

Beginning with the first issue 2011

NUNCIUS

JOURNAL OF THE MATERIAL AND VISUAL HISTORY OF SCIENCE

will change publisher and editorial profile

In a brief editorial to the first volume of the *Annali dell'Istituto e Museo di Storia della Scienza*, published in January 1976, Maria Luisa Righini Bonelli advocated the need for a new kind of journal mostly devoted to the history of instrument making, scientific heritage and more generally to the relations between arts and science. At that time the *Annali* were the only journal focussed on these topics and it attracted the attention of many authoritative scholars who, despite its limited distribution, collaborated with pioneering essays.

The task of the *Annali* was taken up by *Nuncius* in 1986, when the Journal changed publisher and it progressively expanded its domain by becoming a successful international journal devoted to all possible aspects of the history of science and technology. Today we are faced with a new change which we hope will be as successful as the preceding ones. A new publisher, Brill, is taking over *Nuncius* and is offering us new opportunities to enhance our international vocation and making the whole digital collection of articles, newsletter, reviews and supplements available on the web. With this change in place we thought it a good time, in the light of its rich history, to rethink *Nuncius'* editorial profile and to explore familiar territories with new eyes.

The investigation and enhancement of primary sources will still be privileged as the main core of the journal but, with so many professional journals in the field, we thought that a comprehensive scope was no longer a suitable feature for *Nuncius*. Being a journal published from the Museo Galileo, it seems natural that *Nuncius* should profit from the daily interaction with collections, artefacts, instruments and visual aids. This peculiar institutional setting is in fact the main reason why we feel the need to sharpen *Nuncius'* identity. The new subtitle "Journal of the material and visual history of science", inspired by Bonelli's *Annali*, aims at focussing on the historical role of material and visual culture in science.

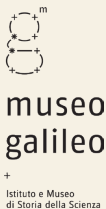
Nuncius' new direction will be visible also in other features of the journal. We intend to devote an issue every year to a monographic theme which may be either the result of a seminar or of a proposal coming from our readers and contributors. Either case will be submitted to a peer-reviewed examination. By publishing some 100 reviews every year, in the past six years we have devoted a particular attention to overview comprehensively the literature of the field. *Nuncius'* new focus suggests a more selective choice of the books to be reviewed and this will give more space for articles and essays. The newsletter, which gives an account of the activities of the Museo Galileo, will be published exclusively in electronic form on the web site of the Museum www.museogalileo.it. Furthermore, *Nuncius'* attention for documentary history prompted us to open a new section, *Documenta inedita*, devoted to the publication of original documents.

These changes will hopefully meet the expectations of old and new readers and will prompt them to enrich our endeavours with innovative proposals and contributions.



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