

Editors' Preface

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With the publication of Vol. 4, Nos. 1 and 2, we mark the successful transition of *Expositions* from a print publication to an on-line journal. The all-electronic format will allow us to provide more of those features that make *Expositions* a unique presence in the world of academic publishing: a forum for work that is broadly interdisciplinary and more experimental, conversational, and timely than the typical academic journal. In this volume and those to come, readers will find the features that have helped define us – Overheard in the Academy, Academic Roundtable, Notes & Insights – as well as new features, such as Interviews. Our inaugural Interview subject is the eminent historian John Lukacs.

We are pleased to announce now that with Vol. 5, No. 1 we will inaugurate a new regular feature of the journal, Teaching the Great Books, with the publication of “Teaching the *Analects*” by William Theodore de Bary, John Mitchell Mason Professor of the University and Provost Emeritus of Columbia University. Contributions to Teaching the Great Books will offer pedagogical insights as well as personal reflections on the enduring – and sometimes neglected – core texts of the Humanities.

Our current issue's Overheard in the Academy addresses the Supreme Court's 1980 *Yeshiva* decision denying university faculty collective bargaining rights under the National Labor Relations Act. The focus of this Overheard is not so much the decision itself; instead our contributors reflect on current conditions of “collegiality” in the American university. Our articles, “Avignon vs. Rome: Dante, Petrarch, Catherine of Siena” by Thomas Renna and “Gods and Friends: C. S. Lewis on Divination” by Francis Caponi, O. S. A., bring together history, literature, and theology. Our Academic Roundtable considers *The Monstrosity of Christ*, itself a debate between philosopher Slavoj Žižek and theologian John Milbank. In her reflection “Of Virgins and Vampires,” in Notes & Insights, Noël Falco Dolan ponders a young woman's apparent eagerness to give up her immortal soul. Book Reviews consider selected recent works in art history, philosophy, and theology.

We gratefully acknowledge the Falvey Memorial Library of Villanova University and its Director, Joseph Lucia, for hosting the journal and the work of Darren Poley, Stephen Spatz, and the entire Outreach Team for assisting us through this period of transition. We also offer our deepest gratitude to Dr. Peter Busch, the first Managing Editor of *Expositions*, for his efforts and commitment to the success of the journal.