

The Comte de Caylus (1692-1765) and His Milieu: The Respublica Literaria

Marc Fumaroli

2001 Balzan Prize for Literary History and Criticism (post 1500)

Balzan GPC Advisers: Walter Rüegg†, Karlheinz Stierle

Main Researchers: Xavier Dufestel, Cordélia Hattori, Nicola Iodice

Affiliated Institution: Institut de France

Period: 2001-2011

Marc Fumaroli is Professor at the Collège de France, where he has held the chair in Rhétorique et société en Europe (XVI^e-XVII^e siècles) from 1986 to 2002. He is also a member of the Académie Française and Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres. With the second half of his Balzan Prize, Fumaroli involved three young scholars in a long-term study of the life and works of Anne-Claude-Philippe de Pestels de Lévis de Thubières-Grimoard, comte de Caylus (1692-1765) and of his milieu. The funds were also used for an array of cultural initiatives (conferences, symposia and academic lectures) which were instrumental to the realization of a more comprehensive plan, i.e., the foundation of an interdisciplinary research institute on the history of the Republic of Letters. The Institut européen d'histoire de la République des Lettres – *Respublica Literaria* – was officially established in 2006, with support from the Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche as well as the Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, and is now based at the École normale supérieure de Paris. The administration of the Balzan funds was entrusted to the Institut de France.

Cordélia Hattori (Musée de Lille) worked mainly on the official documents, which shed light on the finances of comte de Caylus, his genealogy and his many relationships, including his influence on the Académie Royale de Peinture et de Sculpture and on the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres. Nicola Iodice focused on his correspondence and, in collaboration with Xavier Dufestel, determined the precise chronology of his life, his studies and his intellectual and personal relationships. *Le comte de Caylus, Mémoires et Carnets des voyages*, édition intégrale, annotée et

illustrée by Jacqueline Hellegouarch, Cordélia Hattori, Catherine Hémon-Fabre, under the direction of Marc Fumaroli in the collection *République des Lettres, République des Arts* has yet to be published.

Publications

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- Fumaroli, M. *La République des lettres*. Collection Bibliothèque des Histoires. Paris: Gallimard, 2015.
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