

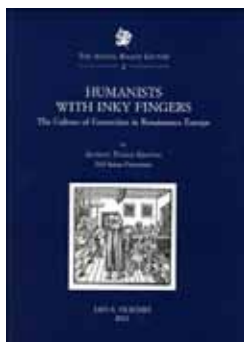
ANTHONY THOMAS GRAFTON

HUMANISTS WITH INKY FINGERS

THE CULTURE OF CORRECTION IN RENAISSANCE EUROPE

Anthony Grafton was awarded the 2002 Balzan Prize for the History of the Humanities, for his outstanding work on the history of scholarship, especially of the classical tradition in European intellectual history since the Renaissance. The Balzan Foundation, with this second lecture, the first on Swiss soil, continues the prestigious academic endeavour, «The Annual Balzan Lecture», fruit of Agreements on Collaboration between the International Balzan Foundation «Prize», the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences and the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei.

In this second «Annual Balzan Lecture», and the second volume to be published in the series, Anthony Grafton focuses on the correction of texts in the «Republic of Letters» of the 16th and 17th centuries. He explains how such activity was often the preserve of the best minds of the era. He illustrates how, in addition to simply working up the texts for printing, censorship was exercised with both



a light and heavy hand and how emendations both intended and unintended, affected the reception of the texts. The lecture exemplifies the central purpose of the Agreements on Collaboration, to jointly promote the diffusion of cutting edge research and provide an opportunity for fruitful academic exchanges.

Anthony Grafton spiega come nella «Repubblica delle lettere» europea del Cinque-Seicento quella della correzione dei testi fosse un'attività che impegnava i migliori ingegni del tempo tanto nella collaborazione quanto nella competizione. La sua analisi illustra come, oltre a emendare semplicemente i testi per la tipografia, l'intervento del correttore erudito poteva assumere sfumature diverse, dalla semplice critica al dissenso, che influivano così, in differenti modi, sulla pubblicazione del contenuto.

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