

To Our Readers

Sergii Bulgakov (1871–1944) was born 150 years ago, yet the significance of his life and ideas for the twenty-first century is undiminished. Nevertheless, it was with some trepidation that the editorial staff of *The Wheel* began planning this special issue on Bulgakov’s legacy. We have always considered *The Wheel* to be a journal designed for the knowledgeable but not necessarily specialist reader. Some of Bulgakov’s vocabulary is a challenge for even the most theologically and philosophically informed. Yet the richness of his contribution across several different intellectual disciplines convinced us that grappling with his ideas was worth the effort.

We are most grateful to our guest editor Nikolaos Asproulis, who engaged a group of world-renowned scholars to write on Bulgakov’s thinking and brought a clear intellectual structure to the issue. Asproulis’s foreword contains some introductory remarks that many of our readers will find helpful. Andrej Strocac’s graphic biography offers an overview of Bulgakov’s eventful life. Those unfamiliar with the complexities of Bulgakov’s thinking and vocabulary will also want to read the essays by Aristotle Papanikolaou and Rowan Williams before venturing on. Beyond that, the order of articles as they appear in the issue reflects our efforts to organize Bulgakov’s thought under three broad rubrics: general theological topics, aesthetics and art, and challenges to modern Christian thought across several disciplines.

Lastly, it should be noted that there are many variations in the ways that Russian names are spelled in Western languages. We have striven to maintain editorial consistency by choosing a single English-language spelling of each name.