

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The book you have before you was begun by me over twenty years ago and intended only as a journal article. After a number of journals turned it down and it began to expand in size beyond that of a journal article, I put it away for many years in the desk drawer. Every once in a while, I would take it out, brush off the dust, make a correction, change, or addition, and share it with a colleague or student. Usually the reaction was a polite silence until I showed it to Christian Raffensperger, Professor of History at Wittenberg University (Ohio), who remarked that the subject matter and length was the type of short book Arc Humanities Press might be looking for. Thank you, Chris.

An early supporter of the article form of the piece was the Harvard University Byzantine-Slavic specialist Ihor Ševčenko (1922–2009), who could be, and often was, a harsh critic of a number of other things that I wrote. For some reason, this piece appealed to him. At a time when I was grasping for any encouraging straws he provided a supportive hand.

Sigrid Howest, head of the Münster Press Office, arranged for a photographer to take the cover photo of the wood carving *Dialectica*, which is located in the Hall of Peace in Münster, and provided copyright permission to use it on the cover of this book.

Pamela Matz, a candidate for a Master of Liberal Arts (ALM) degree with a focus on Medieval Studies at the Harvard University Extension School, tracked down bibliographic items related to the topic as part of her duties as a faculty research assistant.

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