

Francesco LUBIAN, 2011



My name is Francesco Lubian, and I studied Classics at the University of Padua. During my first Master year I applied for an Erasmus exchange at Heidelberg University, where I spent seven months between September 2009 and March 2010, both to improve my German and to start writing my thesis in an international and stimulating University. I decided the topic of my thesis in August

2009, before leaving for Heidelberg, together with my Italian supervisors: my aim was to write the first linguistic and exegetical commentary on the shortest poem by the Late Antique Latin poet Prudentius, named Dittochaeon.

I can say that my Erasmus exchange has been very important for my thesis, mainly because of the many stimulating conversations I could have with German professors. Also the richness of Heidelberg University Library turned out to be very important for my work: I am quite sure that I could not have reached such a bibliographical completeness if I had stayed in Italy.

I returned to Italy in March 2010, and I continued writing my thesis with the fundamental support of my Italian supervisors; the work, with the title "Omnia conveniunt Christo. A translation and commentary of Prudentius' Dittochaeon", was defended on July, 7th 2010.

I am convinced that my Erasmus stay has been more than an enriching experience: it really opened my mind; it gave me an international outlook that I did not have before, and changed the way I think of myself as a young post-graduate.

I am very happy and honoured of having being awarded the Arenberg Prize 2011, because it is an important confirmation that international experiences are really precious for both personal and academic growth, and it also encourages me to further my international approach to my PhD research activity I am now beginning.