

Editorial

Issue no. 4 of *Amaltea. Journal of Myth Criticism* focuses on Prometheus the Rebel. The Titan that challenged the sovereign power of Zeus by offering fire to mankind is one of the great mythological rebels, as Aeschylus showed in his homonymous tragedy. This myth, both in its *Prometheus Pyrophoros* and *Prometheus Plasticator* variants, has been controversial throughout the ages. By the 19th century, Prometheus had become a symbol: that of oppressed mankind striving to break its chains. That is how Marxism and the working class movements assimilated the myth, demanding the arrival of a new liberator of the proletariat. Authors like Goethe (*Prometheus*) or Percy B. Shelley (*Prometheus Unbound*) were seduced by the strength of this mythological character, whose transgression was also innovatively treated during the same century (Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein; or the Modern Prometheus*).

During the 20th and 21st century, the figure of Prometheus continues to attract artistic creation. This number of *Amaltea* offers different contemporary interpretations of the myth. The study of the different Prometheus by Carl Spitteler is a metaliterary essay on the complexities of being an artist, such as the authentic and false grandeur. The article on *El payador* by Leopoldo Lugones shows the configuration of the 'gaucho' as a character related to Prometheus: both are rebel agents, civilizing and punished. The reflection on Albert Camus revolves around a Prometheus introduced in the secular history of creation. The article on *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury investigates the Promethean features in a heart-rending dystopia for the cultural world. The analysis on *El hereje* by Miguel Delibes draws a parallel between the mythologem of man and his rebellion against the law and the main mythemes of Aeschylus' *Prometheus*. The Miscellaneous section includes a suggestive reading of *Till We Have Faces* by C.S. Lewis as a version of Apuleius' myth.

Among the numerous articles received, the Coordinating Team, after a previous and anonymous report by at least two reviewers, has selected those published here. Taking into account the statutes of the Journal, the authors of the contributions have had complete freedom in the choice of works, literary genres, and the epistemological treatment.

We would like to thank all the authors for their efforts and their invaluable contributions. We sincerely hope that our readers enjoy this issue.

José Manuel Losada. General Editor of *Amaltea. Journal of Myth Criticism*.

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