PRESENTATION

From Voluntas: Studies on Schopenhauer to Voluntas: International Journal of Philosophy: continuities and changes

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If we wanted to express ourselves in Schopenhauerian terms and with some touch of irony, we would say that the Voluntas - the Will, the Wille - is perennial, remains only changing its phenomenon! I think that the reader will soon realize that this also applies to this journal in this volume - issue 17, Volume 9, number 1, referring to the first half of 2018. If observed simultaneously, the old and the new title of the journal can indicate immediately both continuity and change. In fact, what changes is the subtitle, but in such a way that important editorial aspects and policies change also along with it. A short walk through the tab “About” of the new page, available in six languages at https://periodicos.ufsm.br/voluntas, will allow the reader to learn the dimensions of the new settings of the journal, which were carefully considered, and planned by the Editorial Board and some of the Editorial Committee members.

The main motivation for these changes was the challenge of maintaining and improving the quality of published papers to come up to the requirements of the last classification received in the evaluation of Qualis/CAPES, which raised and ranked Voluntas as a B1 journal. The editorial challenge of maintaining and improving the quality and quantity of publication of articles exclusively focused on Schopenhauer’s philosophy has become greater over almost a decade of Voluntas’s existence, as well as because of the achievements that the journal has gotten during this time. Even with the particular flourishing that the national and international Schopenhauer-research has experienced, reflected in the composition of the last issues of the Voluntas Journal, we still begin to face difficulties with the non-endogenous and steady composition of its numbers. For these and other difficulties, the desire to expand the scope of the journal was naturally imposed. We decided that the “Voluntas” of the title would be
sufficiently schopenhauerian to signal the continuity of interests that in 2009/2010 motivated its creation. But the subtitle - which, to those familiar with the philosopher of the will, sounded even pleonastic in relation to the title - could be more dynamic and open. With the change of Voluntas: Studies on Schopenhauer for Voluntas: International Journal of Philosophy, we assume, the journal can continue to publish works specialized in Schopenhauerian thought, but also to convey thematic Dossiers about the most varied authors, approaches and currents of thought of the area of Philosophy. This change was introduced in parallel to the affiliation of the journal to the Graduate Program in Philosophy (Master’s and Doctorate Degree) of the Federal University of Santa Maria (UFSM) as of this year and, at the same time, its implementation in the OJS System/SEER, made available by UFSM through the Portal of Electronic Journals (https://periodicos.ufsm.br/). This is, therefore, the threefold substantial change we announce here, namely, the way in which the issues begin to be composed, the linkage to UFSM’s PPGFil and the hosting on a new platform.

But let us detail these changes, which are accompanied by others no less important, as well as by continuities.

The mentioned continuity of the specialized publications of Schopenhauerian philosophy, for example, will happen by means of the creation of a Section called Schopenhauerian Studies, to be published as Continuous Flow in all the numbers. Thus, each issue of the journal will be sectioned into two parts: a Section dedicated to Schopenhauer-research, which will continue the original profile of the journal, and a Dossier about any authors, approaches and currents of thought in the area of Philosophy. In the case of thematic Dossiers, the numbers will be interleaved according to the interests of the three research lines of the UFSM’s PPGFil, namely: (1) Normative ethics, Metaethics and Applied Ethics, (2) Language, Reality and Knowledge, and (3) Phenomenology and Understanding. In addition, the journal will publish special issues. This novelty, however, will be effective only from 2019, when it will also change the periodicity of the magazine from semester to quarterly. The 2018 numbers, which were already underway before these reformulations, will still be exclusively “Schopenhauerian” and half-yearly.

The effective affiliation of the journal to the Graduate Program in Philosophy of UFSM implied the consequent dissociation from the Graduate Program in Philosophy of the Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRRJ), a link that was only formal between the years of 2015 and 2018, but had an important collaboration that benefited the journal. For this reason, I would like to record a thank you on behalf of the entire staff of the journal.

Even with these changes, the following original profile remains: a journal specialized in Schopenhauer’s philosophy - although no longer dedicated exclusively to it - which can be verified from three items: i) continuity of the journal as an activity of the Brazilian Section of Schopenhauer-Gesellschaft; ii) the aforementioned
placement of the Schopenhauerian Studies Continuous Flow Section, as of 2019, in each regular number; and iii) the permanence of the ISSN, since, as the Brazilian Institute of Information in Science and Technology (IBICT) assured us, “subtitle change does not imply a change of record”. Regarding this last item, it must be said that the “International” subtitle aims to highlight a feature that the magazine has exhibited since its creation, which can be noticed by the composition of its Editorial Board, now expanded in view of the adjustment of the objectives.

Finally, I point out that with this implementation in the OJS / SEER system, through the Portal of Periodicals of UFSM, all the previous numbers, totaling sixteen, are migrating to the new platform, but, as long as the migration is not completed, they remain available in the old page of the periodical (in http://www.revistavoluntas.com.br/anteriores.html). A benefit derived from this same implementation and linkage to UFSM is the attribution of the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) for all the texts of the journal, that is, for those that will be published in this edition, but also for all those already published since creation of the journal. This is, it is said, an important achievement, desired for years, and will be certainly one of many others that the magazine will harvest from this new phase of work.

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The present Vol. 9, No. 1 (Jan.-Jun. 2018) is composed of 13 articles, in addition to the Editorial by Prof. Maria Lúcia Cacciola, President of the Brazilian Section of Schopenhauer-Gesellschaft, all resulting from the Conferences presented during the VIII International Colloquium Schopenhauer, held in Curitiba-Paraná between November 28 and December 1, 2017, at the Goethe-Institut Curitiba and the Federal University of Paraná. The Colloquium, organized by Prof. Antonio Edmilson Paschoal and by who is writing, has as general theme Schopenhauer: the philosophy and philosophizing. The lecturers are renowned Schopenhauerian scholars from different universities and research centers in Brazil, Germany, Italy and Japan. The VIII International Colloquium Schopenhauer is one of bi-annual meetings that are already consolidated in the Brazilian philosophical scenario. As in other editions, the event brought together Brazilian and foreign experts as well as early-stage researchers for discussions on specific issues of Schopenhauer's philosophy, articulations of this with other thoughts and possible resonances of it in contemporary culture in general.

We would like to thank all the authors of the Communications, whose texts will be published shortly in an e-book volume by Editora Fi (Porto Alegre, 2018), as well as those who contributed to the event. We renew here the special thanks to Prof. Antonio Edmilson Paschoal, host of the Colloquium at UFPR, without his collaboration the event would not succeed. We also gratefully acknowledge support
from CAPES that granted funds by means of the PAEP program; the Department and the Postgraduate Program of Philosophy of UFPR, for the financial and technical support; the Núcleo de Estudos Nietzscheanos of UFPR; the Instituto Cultural Italo Brasileiro (São Paulo). Finally we express our gratitude to Dr. Claudia Römmelt, Director of the Goethe-Institut Curitiba, for the pleasant reception during the opening and the first conferences of the Colloquium; Prof. Matthias Kößler, president of Schopenhauer-Gesellschaft (Germany), for the usual support, participation and interest; the Brazilian, Italian and Japanese Sections of Schopenhauer-Gesellschaft, on behalf of their respective presidents or representatives: Profª. Maria Lúcia Cacciola, Prof. Domenico M. Fazio and Prof. Yasuo Kamata; and all twenty-six lecturers, national and foreign, for the renewed contributions to the Schopenhauer Research.

The issue concludes with a review of the recently published translation by Prof. Domenico Fazio, from German to Italian, from the all letters between Schopenhauer and his disciples - A. Schopenhauer. Carteggio con i discepoli. 2 volumes. Domenico M. Fazio (Ed.). Lecce: Pensa MultiMedia, 2018 (Schopenhaueriana, 12).

Good reading!