

Joseph Justus Scaliger (1540-1609): Edition of the Correspondence

Anthony Grafton

2002 Balzan Prize for the History of the Humanities

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Website: https://warburg.sas.ac.uk/research/research-projects#Projects_Scaliger

Anthony Grafton is Henry Putnam University Professor of History at Princeton University. Half of his 2002 Balzan Prize was devoted to the creation of a complete critical edition of the correspondence of the great French humanist and historian Joseph Justus Scaliger (1540-1609), recognized in an era of great encyclopaedic minds as the most learned man in Europe, as documented in Grafton's fundamental biography of Scaliger (*Joseph Scaliger. A Study in the History of Classical Scholarship*, Vol. I. *Textual Criticism and Exegesis*, Oxford 1983; Vol. II. *Historical Chronology*, Oxford 1993). Despite Scaliger's central role in the transnational community of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, his letters, in French and Latin, are especially rich, but they had never been edited or analysed as a whole.

Thus the Scaliger Project was established at the Warburg Institute in September 2003 by Professor Anthony Grafton, and two editors, Dr. Paul Botley and Dr. Dirk van Miert, were appointed to undertake this task. The surviving correspondence of Joseph Scaliger amounts to some 1,650 letters, written between 1561 and 1609. The entire correspondence has been transcribed and collated with its extant sources; this text has been edited and provided with a full textual apparatus; every letter has been provided with textual and contextual headnotes as well as an English synopsis.

Publications

Botley, Paul and Dirk van Miert, eds. *The Correspondence of Joseph Justus Scaliger*. Travaux d'Humanisme et Renaissance. 8 volumes. Geneva: Droz, 2012.