

## INTRODUCTION

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This special issue of *L'Analisi linguistica e letteraria* is devoted to Vasily Grossman's literary and philosophical legacy. The articles presented here originated from the papers delivered at the Fourth International Grossman Conference, held on November 9–10, 2023, at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan, organized in collaboration with the “Study Center Vasily Grossman”. This issue showcases a variety of approaches to Grossman's work, combining archival research, literary analysis, and philosophical inquiry.

The first article by Julia Volokhova and Anna Krasnikova, *Vasily Grossman's Correspondence: New Findings*, presents recent discoveries from the Grossman-Guber family archive. The authors examine newly uncovered letters between Grossman, his father, and his wife Olga Guber – a significant addition that enriches the corpus presented at the conference. These letters provide fresh insights into Grossman's personal relationships, wartime experiences, and the challenges he faced in publishing his novel *Stalingrad*.

Olga Rosenblum's contribution, *Between the State's Devilish Temptation and the Possibility of Repentance: Cains and Judases in Vasily Grossman's Novel Everything Flows* examines Grossman's reflections on guilt, repentance, and civic survival in the Soviet context. According to Rosenblum, Grossman engages here in a polemic with Veniamin Kaverin and employs the symbolic figures of Cain and Judas to classify the guilt of those who preserved their civic lives at the expense of those who endured years in labor camps.

Giovanni Maddalena's article, *Different Interpretations of Grossman's Philosophy in Early Western Reception: Lévinas, Todorov, Giussani*, explores the philosophical dimensions of Grossman's work. The author analyzes how thinkers such as Emmanuel Lévinas, Tzvetan Todorov, and Luigi Giussani interpreted Grossman's writing. These interpretations highlight Grossman's role in advancing ethics beyond metaphysics, developing a new form of Enlightenment humanism, and engaging with religious reasoning. The article proposes new perspectives on Grossman's realism, which could be defined as metaphysical.

Anna De Ponti's article, *Updating the Vasily Grossman Digital Documentation Center: New Translations and the Spanish Case Study* provides an overview of the evolution of the Grossman Documentation Center (available for consultation on the website of the Study Center Vasily Grossman) over the past decade. De Ponti discusses recent updates to the

platform, created to promote the knowledge of Grossman's work and the accessibility of critical studies dedicated to him, new translations of Grossman's major works, and the growing interest in Grossman's reception, especially in Spain.

The present issue concludes with essays by two prominent translators of Grossman's works: Robert Chandler and Claudia Zonghetti. Their reflections provide valuable insights into the complexities of translating Grossman's literary voice and ensuring his legacy reaches contemporary audiences.

Taken together, these contributions offer a rich and multifaceted exploration of Vasily Grossman's work, reaffirming his significance as a major literary figure and a profound thinker. At the same time, parts of his legacy remain unpublished in archives (and their rediscovery is eagerly anticipated), and many facets of his work still require critical investigation. Future research will undoubtedly continue to shed new light on Grossman's oeuvre and its broader significance.