

SUMMARY

The present issue of the "Ethos" is entitled *Stanisław Wyspiański: The Drama and the Ethos*. The 130th anniversary of the artist's birth provides a good occasion for such a publication. The text *From the Editors* points to the relevance of Wyspiański's works to the moral and national concerns of our time. The extracts from the two homilies delivered by John Paul II in Cracow during his two latest pilgrimages to Poland are devoted to the necessity of reflection on Polish freedom and Polish act in the context of the social and political situation after the turn of the 1989.

The first set of articles, entitled *Wyspiański: Artist – Person – Citizen*, opens with an artistic biography of Stanisław Wyspiański presented by Irena Sławińska. Jakub A. Malik draws an image of Wyspiański as he is seen in the memoirs of his contemporary writer Adolf Nowaczyński. Then Stanisław Fita presents an attempt made by Bolesław Prus, an eminent Polish writer of the Positivism, at the interpretation of Wyspiański's literary output which would result in a re-evaluation of Polish Romanticism. Wisława Lasota-Jordan in turn analyses Wyspiański's art. The section concludes with an article by Marta Romanowska which discusses the historical context of the creation of the *Hymn Veni Creator* by Wyspiański.

The next section bears the title *Ethos and Pathos*. It commences with an article by Maria Podraza-Kwiatkowska, who analyses the motive of power and violence in Wyspiański's literary output. Ewa Miodońska-Brookes points to some religious aspects which can be found in Wyspiański's dramas. Wojciech Kaczmarek in turn presents the biblical motives present in two dramas by Wyspiański: *Daniel* and *Akropolis*. The concluding article in this section, by Jan Ciechowicz, is devoted to the references to the dramatic output of eminent Polish romantic poet Adam Mickiewicz which can be found in Wyspiański's works.

The subsequent section: *Wyspiański – Our Contemporary*, includes texts devoted to two great dramas by Wyspiański, namely to: *Wesele* and *Wyzwolenie*. The article by Elżbieta Morawiec presents the history of the staging of *Wesele* in the post-war Polish theatre. Paweł Próchniak in turn interprets *Wyzwolenie* using the categories of "the signifying" and "the signified" introduced by J. Lacan.

The final block of articles, entitled *Between Art and Life*, includes two texts which, although not directly connected with the main theme of the issue, concern the problems implied by this theme. Anna Truskolaska discusses a trilogy by Janusz Krasiński which constitutes a literary testimony to the period of the communist regime in Poland. The article by Tadeusz P. Polanowski presents a profile of poet Adam Asnyk, showing how he managed to escape the traditional literary classification.

In the section *Interviews of the "Ethos,"* the readers will find three texts containing Fr. Prof. Tadeusz Styczeń's reflections on John Paul II's 1999 pilgrimage to Poland.

The section *Thinking about the Fatherland...* includes a text by Tomasz Garbol on the motive of the fatherland in the works of Zbigniew Herbert.

The section *Reportage* contains Waldemar Borzestowski's reflections on his trip to the region of Kaszuby.

The standing column *Notes and Reviews* opens with Jakub A. Malik's review of a collection of essays on the literary output of Wyspiański written by Ewa Miodońska-Brookes. Paweł Przywara discusses a book which presents a profile of the late Fr. Janusz Pasierb, a poet and historian of art. Tadeusz P. Polanowski in turn reviews the first unabridged edition of the novel by Jerzy Krzysztoń entitled *Obłąd* [Madness]. Adam Konderak presents a review of the Polish edition of *Czarna księga komunizmu* [Black Book of Communism], and Krzysztof Stachewicz discusses a book by A. Grün and G. Riedl entitled *Mistyka i eros* [Mysticism and Eros]. Marian Wnuk in turn presents a book by Wiesława Ferenc which is devoted to the history of chemistry and its connection with philosophy, while Oktawian Jusiak, OFM, reviews a lexicon of the holy places on the territory of the Republic of Poland. This part of the volume concludes with the subsection "Proposals of the «Ethos»".

The section devoted to *Reports* includes the following reports: on a symposium on Zbigniew Herbert held at the Catholic University of Lublin (by Jarosław Borowski); on a symposium on the literary output of Lublin poet Józef Czechowicz (by Fr. Alfred Wierzbicki), and on a session on the motive of suffering in literature, as seen in the context of the teaching of John Paul II, which was held in Siedlce (by Sławomir J. Żurek).

The section *Through the Prism of the Ethos* includes the reflections of Wojciech Chudy on experiencing the end of the millennium in our culture.

The *Bibliography* section comprises John Paul II's addresses on the meaning and value of the category of the nation (by Maria Filipiak).

The issue concludes with *Notes about the Authors*.