

Editorial

Dear readers,

As I write this editorial, our life is gradually getting back on track. The pandemic caught us by surprise showing the fragility of our most entrenched beliefs and convictions, but also taught us new ways of living, communicating, and networking.

Within the world of academia, this year has been marked by increasing online collaboration among scholars both on a national and on an international scale. In a period of physical and social isolation, we have learned how important it is to build platforms for dialogue and exchange among different intellectual cultures, sensibilities, and traditions. As editors of this journal, we have tried to seize the best out of the global situation, strengthening our cooperation partnerships and working to improve the scientific relevance of the contents we publish. To this purpose, one of the things we did in the past months was welcoming Dr. Ancuta Mortu, a long-time collaborator and member of the editorial board, as a new International Editor of the journal.

The present issue is also a celebratory one. It marks the anniversary of ESPES, which completes with this issue its first decade of existence. Throughout the past ten years, the journal has undergone many changes in both its form and content. While I am happy to report that ESPES has started to acquire a more consistent format and a more stable international readership, our editorial mission will always be to strive for the journal's continual development and growth.

This anniversary coincides with another festive event. Professor Jana Sošková, the founding Editor-in-chief of this journal and long-time Full Professor of Aesthetics at Prešov University, has recently celebrated her 70th jubilee. To honour this occasion, this issue of ESPES features an interview with Professor Sošková as well as the English translation of one of her numerous works, *The Ugliness of Banal Truths*, published in Slovak in 2003. After almost twenty years since the original release of this paper, I am convinced that Sošková's considerations on the ugliness of banality still retain all their relevance. Now, in translation, they may give a wider circle of readers an insight into her way of thinking and inspire new reflections on the relationship between art, banality, and the notion of truth.

This issue also includes the thematic symposium 'Aesthetics in Hungary' edited by Piroska Balogh and Botond Csuka. Our hope is that the papers included in this symposium will provide readers with

an interesting glimpse into one crossroads of contemporary aesthetics on which much remains to be discovered.

Finally, since its inception, one of the main aims of this journal has been to encourage the development of a scientific-philosophical terminology in Slovak. To this extent, I am pleased to inform you that this issue comprises the first Slovak translation of Margaret Browning's *Neuroscience and imagination: the relevance of Susanne Langer's work to psychoanalytic theory*, initially published in 'The Psychoanalytic Quarterly' in 2006.

In conclusion, since a journal is worthless without an audience, let me express again my gratitude to all of you for your continued support.

I wish you a nice summer and a pleasant reading!

Adrián Kvokačka