ΣΧΟΛΗ

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ANCIENT COSMOLOGY AND ASTRONOMY

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EDITORIAL

The second issue of the fifth volume of the journal is entirely devoted to ancient cosmology and astronomy. It includes lectures by Michael Chase, "Discussions on the eternity of the world", delivered in May 2011 at Novosibirsk, a Russian translation of a chapter on ancient astronomy from Walter Burkert's "Lore and Science in Ancient Pythagoreanism", and a commented Russian translation of the *Elementa astronomiae* by Geminus. These texts are prepared for the participants of the international school "TEXNH. Theoretical Foundations of Arts, Sciences and Technology in the Greco-Roman World" (August 2011, Siberian Scientific Centre) organized by the "Centre for Ancient philosophy and the classical tradition" and sponsored by the "Open Society" Institute (Budapest).

Next issue of the journal (January 2012) will be dedicated to Ancient Music. Interested persons are welcome to contribute. Studies and translations are due by November 2011.

I wish to express my gratitude to all my friend and colleagues for participation in our seminars and would like to remind that the journal is abstracted / indexed in *The Philosopher's Index* and *SCOPUS*, and available on-line at the following addresses: www.nsu.ru/classics/schole/ (journal home page); www.elibrary.ru (Russian Index of Scientific Quotations); and www.ceeol.com (Central and Eastern European Online Library).

Eugene Afonasin Academgorodok, Russia July 15, 2011 afonasin@gmail.com

ABSTRACTS

MICHAEL CHASE

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DISCUSSIONS ON THE ETERNITY OF THE WORLD IN LATE ANTIQUITY

LANGUAGE: English

ISSUE: ΣΧΟΛΗ 5.2 (2011) 111-173

KEYWORDS: Christians, Pagans, Philoponus, Simplicius, Aristotle, Proclus, Themistius, Neopla-

tonism, physics, creation, change, motion

ABSTRACT: This article studies the debate between the Neoplatonist philosophers Simplicius and John Philoponus on the question of the eternity of the world. The first part consists in a historical introduction situating their debate within the context of the conflict between Christians and Pagan in the Byzantine Empire of the first half of the sixth century. Particular attention is paid to the attitudes of these two thinkers to Aristotle's attempted proofs of the eternity of motion and time in *Physics* 8.1. The second part traces the origins, structure and function of a particular argument used by Philoponus to argue for the world's creation within time. Philoponus takes advantage of a tension inherent in Aristotle's theory of motion, between his standard view that all motion and change is continuous and takes place in time, and his occasional admission that at least some kinds of motion and change are instantaneous. For Philoponus, God's creation of the world is precisely such an instantaneous change: it is not a motion on the part of the Creator, but is analogous to the activation of a state (*hexis*), which is timeless and implies no change on the part of the agent. The various transformations of this doctrine at the hands of Peripatetic, Neoplatonic, and Islamic commentators are studied (Alexander of Aphrodisias, Themistius, al-Kindi, al-Farabi), as is Philoponus' use of it in his debate against Proclus.

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GEMINOS. INTRODUCTION TO THE PHENOMENA

Introduction, Russian translation and notes

LANGUAGE: Russian, translated from the Greek

ISSUE: ΣΧΟΛΗ 5.2 (2011) 174-233

KEYWORDS: Scientific manual, Greek science, astronomy, calendars, stars, planets

ABSTRACT: A commented Russian translation of the *Introduction to the Phenomena* (Elementa astronomiae, Eἰσαγωγὴ εἰς τὰ Φαινόμενα) by the Greek mathematician and astronomer Geminos of Rhodes (Γεμῖνος ὁ Ῥόδιος, fl. c. 70 BC). This introductory astronomy book, based on the works of earlier astronomers such as Hipparchus, treats the following general subjects: the zodiac; the motion of the Sun; the constellations; the celestial sphere; days and nights; the risings and settings of the zodiacal signs; calendars; phases of the Moon; eclipses; star phases; terrestrial zones and geographical places; and the uselessness of the stars for making weather predictions. The text is prepared for the participants of educational project "TEXNH. Theoretical foundations of Arts, sciences and technology in the Greco-Roman World" (Novosibirsk, Russia).

Anna Afonasina

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BALTER BURKERT. ASTRONOMY AND PYTHAGOREANISM

LANGUAGE: Russian, translated from the English

ISSUE: ΣΧΟΛΗ 5.2 (2011) 234-311

KEYWORDS: Pythagoras, Plato, Philolaus, Greek astronomy, lore and science, harmony of the spheres, planets, cosmos

ABSTRACT: A Russian translation of a chapter on astronomy from the famous book of Prof. Walter Burkert is prepared for the participants of educational project "TEXNH. Theoretical foundations of Arts, sciences and technology in the Greco-Roman World" (Novosibirsk, Russia). The chapter treats the structure of the world and planetary system; the theory of planetary movements; the cosmos of Philolaus; harmony of the spheres and astral immortality. Original publication: *Weisheit und Wissenschaft: Studien zu Pythagoras, Philolaos und Platon* (Nürnberg, 1962); prepared on the basis of the revised English edition: *Lore and Science in Ancient Pythagoreanism*, tr. by E. Minar (Cambridge, MA, 1972).

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АНТИЧНАЯ КОСМОЛОГИЯ И АСТРОНОМИЯ

Выпуск журнала посвящен античной космологии и астрономии. В него включен курс лекций Майкла Чейза «Дискуссии о вечности мира в поздней античности», прочитанный в мае 2011 г. в НГУ, а также два перевода: глава из монографии знаменитого историка античности Вальтера Буркерта, посвященная античной астрономии, и перевод «Введений в явления» Гемина. Эти тексты подготовлены специально для участников семинара по истории античной науки, который пройдет в Сибирском научном центре в августе 2011 г. при поддержке Института «Открытое общество». Журнал доступен в электронном виде на собственной странице www.nsu.ru/classics/schole/, а также в составе следующих электронных библиотек: www.elibrary.ru (Научная электронная библиотека) и www.ceeol.com (Central and Eastern European Online Library).

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