

## EDITORS' PREFACE

We are happy to bring to our readers another collection of articles investigating various aspects of cultural relations between Poland and English-speaking nations. The articles span some 250 years of history. In the opening text, Krzysztof Konstanty Vorbrich offers a discussion of the memoirs of Johann and George Forsters, two Polish-born scholars and travellers who were able to participate in James Cook's Second Voyage in the years 1772-1775. The second article investigates the attempts to modernize Polish agriculture in the 19<sup>th</sup> century following the British patterns. Klaudiusz Bobowski discusses the British efforts to propagate British culture among Poles, both those who found themselves in the United Kingdom during World War II and often stayed there after the war, as well as those who had to face the dramatically changed political reality of Poland as it was made part of the Soviet sphere of influence. In Dominika Buchowska's article the reader will find an examination of the approach to teaching art that was developed by the Polish-Jewish artist David Bomberg (1890-1957), leader of the British avant-garde Borough Group, and of the impact that Bomberg's teaching had on his students. Mark Keck-Szajbel presents seldom discussed aspects of the history of travel culture in Poland: the birth of *autostop*, a hitchhiking programme, in the late 1950s, and the "Borders of Friendship" project, which opened borders between Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia in the early 1970s; he also discusses the reactions to these projects on both sides of the Iron Curtain. Jacob Juntunen's article explores the American press's perception of the performances of the Polish theatrical troupe Cricot 2 in the United States in the charged political context of the 1984 Olympic Games. Zuzana Buchowska offers an account of the history and content of "Tawacin", a respected Polish journal devoted to various aspects of Native American culture. Finally, Maciej Łuczak and Tomasz Skirecki's article discusses the highly significant presence of Polish coaches in American fencing in the post-1989 period.

The reviews section brings three reviews: Aniela Korzeniowska's review of Krzysztof Konstanty Vorbrich's study of selected aspects of the Forsters' memoirs; Zuzana Buchowska's review of Marek Grajek's book on the work and role of Polish cryptologists in the breaking of the German Enigma codes before and during World War II; and Janusz Kaźmierczak's review of Joanna Witkowska's study of the image of the United Kingdom in the Polish press in the Stalinist period.

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It is our pleasure to invite the readers to get acquainted with the articles and reviews published in the present volume.

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