



Preface

I.

In connection to the commemoration of the 700th anniversary of the death of Dante Alighieri also in Hungary – as in many countries in the world – there were many artistic and scientific events. Among these we can mention the series of conferences which took place at the Hungarian Academy in Rome, and at the seats of Szeged and of Budapest of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (*Science and poetry in Dante's works* [*Tudomány és költészet Dante műveiben*], Rome: 11.2-3, 2021; Szeged–Budapest: 11.16-19, 2021). The Hungarian Dante Society published its monumental Commentary to the *Inferno* (see the review on this, written by József Nagy and Massimo Seriacopi), and also the present special issue of the *Hungarian Philosophical Review* – what we offer now to the public – belongs to the actual series of publications on Dante Alighieri.

II.

It is not necessary to stress here the complexity of Dante's work in general, and in particular of the *Comedy*, in which poetry and doctrinaire material form an organic unity. The present issue highlights obviously this latter aspect of Dante's work, especially the philosophical, the theological and the scientific message of the poet.

III.

The present issue does not pretend to be monographic, and does not touch upon (which would be impossible) all the countless themes with which classical and contemporary Dante-researches deal. Nevertheless we could not evade the question of Aristotle's influence on Dante's œuvre (see the paper of Massimo Verdicchio), as well as the question of the relationship between Averroes, Thomas Aquinas and Dante, particularly with regard to the problem of the unity



of the soul (see the paper of Gábor Borbély), or how did Thomas Aquinas and Dante conceived Hell and the nature of the anguishes in Hell (see the paper of Gyula Klima).

Nonetheless the subjects of the papers published in the present issue extend to a wide field, like for example to the relationship between poetry and theology (see the paper of József Pál), to political and moral philosophy (see the papers of Márton Kaposi and Márk Berényi), to philosophy of language (see the paper of János Kelemen), or to psychosynthesis, which approach is applied by the author (Zsuzsanna Tóth-Izsó) for the analysis of Dante's conception of time.

We also have to mention the analyses of certain cantos of the *Inferno*, which represent the classical tradition of the *Lectura Dantis* (see the studies of József Nagy, of Béla Hoffmann and of Norbert Mátyus), as well as the analysis dedicated to the *Vita Nuova* and to the *Purgatory* (see the work of Kornélia Horváth).

Finally, it is not less important to mention that in the realm of the questions related to Dantean allegorism and symbolism two authors highlighted some subjects which are rarely studied, but, exactly for this reason, are particularly interesting and important: the symbolism of animals, and the theological symbolism of the illnesses (see the papers of Éva Víg and of Eszter Draskóczy).

János Kelemen