



Federica Rossetti

(Research Fellow at the LBI for Neolatin Studies)

Satire and Comedy in the Italian Humanism Defining Literary Genres in the 15th Century



One of the consequences of the revival of interest for the Classical heritage in the Renaissance period was the attempt of systematization and classification of literary genres. Humanists' debate about literary genre theory goes through the exegesis and the commentaries on classical authors, by integrating and streamlining the medieval literary form of the *accessus ad auctores*. Roman Satire, often confused with Menippean Satire and Satyr play, was particularly prone to new codifications and interpretations.

The aim of my paper is to review some paratexts about the origin and the features of satirical genre written by Italian humanists in the second half of the 15th Century (Giovanni Tortelli, Guarino Veronese, Domizio Calderini, Bartolomeo Fonzio, Giorgio Merula, Giovanni Britannico), in order to identify the standards of the building process of the literary genre theory.

After highlighting the constituent elements of the theoretical treatises on Ancient Satire, I will focus on the repercussions of Theory in the interpretation of Roman satirists Horace, Persius and Juvenal, through the analysis of the exegetical works of Giovanni Britannico.

Date and Venue:

Thursday, 22nd March 2018, 6pm
Zentrum für Alte Kulturen („Atrium“), SR 3
Langer Weg 11, 6020 Innsbruck