Foreword

For everyone interested in the history of Kraków, the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków (MHK) has prepared another issue, the twenty-ninth in the series, of its scientific periodical *Krzysztofory*.

Coming out for nearly fo ur decades now, in recent years – and to our great satisfaction – *Krzysztofory* has been released at regular annual intervals. The scope of the particular issues of the periodical is worked out during meetings of the Editorial Board of the MHK held to discuss in detail the purpose and contents of an upcoming issue. *Krzysztofory* consistently aspires to a scientific annual offering a review of the most significant research works connected with the historical and cultural heritage of Kraków. This objective for the periodical has been set out as a follow-up to the ambitious role defined for the Museum, namely that of the most important institution in Kraków engaged in exploring the city's past. Depending on the current demands, the annual is released as either a monograph on a particularly important subject of study selected by the Editorial Board (in 2010 the monumental two-volume issue devoted to the Rynek Underground project came out; a monograph summarizing the latest research at the Krzysztofory Palace is planned for 2012) or a collection of texts on a variety of subjects from different fields of research, as is the case with this number.

The current issue of *Krzysztofory* introduces archaeological research and conservation works carried out on a large scale in different historic locations in Kraków (Emil Zaitz, Michał Zaitz, Grażyna Zaitz; Ignacy Jakubczyk; Katarzyna Schejbal-Dereń, Marek Dereń), a study of the stove tile factories in Kraków (Bożena Kostuch), the fate of Kraków legionaries taken prisoner or gone missing during World War I (Urszula Oettingen) and the activity of the Central Welfare Council (RGO) in West Galicia (Małgorzata Przeniosło). Bronisław Krasnowolski, a regular contributor to the scientific annual of the MHK, has analyzed the origins of the Industrial School and the history of its facilities, also in the context of the conservation works carried out in the school buildings with financial support from the Public Committee for the Renovation of Kraków Monuments (SKOZK). Krzysztof Prokop has described an interesting and hitherto unknown source of information about Kraków on the threshold of the period of the partitions of Poland, namely Papal Nuncio Giuseppe Garampi's notes from 1772.

Apart from that, the annual *Krzysztofory* has as its aim to introduce the readers to the major spheres of activity of the Museum. It is our intention to strike a balance between the two strategic objectives of the periodical, namely the publication of important studies on the selected subjects pertaining to the history and culture of Kraków and of the texts discussing researches into the Museum collections and reflecting on the exhibition and research projects carried out by our institution.

Consequently – and by tradition – the current issue presents selected items from the collection of the Museum (Irena Palca has discussed Aleksander Gryglewski's works; Anna Sagatowicz-Dudyńska, a silver monument to Stanisław August Poniatowski; Danuta Radwan and Irena Palca have studied Wincenty Wodzinowski's painting *Veterans' Mass*). Also, the major museum project in Kraków in recent years, the permanent exhibition *Kraków under Nazi Occupation 1939–1945* at Oskar Schindler's Enamel Factory, has been recapitulated on (Monika Bednarek, Zuzanna Miśtal).

Employees at the MHK have presented their studies in such fields as the history of fire service (Robert Gaweł), Kraków railways (Dominik Lulewicz) or little-known Zielaskis' studio (Irena Palca), and articles have been prepared based on interesting MA theses written by junior museum professionals (Anna Marszałek, Maria Wąchała, Katarzyna Winiarczyk). We hope that the latter publications are a good way for preparing new Museum personnel for carrying out research work at its best.

Krzysztofory also includes articles in the unique series launched several years ago, such as Maria Zientara's another text about Polish women artists and Elżbieta Lang's article about one of the monuments in Kraków. A new series has also been launched in the current issue, devoted to old funeral rites in Poland; in its opening article Greta Czupryniak has discussed royal funerals. Last but not least, starting from the current issue of *Krzysztofory* we have decided to include in the annual reviews of the most significant publications about Kraków. Here this idea has materialized in Curator Elżbieta Firlet's review of Waldemar Kowalski's book about the Scots in Kraków and Lesser Poland in the 16th and the first half of the 17th centuries, published by the Jan Kochanowski University of Humanities and Sciences in Kielce.

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