

CELESTINESCA



NOTA DEL EDITOR

There are many matters on my mind as I send out the final number of vol. 11. My first, and saddest, duty is to note the death in late 1987 of Dean W. McPheeters. Well known to *celestinistas*, "Mac"--as he was known to his friends--lived to see a group of his *Celestina* studies re-published in a collected volume (by Scripta humanistica, 1985; rev. in these pages by Charlotte Stern, see vol. 10, no. ii, 1986: 49-50) and to receive a deserved volume of homage studies presented to him by its editor, Bruno Damiani, a year later (Scripta humanistica, 1986). One of his last, and typically generous, gestures was to send me copies of illustrations and microfilms of editions of *Celestina* from his own library. He had sent me the original of a letter from María Rosa Lida de Malkiel which was used in *Celestinesca* (11, no. i [1987]: 21-23, to mark the 25th anniversary of her still-essential *La originalidad artística de 'LC'*. We maintained over several years an active correspondence between Athens and Gainesville, Florida [to which city he repaired upon retirement from Tulane]. I will very much miss our dialogue. *Celestinesca* will publish soon a reminiscence of Prof. McPheeters: *que descanse en paz*.

I would like next to note that while the articles and books and editions of LC continue to proliferate (the bibliographical supplement in this number of *Celestinesca* has 39 new entries for the past 6 months alone), there is also a healthy continuing trend to find ways to theatricalize the *Tragicomedia*. In addition to the Venezuelan production given at New York's Festival Latino during the summer of 1987 [see pp. 43-44; more to come in the May 1988 issue], I know of at least one brand-new English adaptation being prepared [more on this later] for production in 1988. Probably to be one of the *sucesos celestinescos* of the year is the new production being readied for presentation at the Teatro del Príncipe (Madrid) in May-June of 1988 by the Compañía Nacional de Teatro Clásico under the direction of Adolfo Marsillach. This production will also be featured at the 1988 Festival de Almagro (Sept. 4-8), at which yours truly will be speaking (on 20th-century adaptations of *Celestina*, not illogically).

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Along these same theatrical lines, my own archive of *celestiniana* has of late received, in addition to the McPheeters-donated items just mentioned, playscripts of three productions: the 1979 San Francisco English-language staging (thanks to Charles Faulhaber); the Spanish-language version which debuted in San Juan, Puerto Rico in 1985 (thanks to Humberto López-Morales); and both the Spanish and English versions of the Festival Latino presentation (New York 1987), a donation of Joseph Papp's New York Shakespeare Festival group. New also in the archive is a video of the 1979 Miguel Sabido film of LC--a Mexican production with Isela Vega and Ofelia Guilmain--which will be featured at the 1988 Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, as well as out-of-print French and German translations, a first edition of A. Deyermond's *Petrarchan Sources*, and a copy of the dissertation [in Latin] on LC by Ernest Martinenche [Nimes, 1900], all of which came from the library of J. A. van Praag. I was also fortunate in being able to acquire in Buenos Aires (thanks to the good offices of Steven D. Kirby) a selection of out-of-the-way Argentine and Mexican eds. of LC dating from the 1940-1970 period. My full collection is now at crisis stage, in that I really am feeling the need of cataloguing it before it seems too overwhelming a project to tackle (Now!, to find the time...).

Before leaving the reader to digest the varied fare served up in the following pages, a variety also reflected in the current edition of the PREGONERO, there remain two items to cover. The first is to welcome to our stable of "corresponsales" and evaluators Prof. Ivy A. CORFIS (Univ. of Pennsylvania): she has already been put to work and should continue to prove a valuable addition to the enterprise. I will close with the second item, a quote from a subscriber's letter. I use it to urge all of us to consult the address label with which *Celestinesca* arrived and, if it states for "Renewal Date" 1/88 [or earlier!], then please think about sending in your renewal, remembering that you may choose to do so for one, two, or three years [individuals \$3.00 in North America; \$4.00 elsewhere--consult the inside cover, however, if you are in England or Spain]. Now the quote: "I am happy to enclose my check (...) You are absolutely right: at \$3.00 per year, *Celestinesca* is a true bargain. Greedy Celestina would have agreed with you." Let us all hope that we can continue to provide a forum of interest to many people for so low a rate for a very long time into the future, as we enter into 1988 and our twelfth year. May it be a wonderful year for *celestinófilos* everywhere!

Hasta la próxima ...

J. Snow