

Il plurilinguismo nella tradizione letteraria latina. A cura di RENATO ONIGA. Lingue, culture e testi 6. Collana diretta da VINCENZO ORIOLES. "Il Calamo", Roma 2003. ISBN 88-88039-57-0. 348 pp. EUR 30.*

Renato Oniga has edited a collection of thirteen papers covering the time from Plautus to the Neolatin poetry of G. Pascoli (1855–1912). This seemed interesting since some very important work has been done in this field lately and the methods have been vitally improved. The activity in the field of language contacts and bilingualism, which are here referred to with the term 'plurilinguismo', has indeed been lively. The expectations are, however, fulfilled only to some extent. There are interesting and shrewd papers, but also some that one would not have missed if they had been left out.

In the Introduction (7–15), O. states his objectives and gives a synopsis of each paper. A general bibliography is not included, but some articles have one in the end whereas some list all bibliographic information in the footnotes. There are no indices.

The volume is arranged chronologically and opens with a traditionally discussed "Fremdsprachliches in Plautus' *poenulus*" by Matjaž Babič (17–30). Next comes Maurizio Bettini's "*Graphicus -ice* e alcuni riferimenti plautini alla pittura. Metafore pittoriche e rappresentazione drammatica" (31–61). B. describes how Plautus used *graphicus*, *graphice* in a meaning not attested in Classical and Hellenistic Greek literature. The semantic derivation is exciting and the examples are good, e.g., *graphice hunc volo ludificari* (*Persa* 843) that B. explains (33): "In altre parole, una *ludificatio* in cui concorrono tutte le caratteristiche tecniche, psicologiche e affettive che ne facciano un piccolo capolavoro."

Paolo Poccetti's "Il plurilinguismo nelle satire di Lucilio e le selve dell'interpretazione: gli elementi italici nei frammenti 581 E 1318 M" (63–89) is, in my opinion, the most pertinent as regards the general theme of the book. It is a competent analysis of Lucilius' linguistic ideals before the later rigid concepts of good Latin, and Lucilius' sharp interest in language as a social phenomenon with different ethnic varieties and informative registers.

Then follow Marco Fucecchi "Il plurilinguismo della menippea latina: appunti su Varrone satirico e l'*Apocolocyntosis* di Seneca (91–130), Francesca Boldrer "Il bilinguismo di Cicerone: *scripta Graeca Latina* (*fam.* 15.4)" (131–150), and Daniel Vallat "Un cas d'onomastique bilingue: les anthroponymes grecs chez Martial (151-171). The contributions of Alessandro Garcea, "Gellio, il bilinguismo greco-latino e i nomi dei colori" (173–198), Guido Cifoletti, "Influssi ebraici sulle traduzioni greche e latine della Bibbia" (199–211), and Annalisa Bracciotti, "*Nomen herbae Selenas. Un passo bilingue curae herbarum*" (213–253) would fit better in some other forum. The same can be said about Piera Molinelli's "Riflessi di un mondo plurilingue e multiculturale nel *Chronicon* di Andrea da Bergamo (IX secolo)" (254–272), though it is an extremely interesting and competent contribution on the morphological structure of late vernacular Latin.

Manfred Kienpointner, "Dante Alighieri: poeta e linguista plurilingue" (273–287) and Fedora Ferluga Petronio, "Monti, Kunič e la traduzione dell' *Iliade*" finish off the

* This is a concise version of my review for the *Journal of Roman Studies* 2004, 200–01, and the reader is directed there for further information.

volume with "Una forma di anticlassicismo pascoliano: l'ibridismo greco-latino nei *carmina*" by Patrizia Paradisi (303–348).

Martti Leiwo

BIRGIT AUERNHEIMER: *Die Sprachplanung der karolingischen Bildungsreform im Spiegel von Heiligenviten*. K.G. Saur, München – Leipzig 2003. ISBN 3-598-73013-6. 246 S. EUR 86.

Birgit Auernheimer's book *Die Sprachplanung der karolingischen Bildungsreform im Spiegel von Heiligenviten* exhibits a curious mixture of goals and methods: it examines how the Carolingian language reform manifests itself in the syntax of hagiographical texts. To study the syntax of early medieval texts is, as such, an admirable research plan, but when the author has, moreover, chosen to analyze the syntactical structures of these texts by means of dependency (or valency) grammar, her approach is definitely unique in modern research literature. Although this theoretical framework is no longer very popular, it is definitely quite appropriate for describing the ancient and early medieval theory of syntax which did not yet employ the notions of subject and predicate.

Thus, we can congratulate Auernheimer for choosing to study a poorly researched area and for approaching it in a novel way. She has also carried out her research in a sound and methodical manner although the technical nature of her analysis may put off readers who are unfamiliar with modern linguistics. However, the results of this research can be grasped without a close analysis of all the relevant diagrams (pp. 55–102). It must also be pointed out that the author has totally ignored the work of the two eminent scholars who have studied early medieval grammar on its own terms, namely Louis Holtz and Vivien Law (of the latter, only the book on Virgil Maro the Grammarian is mentioned).

Hagiographical texts offer interesting insights into the study of the consequences of the Carolingian language reform. These texts, which were used not only by the learned elite, were widely known before and after the Carolingian reform which permits us to see how they were reworked by the Carolingians. Authors such as Alcuin and Lupus of Ferrière even made the principles of their revision work explicit in the prefaces to their works. Among the texts studied, a prominent part is played by various *vitae* reworked by these two authors, but the most important text is the anonymous *Vita Corbiniani*.

Auernheimer's book can be warmly recommended for students of early medieval language and literary culture, and it can be hoped that its fresh approach will inspire further experimentation combining modern theoretical methods with historical, text-based studies.

Anneli Luhtala