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ISSUE INTRODUCTION

It is with great satisfaction that we present to the academic community a new issue of *ANAMORPHOSIS – International Journal of Law and Literature*, a publication of the Rede Brasileira Direito e Literatura (RDL), whose purpose is to disseminate national and foreign scientific articles aimed at producing interdisciplinary knowledge in the area of studies and investigations of Law and Literature.

The *ARTICLES* section is composed of thirteen papers, four of which are written by foreign authors, and nine by Brazilian authors.

This second issue of 2018 begins with the essay by Roberto González Echevarria, who is a literary critic and a renowned professor at the University of Yale (United States). His article addresses the question of race and law in Cuba in the early nineteenth century, based on the historical novel *Cecilia Valdés*, by Cirilo Villaverde, an independentist, abolitionist Cuban writer, exiled in New York in 1882.

Daniela Carpi, president of the Italian Association of Law and Literature, and professor at the University of Verona (Italy), brings the play *The devil's law case*, by the English playwright John Webster, to discuss the seventeenth-century mercantile world, characterized by the achievement of all types of contracts and the centrality of the role played by the lawyer.

Fábio Perin Shecaira, from Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, questions the moral value of literature for jurists. On the one hand, he problematizes the shared idea between Robin West, Matha Nussbaum and Lynn Hunt that literature has the capacity of “humanizing” the reader, given the absence of empirical studies that prove it. On the other hand, he recognizes that literature can sophisticate the understanding about moral and social dilemmas.

Ramiro Avila Santamaría, from Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar (Ecuador), assumes the contemporary challenge of the need for transforming reality. After problematizing the traditional conception of

reality, his paper suggests that it is only possible to represent the world around us, this representation being always provisional and subject to modifications. Law plays a decisive role in the formation and ordering of the world as we know it. If the world requires transformation, so should the law. However, the transformation of reality demands feasible life projects, even if always seeking for something better. This utopia requires imagination. Literature is a privileged way to feed such imagination, and it enables criticism, and thus the reformulation of the Law.

Marcelo Campos Galuppo, from Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Minas Gerais and Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, analyzes the concept of authorship to understand the production of normative texts, whit Cervantes and Borges. In the Law and Literature area, the aim of the paper is to determine who can be seen as the author of the Constitution and how the interpreter occupies such author's place. Such a problem can be better understood if the constitutional text is conceived as a mirror. With this, the author proposes that the Constitution be understood from the tension between its meaning and its reference.

Ligia Maria Bremer, from Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, brings into view *Don Quixote de la Mancha* by Cervantes, in order to critically present the theme of law and justice. In the light of the paradigm of intertextuality, her paper examines the advice given by Quixote to Sancho Panza, before the latter becomes the ruler of the island of Barataria.

Gretha Leite Maia, from Universidade Federal do Ceará, considers that the several constituting aspects of the law can be understood through the analysis of different forms of reporting. The paper investigates the *Law on theft of fallen wood* and its impact in Germany during the nineteenth century, especially due to the criticism formulated in the journalistic writings by Karl Marx, which are supposedly based on the tale of *Hansel and Gretel*. It concludes that the literary narrative can be a form of reaction to the consequences of a certain law, allowing its debate and revision.

Gabrielle Bezerra Sales Sarlet, from Centro Universitário Ritter dos Reis, proposes a study on the right to *in vitro* fertilization in Brazil, recognized by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights during the *Artavia Murrillo* case. Her study is developed from the perspective of Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*, and from the text of the resolution by

the Federal Council of Medicine, as well as other norms that integrate the Brazilian protective system.

Cristina Monereo Atienza, from Universidad de Málaga (Spain), presents an article that discusses narrative and gender, by analyzing two literary works that refer to the origins of the feminist movement and conceive a critique of patriarchal society, the division of roles and the marginalized conception of women: *Villette*, by Charlotte Brontë; and *Insolación*, by Emilia Pardo Bazán.

Henriete Karam, editor of *Anamorphosis* and professor at Centro Universitário FG, studies José Saramago's "poetics of sight" – which is made explicit in the metaphorical dimensions of seeing, looking and observing present in the novel *Blindness*. The aim of the paper is to reflect on the different epistemological matrices adopted in the field of Law, especially with regard to hermeneutics and law interpretation.

Fayga Silvira Bedê and Raphaella Prado Aragão de Sousa, both from Centro Universitário Christus, propose the articulation between literature and writing in the scope of legal research. They support, metaphorically, an aesthetic of creation applied to the Law, that is, the style, the multiple functions of language and the slow pace of literary creation could provide a more authorial writing, which should be, therefore, better able to highlight relevant narrative and argumentative aspects in the field of Law, whose current researchers may be hindered by the speed of the digital era and the demands for scientific productivism.

Luciana Rocha Narciso and Vera Karam de Chueiri, both from Universidade Federal de Curitiba, introduce the *Curitiba Lê Program*, instituted by the government of the Brazilian city of Curitiba, with the aim of providing the community with access to reading and literature. The research addresses the cultural right to reading as a fundamental right for a dignified life, based on the principles of equality and freedom. However, the exercise of cultural rights, through public policies that make it viable, requires a model of dialogic and deliberative democracy, according to the theories of Jürgen Habermas, Carlos Santiago Nino and Roberto Gargarella.

Angela Araujo da Silveira Espindola, from Universidade Federal de Santa Maria and Centro Universitário FG, inspired by the short story *The man who mistook his wife for a hat*, by Oliver Sacks, seeks to highlight possible interfaces between Law and Literature in the field of judicial decision, problematizing the issue of activism and interpretive limits in the context of thirty years of the Brazilian Constitution of 1988.

The *INTERVIEW* section aims at creating a space for dialogue with researchers who are seen as exponents in Law and Literature studies, in order to enable the permanent exchange of ideas and the interaction of points of view, and to bring researchers and readers closer together.

In this issue, we are happy to present the interview given by Lenio Luiz Streck, one of the most important Brazilian jurists of our time, who tells us about the inspiration he takes from the work by Luis Alberto Warat, the importance of the conceptual apparatus of literary theory and of semiotics for juridical reflection and his experience at the head of the television program *Law & Literature*, which is weekly screened nationally in Brazil by TV Justiça.

We thank our authors, as well as the reviewers, who, anonymously, have participated in the submission processes, the translators, and the editorial team. Without the commitment and collaboration of all, this magazine – the first fully multilingual Brazilian publication in the multidisciplinary area of Law, Language and Literature – would not be a reality.

May the texts published here serve to open new fields for legal research, at the most diverse education levels (undergraduate, master's and doctorate). These are our sincere wishes.

Enjoy!

Prof. Dr. André Karam Trindade
Prof^a Dr^a. Henriete Karam
Lead editors