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## From the Editorial Board

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Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej [bazhum.muzhp.pl](http://bazhum.muzhp.pl), gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

## From the Editorial Board

The first issue of „Acta Humana” journal, published in 2010, was devoted to, as the title suggested, the *Humanistic inquiries*. In the search of a place in the scientific discourse, the journal was opening to important research ideas and aspiring to the role of a forum for the exchange of thoughts, conceptions and methods for the members of the humanistic research community.

The first issues of “Acta Humana” were noticed and favourably received by the academic community, which was evidenced by obtaining the prize for the best publication in the “StRuNa 2011” competition (Volume 2: *Communication has many names*). Favourable reviews of subsequent volumes as well as increasing inflow of articles from various academic centers in Poland were a signal for us that “Acta Humana” may become an important voice of young scholars in the future.

In the following volumes entitled *The Mysteries of Reality* and *Paths of the Future* we posed difficult questions about the new and unknown, tackling complicated research problems evolving around the present and the future. It was impossible, however, to forget about the past. That is why the present, fifth edition is devoted to memory and closes the triad of the past – the present – the future.

Memory studies have been frequently undertaken in recent years and the body of literature devoted to this subject has increased considerably. As a result, it was a great challenge for young scholars to tackle this problem. Nevertheless, we are convinced that the period of heated debates on the category of memory is not a passing trend and that it allows to perceive the past in a new light.

Among the contributors to the present volume, there are representatives of literature studies, film studies, media studies, culture studies, linguists, historians and the graduates in international relations. This array of humanistic disciplines reflecting on one problem resulted in the multiplicity of attitudes, ideas and research trends. The articles are preceded by a short introduction by professor Anna Pajdzinska.

The volume opens with the articles dealing with literary depictions of the past but representing different research perspectives. An attempt to build a dictionary of

Zygmunt Haupt's prose on the basis of the concept of "the theatre of memory" was made by Andrzej Niewiadomski. A novel approach to the interpretation of the works of the Polish writer resulted in not as much a reconstruction of the "memorial" world but a recreation of the author's worldview. Magdalena Górecka, on the other hand, presented a pioneering proposal to investigate alternative histories on the basis of brand-new theories of cultural memory. The designed methodology was supported by a rich inventory of terms borrowed from both Polish and foreign analyses. As a result, it can be an inspiration for studying other literary texts. This sketch corresponds well with the article by Ewelina Stanios-Korycka in which the author also drew from alternative histories but focused not on the theoretical but empirical references to the category of memory. The subjects of the study were the alternative histories of the Byzantine Empire created by popular literature – *Armia ślepców* by Romuald Pawlak and *Czarna ikona* by Mieszko Zagańczyk. The article by Ewelina Radion takes us to the world of poetry. The author presents a postulate of a poet to retain the memory of the difficult past for the sake of respect for our history. The article by Małgorzata Kulikowska dealing with the role of memory and memories in the work of Wałam Szałamow closes the section devoted to literary analyses.

Kinga Panasiuk-Garbacz reminds us in her article about a forgotten silent movie *Cleopatra* from 1917 by Gordon Edwards. The author, who specialises in the American cinema, pays attention to the importance of this movie for creating the memory of Cleopatra in modern pop culture. A film-based analysis of memory is presented in the article by Aneta Jałocha entitled *Following the Traces of Childhood. The 'Jugglery' of Memory in Wojciech Marczewski's Weiser (2000)*.

Some interesting, controversial and provocative questions are posed by Tomasz Michalik in the article entitled *Pop-Memory. Education on the Holocaust and Computer Games – from Puzzles to Serious Games*. The author presents some ethical concerns regarding the acceptability of various creations of pop culture (such as games, movies, comic books) as means of commemorating the extermination of the Jewish people. Another article evolving around the issue of pop memory was written by Małgorzata Marczak. The author discusses the shaping of the ancestral memory in Bulgarian society since the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the present and the role of this type of memory in the creation of Bulgarian national identity.

Linguists approached memory from three different angles. Anna Sawa based her research on the analysis of old prints from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The study showed the importance of funeral sermons as a means of preserving the memory of the dead. Paulina Mucha, on the other hand, conducted an analysis of gravestone inscriptions finding the most important tendencies in writing epitaphs. Finally, Ewa Bulisz in the article entitled *In Memory of – Non-Necrologically* analysed the memories-articles published in the modern press.

The review section also fits into the general topic of memory present throughout the volume. The section opens with a review of a new publication entitled *Between Memory and Text* (Katarzyna Kraczoń). Apart from that, the volume contains a review of the monograph by Mateusz Rodak entitled *Myth or Reality. Crimes of the Jewish People in the Second Polish Republic: the Case of Lublin Province* (Filip Gończyński-Jussis) and a review of the book by Dorota Piekarczyk entitled *Meta-textual Metaphors* (Damian Gocół).

The section devoted to academic and cultural events contains a report from IV Transdisciplinary Summer School organized as a part of the grant “Towards the New Humanities: Polish Cultural Memory” (Magdalena Górecka, Ewelina Stanios-Korycka) and from two conferences that took place at MCSU. The first one was entitled “Lets Talk about Genres. Genre in Language, Literature and Art” (Ewa Bulisz) and the second one “Modern Media 6. Media Image of the Word” (Magdalena Pataj).

We hope that the fifth volume of the journal that is presented to the readers will turn out to be a worthwhile reading, discovering new and unexplored accounts of memory. To finish with, I’d like to express my deepest gratitude to the reviewers for careful analysis and assessment of the articles as well as valuable critique.

*Ewa Bulisz*