

EDITORIAL

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The current volume of the Plato Journal is published in the new format and in accordance with the guidelines that have been introduced in the previous volume. Like the preceding issue, the current issue of the Plato Journal is available both in electronic and printed versions. Furthermore a new online platform is available for the submission of papers. As a result of these changes and in continuity with its tradition the Plato Journal constitutes an attractive channel for the promotion and the dissemination of excellent work in the study of Plato and of the Platonic tradition. Volume 14/2014 contains six articles, three of which are on Plato's *Symposium* and represent revised versions of papers presented at the X Symposium Platonicum in Pisa in July 2013. The volume also contains articles on the *Theaetetus* and the *Sophist*, the *Republic* and the Myth of Er, and on the *Ion*, along with two reviews on recent publications. As for the section on the *Symposium*, we start with an article by Menahem Luz (University

of Haifa) on 'The Rejected Versions in Plato's Symposium'. Luz focuses on Apollodorus' prelude to the *Symposium*. He argues that the rejection of earlier accounts of Socrates' participation in the Symposium can be sub-textually regarded as a rejection of a previous literary version. The second article, by Anne Gabrièle Wersinger (Université de Reims/CNRS Jean Pépin), addresses 'Le sens de la « kuêsis » dans la perspective des mythes de la gestation (Banquet 201d-212b)'. According to Wersinger, Diotima applies the desire to become pregnant to both men and women in order to convey the idea that creation cannot be reduced to the begetting of novelty, but takes time, as does maternal gestation. The section on the *Symposium* ends with an article by Gabriele Cornelli (Universidade de Brasília) on 'Socrate et Alcibiade'. According to Cornelli, in describing the relationship between Socrates and Alcibiades, Plato uses a clever dramatic construction in order to 'rewrite' this relationship and then deepen his 'J'accuse' against Alcibiades. In the article 'The Secret Doctrine and the Gigantomachia: Interpreting Plato's Theaetetus-Sophist' Brad Berman (Portland State University) argues, on the basis of parallels, that the passage from the *Theaetetus* on the 'secret doctrine' and the *Sophist*'s 'battle between gods and giants' are related to one another by their comparative sophistication and they have to be read together. In the article on 'Cephalus, the Myth of Er, and Remaining Virtuous in Unvirtuous Times' Paul DiRado (University of Kentucky) focuses on the Myth of Er and with the discussion in the *Republic* between Cephalus and Socrates on the problem of a conventional virtue. According to DiRado Socrates recommends the study of philosophy because it can ground conventionally acquired virtue and because it is capable of shaking the moral complacency that afflicts the conventionally virtuous. Aaron Landry's paper 'Inspiration and Τέχνη: Divination in Plato's *Ion*' draws attention to the fact that in Plato's *Ion* both inspiration and technê present an appeal to

divination. Landy (Humber College) investigates the related passages in order to show how these two disparate accounts can be accommodated. We close the volume with two book reviews written by young scholars of the University of Roma La Sapienza: Giulia De Cesaris on C. Huffmann (ed.) 'A History of Pythagoreanism' (2014) and Maria Luisa Garofalo on B. Levin 'Plato's Rivalry with Medicine. A Struggle and its Dissolution' (2014).

As this brief survey shows, the volume is a collection of strong papers and book reviews, presented by both prominent and young scholars. They have been submitted to a double-blind peer-review process and display a diversity of approaches and methodologies. This volume is the first one under my editorship and the assistance of Luca Pitteloud (Universidade Federal do ABC (UFABC - São Paulo), Brasil), though it could not have been published without the help of Francisco Gonzales (University of Ottawa), who for a long time has directed the journal in an exemplary way and has guided it through the transition to its new format. He is warmly and sincerely thanked for his dedication to the journal. I would also like to express sincere gratitude to Irmgard Männlein-Robert (Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen) who contributed enormously with her suggestions and her experience in designing the new Plato Journal. And some very promising young scholars working in the field of the Platonic studies helped us with the editorial revision of the papers: Chad Jorgenson (Université de Fribourg), Pauline Sabrier (Trinity College Dublin), and Nicholas Riegel (Archai UNESCO Chair, University of Brasília). I would like to thank them here for their assistance. Finally, I would like to sincerely thank our colleagues who have to remain anonymous for their precious help in reviewing the submissions to the journal.