

## Goethe in Time of Changing

### Goethe im Umbruch

Goethe was always very attentive to the upheavals that characterized the era in which he lived, regardless of his “political” or “cultural” evaluation concerning these same changes. Who studied the texts of Giuliano Baioni knows well that the “Italian” approach to Goethe’s work goes through the upheavals that characterized his youth with the overcoming of the *Empfindsamkeit* poetics and the long confrontation he had with the ideals of French revolution, with which he in some ways contrasted, but at last he recognized as winners. We can say that Goethe has had towards the historical-cultural events, that have characterized his long life, the attitude of the scientist: the problem does not arise if a phenomenon is good or bad, but through the careful observation and experimental verification, one has to take note of it. This approach is brilliantly summarized in one of his maxims: “Do not look for the theory beyond the facts: they are already in themselves theory”.

This issue of “links” aims to analyze how this scientific attitude has had an influence on the drafting of some works of Goethe produced in moments of great upheavals and how he has represented these cultural “turns”. Perhaps we can say that, in the constant search for “Self-Overcoming”, which Goethe expresses well in his concept of “*streben*”, he has performed his best in seeking new languages, new narratives, new poetics to communicate with the public of “new times”.

And perhaps just this is the lesson that Goethe gives to the readers (and, even more so, to the writers) of the following generations: we must not remain anchored to old mental schemes and situations now definitively overcome by history, but we must look for and find new languages, new forms of artistic expression to give sense of literary writing

The proposals, in English (maximum 300 words), should be sent to the address:

**links.rivista@gmail.com** or to the editor of the journal, Mauro Ponzi, **mauro.ponzi@uniroma1.it**, by **November 15th, 2018**.

The editorial committee will evaluate the abstracts and convey to the authors the papers that have been accepted for “links” 18. Authors shall receive positive or negative response before **December 15th, 2018**. They should then send their contribution by **February 15th, 2019**.

“Links” is a peer review journal Links and hence the essays will be subject to the evaluation of anonymous referees.

Contributions can be written in English, German, French or Italian and should not exceed **35.000 characters**.

#### Timing:

- - The abstract in English (maximum 300 words) should be sent by **November 15th, 2018**
- - The editorial committee will communicate which essays will be considered by **December 15th, 2018**
- - The authors have to send the essays (**max. 35.000 characters**) by **February 15th, 2019**
- - The referee’s evaluation will be communicate by **April 1st, 2019**
- - Closing: **May 15th, 2019**