

Preface

In 1981 Professor Tomonobu Imamichi began a series of symposia on eco-ethica. Since 1983 the proceedings of the symposia have been published with the editorial assistance of Professor Noriko Hashimoto. Publication began in the *Revue Internationale de Philosophie* and two years later, beginning with the third volume, they have appeared in *Revue Internationale de Philosophie Moderne*, with the subtitle: *Acta Institutionis Philosophiae et Aestheticae*. The series now extends to 24 volumes.

It is this review that now appears under the new title: *Eco-ethica*. This change is connected to the creation in 2007 of the *Tomonobu Imamichi Institute for Eco-ethica*. The institute was formally established by Tomonobu Imamichi (President), Peter Kemp (Vice-president), Peter McCormick, Robert Bernasconi and Noriko Hashimoto (Secretary General). They constitute today, together with David Rasmussen, the Board of the Institute, which has now also taken over responsibility for the publication of the review. At a meeting in Tokyo in February 2010 the board decided upon the new title and agreed that the review could in future publish not only papers from the proceedings of the eco-ethica symposia but also other contributions. The editors of the review are Professor Noriko Hashimoto and myself.

The current volume, volume 25, contains the proceedings of the 26th International Symposium of Eco-ethica held from the 26th till the 29th of September 2007 at the Conference Center Skjoldenæsholm, at Jystrup, Denmark and on 25th of September at The Center for Ethics and Law in Copenhagen. Under the general topic "Eco-ethica: Rethinking Ethics Today" papers were presented under the sub-headings, 1) Nature and the City, 2) World and Law, 3) Society and Culture. The symposium was composed of eighteen invited international scholars who stayed at the Ibsen Hotel and. at the Conference Center Skjoldenæsholm. On the evening, 1st October 2007 the participants were invited to a diner at The French Embassy in Copenhagen.

We are grateful to the editor of the *Archivio di Filosofia*, Professor Stefano Semplici for allowing us to enlarge this volume by publishing his article "The impossibility of the Ought", a paper read at the Castelli Colloquium in Rome, 4-7 January 2010 on the theme "The Impossible" that has been published in the *Archivio di Filosofia*, LXXVIII, 2010, N.1, and my article «The exceptionality of the Ought. Olivetti and Eco-ethica», published in *Marco Maria Olivetti. Un Filosofo della religione, Archivio di Filosofia*, LXXVI, 2008, N.3. Together with Tomonobu Imamichi's obituary « In Memoriam Marco Olivetti » these contributions are included here with the intention of making this issue of *Eco-ethica* a fitting tribute to Marco M. Olivetti, who was a permanent and wise member of the eco-ethica symposia from their beginning in 1981. This issue is dedicated to him.

Copenhagen, the 1st of September 2011

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