

Preface

This commemorative publication is in many respects an international project. The editors come from three nations, the publisher from a fourth and the many authors of both volumes belong to three continents.

Refordis Verlag in Vienna, grasped the nettle to publish this Festschrift in honour of Alessandro Sanvito during his 70th year. In German speaking countries commemorative publications have a long tradition – in Italy this seems not to be so deeply ingrained and is rather limited to universities.

Both volumes of this Festschrift are a token of our respect for a *chess researcher* – to use the jubilarian's preferred term – who has been continuing, admirably, the work of Adriano Chicco, the greatest Italian chess historian of the 20th century.

An intended spin-off of this project has been the creation of an opportunity for the sharing of information by offering authors a chance to become acquainted with colleagues of different nationalities. Within the realms of possibility we have tried to surmount the language barriers by means of translations.

New and different international cooperation arose during the progress of this project, as can be noted occasionally in the acknowledgements, but mostly this happened »behind the scenes«. This international cooperation is a positive spin-off of this book project and will be continued in the future. This can spark off new research and should result in a deeper and more fruitful sharing of information on chess.

All authors, co-workers and translators of the worthy articles in this Festschrift contributed their work free of charge. This was work which they could often only do alongside their professional job but they were happy to be engaged in this way in honour of Alessandro Sanvito. We thank them most sincerely for their unpaid labours.

The editors:

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