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Nathalie Nercam,
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EDITORIAL

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Ottawa

The current volume of the *Plato Journal* constitutes an important turning point in the history of the journal and as such is characterized by both the old and the new. What is 'old' is that here, as in the last volume, we have a collection of very strong papers displaying a wide diversity of approaches and topics. The goal of the journal continues to be what it always has been: to disseminate important new research on Plato and the Platonic tradition, just as the goal of the International Plato Society is to promote and provide an international venue for such research. But the journal has now a new look and, far from being something purely cosmetic, this new look represents a major change in the journal's profile and standing. For the first time the journal has a publisher and this not only improves the look of the journal, but also gives it the same standing as print journals in the field when it comes to citation, indexing and access. Furthermore, the journal will now be both an electronic and print journal in that the publisher will make printed copies available on demand. In short, the journal now and for the

first time has the form that its content merits. This will make it more attractive and more useful both as a venue for publishing one's own work and as a source for consulting current research in the field. For this we owe a debt of gratitude to the current president of the International Plato Society, Gabriele Cornelli, who from the very start of his mandate made it a priority to improve the standing and visibility of the journal and who found the right publisher for this end.

There have been internal changes as well. After some years as sole editor, including for the present volume, I have now been joined by two co-editors: Irmgard Maennlein-Robert of the University of Tübingen and Angela Ulacco of the University of Freiburg. We can only expect and hope that the workload for the journal will increase in coming years and this expansion of the editorial board will enable the journal to cope with this increasing workload. In particular, this expansion, along with a new Scientific Committee drawn from members of the Advisory Board of the International Plato Society, will help speed up the review process that has been rather slow in this transitional year.

Finally, I wish to thank, first, those who submitted their work to the journal this last year, not only those whose work is included in the present volume, but also those whose submissions had to be rejected as a result of the rigorous and blind evaluation process that the journal needs and wishes to maintain. The journal, like any other journal, can succeed only as long as there are scholars willing to submit their work to it for evaluation and indeed many more than those whose work will ultimately be published within it. But the success of the journal also depends, of course, on the evaluators who must sacrifice a significant amount of their precious time for work that is anonymous and uncompensated. They too must receive our thanks; this volume is their work as much as that of anyone else.