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I margini del libro



MARGINI

GIORNALE DELLA DEDICA E ALTRO

«Margini» is not a review, at least not in the traditional sense. It is rather a journal, with its qualities of lightness, innovation and rigorous updating. As an annual issue, «Margini» started in 2007. It aspires to be an occasion of intellectual exchange about a topic that in the last few years has been the subject of growing interest in the academic world, namely dedications and all those parts of the work, which we could call "paratexts", adopting Gérard Genette's terminology, or, with a just apparently equivalent formula, "margini del libro".

In the context of new scientific communication modalities, «Margini» aims to be a flexible and functional research instrument. It is a free on-line journal of variable size, available in Italian and other languages (www.margini.unibas.ch). It includes three sections: Saggi (essays), Biblioteca (library), and Wunderkammer. The first section offers studies on dedications and other different "paratexts". The second part includes facsimiles of classical articles on the subject in digital version. The third contains ancient treatises, anthologies, and collections of dedications, dictionary entries, narrative texts, iconography, and other curiosities.

The common element of the material is neither a methodological or disciplinary, nor chronological or geographical proximity of the texts, but a methodologically diversified analysis of objects that are functionally similar even though typologically different and distant in time and space. Listing forms and rules of these introductory parts and studying the modifications of strategies and functions, «Margini» aims not only to investigate the role of the writer through centuries and cultures, but also to analyze the complex and often sophisticated interaction between the different parts of the work.

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