



Malta
Classics
Association

MELITA CLASSICA

Vol. I

2014

*Journal of the
Malta Classics Association*

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From the Editor

Four years ago, the Malta Classics Association was founded with the aim of disseminating and furthering Classical Studies, and especially, the Greek and Latin languages – a daunting task, indeed, considering that the Classics Studies were only limited to University courses, and stood completely outside the curriculum of pre-tertiary education. Ever since its inception in 2010, the Association has successfully striven and has been instrumental in raising awareness of such an important aspect of Education, and its efforts are now bearing fruit. Moreover, the general public's response has been encouraging – membership has steadily increased, the web-site frequently accessed, Classical Studies introduced as a new subject in post-secondary education at the Junior College of the University of Malta, Naxxar Higher Secondary School and Gozo Higher Secondary School, and the public lectures held under the auspices of the Association have always been well-attended.

Inspired by that famous Latin proverb, *verba movent, scripta manent*, the Malta Classics Association has now taken this additional initiative of publishing its own annual Journal, *Melita Classica*, in which both local and foreign Classicists can find an appropriate forum wherein the fruit of their literary endeavours and their researches can be published. In this wise, no constraints are being made on contributors, save that the material submitted pertains generally to Classical Studies and Languages. Contributors are thus most welcome and are encouraged to submit original articles or material for future publications – writing guidelines are printed at the end of this journal.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, I wish to thank all the contributors to this first issue of *Melita Classica*, and earnestly hope that our readers would find the studies offered profitable and enjoyable.

Fra Alan Joseph Adami O.P.

Editor

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Thesis Dissertations

1. Maria Zammit

Introduction, re-edition, translation and commentary of *De sole* of Marsilio Ficino

M.A. Dissertation presented to the University of Malta in May, 1997. vii + 121 pp.

The Introduction discusses events taking place in the 15th century, the development of Philosophy, the life and works of Marsilio Ficino, information on the use of astrology in the 15th century, and a study of the text and style of *De sole*. The re-edition is followed by its translation into English, a philological commentary, bibliography, list of Classical references, and an index of Latin words and expressions used in the *De sole*.

2. Karmenu Serracino

Dwar l-arti tal-poezija. Traduzzjoni għall-Malti ta' Περὶ Ποιητικῆς ta' Aristotele, b'introduzzjoni u kummentarju

M.A. Dissertation presented to the University of Malta in February, 1998. vi + 181pp.

The Introduction discusses the poet in the ancient Greek society, early literary criticism, Plato's criticism on poets, a study and an analysis of Aristotle's Περὶ Ποιητικῆς, a note on the methodology used in translating the Περὶ Ποιητικῆς, and a list of previous translations of the work since 1894. The translation, the first ever into Maltese, is followed by a detailed commentary, bibliography and an index of Greek proper names used in Aristotle's text, indicating the position of their accents in the nominative and genitive singular, the latter leading us to the proper pronunciation of their Maltese version.

This was the first dissertation presented in Maltese.

3. Joseph Galea

Problems in Classics: a new proposal

M.A. Dissertation presented to the University of Malta in 1999. vii + 127pp.

A short Introduction is followed by two Parts. The first Part consists of three chapters discussing the decline in Classics, the need for Classics and the reforms in Classics; the second Part, being the candidate's own new proposal for Classics, discusses language, literature, democracy, architecture and art, and mythology. A summary and final comments are followed by a bibliography and an appendix consisting of illustrations from art and architecture.