossi, Silvagni, and others), though, as he himself observes, it is probable that many of the inscriptions now classified as unpublished are in reality fragments of inscriptions known from manuscripts.

The history of the epigraphic collection of S. Paolo goes back to very early times, and it is known that many inscribed stones were copied by numerous visitors as early as the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. In fact, the Basilica itself was a kind of epigraphic museum long before 1823 when it was destroyed by a fire. Filippi provides a most interesting and extremely detailed picture of the vicissitudes of the complex from an ancient funerary site to the emergence of a "museum" and to the organization of the collections in more modern times, especially in the 18th and 19th centuries (pp. 14 ff.).

The second part of the work is a topographic index and an inventory of the material, which serves to locate the individual pieces within the Basilica, the monastery, and other places. This section is extremely useful, as it is linked by references to separate plates with photographs. Besides topographic and other evidence, Chapter 2 also lists the inscriptions which are now lost (pp. 67 ff.) as well as those which are preserved (sometimes as modern copies) in other places in Italy or abroad. The most important part of the index is constituted by the third section which is a bibliographical index in alphabetical order. With the aid of both this index and the preceding one, the reader is not only able to find out where in the vast complex a given text is preserved but also to have a look at a photograph of it.

With this Herculean labour, whose utility is indisputable, Giorgio Filippi has done an immense favour to the epigraphic studies of the city of Rome. Since both this and the preceding volumes of the ISS have turned out to be successes, the reader is already happily anticipating the publication of the fourth volume of the series, which will be an *index vocabulorum* of the Christian inscriptions in the Vatican Museums (by Claudia Lega).

*Mika Kajava*

RICHARD NEUDECKER – MARIA GRAZIA GRANINO CECERE: *Antike Skulpturen und Inschriften im Institutum Archaeologicum Germanicum*. Palilia, Bd. 2. Dr. Ludwig Reichert Verlag, Wiesbaden 1997. ISBN 3–89500–039–6. 196 S. mit 206 Abbildungen. DEM 68.