patterns, it approaches most closely to Michelangelo's transparent candour and fiery intensity. On occasion the reader is swept up into lyrical-or agonized- confrontation with the soul of the creator; one could only wish that such occasions were more numerous.

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Charles B. Schmitt. *A Critical Survey and Bibliography of Studies on Renaissance Aristotelianism 1958-1969*. Padova: Editrice Antenore, 1971. Pp. 196. L. 3000.

Undoubtedly the most pervasive intellectual influence in the Renaissance period was Aristotelianism, or "the varieties of Aristotelianism" as the author of this study puts it. In one way or another Aristotle and his commentators affected every area of European intellectual endeavor during c. 1400-c. 1650, the period under discussion in this bibliography. The author, at present a research fellow in the history and philosophy of science at the University of Leeds, has analysed the scholarship on Renaissance Aristotelianism for the period 1958-1969, surveying over 600 items, including a number of unpublished dissertations by Kristeller's students at Columbia. These studies, primarily in the periodical literature, cover the history of Renaissance Aristotelianism in Portugal, Spain, especially Italy, England, France, the Low Countries, Germany, and Poland.

A quick review of the dominant general interpretations begins the book. Then after reviewing bibliographical works, editions, translations, and textual criticism, he moves on to the secondary literature. In each case he groups them into subject and geographical categories, and systematically works his way from the general to the particular. Always the author keeps in mind the needs of scholars in a variety of fields. Schmitt's *Survey* also lives up to its title of "critical": he does not hesitate to evaluate, to point out inadequacies, and to take issue. All this is quite useful for, indeed, there is much mistaken information abroad on even such a key figure as Pomponazzi. And even when one disagrees with the author, his comments are intelligent and a good point of reference.

In the last chapter he notes areas where future work needs to be done. Especially needed is basic research behind the walls of Renaissance universities: what was taught? who were the professors? what was their background? Schmitt also points out that the problem of what he aptly calls "the escape from the Aristotelian predicament" in the late Renaissance needs more study. Even while intellectuals sought to demolish the Aristotelian worldview, they sometimes used Aristotelian cudgels, a kind of intellectual cannibalism. Finally, the bibliography is simply organized and the index accurate, making the book easy to use.

This reader was surprised at the amount of scholarship (including Schmitt's own contributions) done in the past dozen years. The author has performed a valuable service in providing this guide to it, and the publisher is to be congratulated for making it available for less than \$5.

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