

Medieval Latin authors: authority list and authority file

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[Gamberini]

The authority control for Medieval Latin literature presents a particularly delicate and complex problem for many reasons. A vast literary production has reached us, in fact, from the thousand years which form the Medieval Age: over ten thousand authors and a formidable number of anonymous works are known. As is recognised, a large part of this literature is still unpublished and much is even entirely unknown, since a complete census of the manuscript patrimony of the European libraries is still far from being finished. The lack of editions inevitably results in a shortage of historical-literary studies; nevertheless discoveries of new authors and attribution of anonymous works to previously recognised authors follow closely one after another every year. In this way the large reference works get older with discouraging speed, obliging those who edit them to chase after a constantly increasing quantity of material using a science where insistent, substantial progress renders every attempt to obtain a definitive order of the knowledge attained both insufficient and inadequate. The first necessity which continues to be hard to satisfy for the person who is compiling a biographical, bibliographical or historical reference work in the field of medieval literature, is to be able to depend on a reliable author list, a list which forms a solid starting point for the planning of the work and a help in resolving some of the frequent identification problems. Such a requirement is obviously shared by those who work with the cataloguing of printed books and manuscripts, as well as by scholars who occasionally have to measure themselves against extremely varied and uncertain nominal forms.

Since there is no reliable census of authors, the authority control for medieval Latinity often requires original researches, which in turn demand qualified competence. The idea of elaborating a new authority list developed, as a result, within the ‘Società Internazionale per lo Studio del Medioevo Latino’ and the ‘Fondazione Franceschini’, including all those authors who wrote in Latin between 500 and 1500. For these institutions the problem in authority control is present on several fronts: the production of bibliographical instruments (the ‘Medioevo Latino’ newsletter and the *C.A.L.M.A.* reference work), manuscript cataloguing (the *Codex* project), and the production of the library catalogue for these two bodies, highly specialized in medieval Latin literature. Bearing in mind, therefore, the different users and taking advantage of their collaboration for definitions of

research criteria and standards for its implementation, the *BISLAM* Project (*Bibliotheca Scriptorum Latinorum Medii Recentiorisque Aevi*) was launched, with the aim of producing useful instruments for authority control in the field of Latin literature.

The first of these instruments, called ‘Gli Autori in “Medioevo Latino”’ (available in CD-ROM and a printed volume), includes about 12,500 nominal voices, referring to over 5,300 authors. To obtain results which were consistent with the most recent acquisitions in medieval Latin philology, the authors chosen for the first volume of *BISLAM* were those listed in the “Medioevo Latino” volumes between 1980-2000, that is, those authors who have been the subject of the most recent studies. Using such a bibliographical base (made up of about 140,000 essays and editions shown with back reference to the “Medioevo Latino” entry number) as well as more up to date and reliable reference works, a group of eleven medievalists examined each single nominal voice, standardizing the names according to prearranged standards and recording the main onomastic variants in Latin, and in the case of bilingual authors, in vernacular. The compilation did not only have a pragmatic and formalistic scope, but attempted to supply a scientific answer to the identification problems related to many authors. Homonyms which are often confused, as for example the two *Iohannes de Garlandia* (see appendix, A), or the seven *Iohannes Diaconus* (see appendix, B), have been distinguished by not only linking the secondary form given to their name to each entry, but also by referring to the most recent bibliography on each author. Apart from homonymy, one of the principle identification difficulties is the variety of nominal voices testified by the handwritten tradition, which could be the mistaken cause of different headings for the same author. Such situations have been resolved through a series of historical-literary controls sometimes associated with an examination of the contents of the manuscripts. In some situations it was necessary to select from the variants of the author’s name, as with *Iohannes de Hauvilla*, traditionally named in more than thirty different ways, but only three of which are acceptable from a historical, linguistic or philological point of view (see appendix, C). A historical research has sometimes been necessary to be able to define primary and secondary headings, as with the jurist *Irnerius* (see appendix, D), who was always called “Irnerius” in the tradition of glosses and law history, but when undersigning acts as a judge he always signed in a different way (*Wernerus, Gernerius, Garnerius* etc.).

An Authority List of medieval Latin literature which, like *BISLAM*, aims for reliable results from a historical as well as philological point of view, which follows a scientific method appropriate to medieval Latin disciplines, and which avails of the contribution of specialized scholars, finishes therefore in not being a simple list of name headings, but a complete onomastic, historical-literary and bibliographical reference work.

As previously stated, the rapid evolution of Medieval Latin philology means that any reference work ages quickly, and, as such, the first volume of *BISLAM* does not claim to be a definitive instrument, but only the first stage of a research which will continue towards a constantly increasing knowledge of Medieval Latin authors.

[Donati]

The Authority File (AF) of the 'Biblioteca di Cultura Medievale' is a data base of onomastic forms and uniform titles (about 34,000 entries), resulting from the cataloguing of a specialized bibliographical patrimony with more than 110,000 units, covering a period from the classical to the humanistic age, and therein including literary genres, disciplines and texts which belong to the institutional history of the age, in either Latin or vernacular. Given the complexity and multiformity of the entries registered, the library has chosen a high degree of analytics for the syndetic and informative apparatus of the records related to authors and anonymous texts in the aforementioned period (about 5,300). Instruments and favourable circumstances rendered a systematic approach possible from the planning stage of the AF, in particular with reference to the adoption of new software for the library (ALEPH500), which was bought, among other reasons, for two criteria: to support completely the UNIMARC format and to allow a good interaction between the AF and the bibliographical catalogue. This is in reference, moreover, to the collaboration with *BISLAM*, as well as to the availability of a significant patrimony of specialized consulting instruments integrated with a systematic policy of bibliographical updating (230 reference works, 90 encyclopaedia, 24 repertories of incipits, several hundred manuscript catalogues, manuals, and the most authoritative critical editions). The AF was drawn up following a suitable staff training programme based on GARE, GSARE and *Unimarc/Authorities*, and based on R.I.C.A. as far as regards the contents of the archive and the criteria for the choice of the entries, without disregarding the cataloguing uses of other linguistic realities. Collaboration with *BISLAM* (authoritative source) represented an important opportunity both when it was necessary to distinguish between the characteristics of the respective products and different methodologies (see Appendix), and in the compilation stage.

One of the primary criteria in the creation of the AF was the choice of the language, together with a correct interpretation of cataloguing standards. Bearing in mind the international nature of the library users and the multilingualism of the bibliographical patrimony, the Latin language was privileged, with the necessary exceptions, following standards of consistency and uniformity. This choice was believed to be not only functional in the present situation, but also to conform to what

was agreed on in the Principles of Paris (the recommendations of the Meeting of Copenhagen in 1969, as well as GARR in 2001). In this way there was no doubt on the choice of Thomas de Aquino for the variety of linguistic forms provided by the editions owned by the library and potentially accessible for an initial research by the library users. In fact, it seemed that the only possible form was that most used in the original editions of the published works (or, better still, the more attested and recent critical editions), which is often that commonly quoted in the specialized reference works. A similar choice was adopted for authors who wrote both in Latin and vernacular, at least until the middle of the 14th century, or for authors who only produced a 'technical' form of literature (notaries, canonists, draftsmen of the law etc.). Following the same chronological criteria for the biographical subjects, Latin is the chosen linguistic form. Furthermore (for the same author) the subject entry is the same as the heading. Latin has not been used, in contrast, for authors who are universally quoted in the vernacular style such as 'Alighieri, Dante'. The most significant choice, however, is the high level of analytics which characterizes the syndetic apparatus of the AF cards: among other things this provides for the transcription of the forms present on the frontispiece and those proposed by the national bibliographies related to the place of origin of the author or of the texts described. Our experience as AF users and compilers has shown in fact that the authoritativeness of an AF is assured not only by the form chosen, but also by the richness of the syndetic apparatus, of the sources and informative notes present in each record, as well as by the links which connect the headings to each other. With regard to this, the ambiguous works and pseudo-epigraphs of Agostino are signalled among the enclosed examples. The cataloguing of works of controversial attribution (a frequent event in our catalogue) has a non-uniform character in R.I.C.A., which foresees an optional secondary heading for presumed authors, both in the common form and with the prefix 'pseudo' (if present on the frontispiece): moreover this latter one is only admitted by R.I.C.A. to express traditional onomastic forms such as pseudo-Dionigi. On the other hand, the titles of such works often lack a standard heading which is useful for their identification. The solution suggested by R.I.C.A. for bibliographical catalogues and to answer the question as to whether the library possesses a certain publication, is not suitable for an AF where each onomastic record must be connected in a uniform, univocal way to one or more anonymous works present in the bibliography. For all these cases both a univocal onomastic form and many uniform, possibly conventional, titles were fixed which connect up through reciprocal cross-references to this one voice and to all the onomastic forms to which the work is attributed. A numerical specification was introduced for works without a sufficiently identifiable title, obtained from the corresponding specialized reference work; where this is not possible, appropriate notes in the 'pseudo-author' file

help in the consultation of the catalogue. An analogous procedure was followed for the headings and subjects related to complex literary genre (such as liturgy or hagiology).

To conclude, it is necessary to favour the development of one of the AF functions which is asserting itself together with the characteristic of archive control/authority dynamically linked to the bibliographic, which is its function as an autonomous consulting and navigation instrument. Such a function assumes the introduction of conventional elements and links in the classification, for which both UNIMARC, R.I.C.A. and other data processing applications should show more openings and elasticity as far as regards both the structure of the sectors, and the automatisms of currently existing links.

APPENDIX

A)



BISLAM

[esporta](#) [risultati della ricerca](#) [esci](#)

<< < > >>

Iohannes de Garlandia Anglicus

Iohannes Anglicus de Garlandia
Iohannes Grammaticus Anglicus

Iohannes de Garlandia Gallicus

Iohannes de Gallandia
Iohannes Gallicus de Garlandia
Iohannes de Garlangia
Iohannes de Guerlandia
Iohannes de Guerlangia
Iohannes Primarius

B)



BISLAM
esporta risultati della ricerca esci

<< < > >>

Iohannes diaconus (fortasse Iohannes I papa)
Iohannes I papa

Iohannes diaconus Aragonensis
Iohannes Aragonensis diaconus
Iohannes Hispanus diaconus

Iohannes diaconus Legionensis
Iohannes Legionensis diaconus



BISLAM
esporta risultati della ricerca esci

<< < > >>

Iohannes diaconus Neapolitanus
Iohannes Neapolitanus diaconus

Iohannes Diaconus Romanus
Iohannes Romanus

Iohannes diaconus Venetus

Iohannes Hymonides, Romanus diaconus
Iohannes diaconus

C)

Iohannes de Hauvilla

Iohannes
Iohannes magister
Iohannes de Alta Villa
Iohannes de Altavilla
Iohannes de Alvilla
Iohannes de Annavilla
Iohannes Annaevillanus
Iohannes Annaevislanus
Iohannes de Anneville
Iohannes Antivillensis
Iohannes de Anvilla

Iohannes de Anville
Iohannes Anwillanus
Iohannes de Auville
Iohannes de Hainvyle
Iohannes de Hanteville
Iohannes de Hantivill
Iohannes de Hantvill
Iohannes Hantwillensis
Iohannes de Hanvill
Iohannes de Hanville
Iohannes de Hanvill

Iohannes Hanuwillensis
Iohannes de Hauteville
Iohannes de Hautivilla
Iohannes Hautvillensis
Iohannes de Hauviteville
Iohannes Hautwillus
Iohannes de Hawyll
Iohannes Magnavillanus
Iohannes de Nantville
Iohannes Neustrius
Iohannes af Havilla



BISLAM

esporta risultati della ricerca esci

nome

Iohannes de Hauvilla

Iohannes de Alta Villa |
Iohannes de Hanvilla

volumi MEL

1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 12 14 15 17 18 19 20 21

schede MEL

176 1215 4555-A 5268 5271

D)



BISLAM

[esporta](#) [risultati della ricerca](#) [esci](#)

<< < > >>

Irnerius

- Garnerius magister
- Germerius iudex
- Himerius
- Hyrnerius
- Warnerius Bononiensis iudex
- Wernerus de Bononia
- Wernerus Bononiensis
- Wernerus iudex
- Ymerius

1. Comparison in Methodology and Content between BISLAM (Authority List) and the Authority File of the Biblioteca di Cultura Medievale (Fondazione Ezio Franceschini-SISMEL, Florence)

Methodology

BISLAM prearranged, systematic, complete as far regards the number of the authors and cross-references deal with. Opens with a methodological examination of reference works and bibliographical sources, which have been systematically preselected and quoted.

AUTH. FILE occasional, even if set up with predefined criteria, only includes the entries present in the bibliographical catalogue, is selective in cross-references, and dynamic. The examination of the reference works and bibliographical sources is functional when choosing a heading and the quotation of each reference work is not systematic. Sources examined include national bibliographies (based on the place of origin, and the occupation of the authors or the texts described) and catalogued bibliographies: the form drawn from the latter (corresponding to the linguistic form of the various countries) is quoted methodically to ease research.

Content

BISLAM deals with a survey of authors which have been predetermined using linguistic, and chronological criteria, and by the typology of the documents they produced.

AUTH. considers all the onomastic entries and uniform titles which represent an access key to the catalogue (headings and subjects), even if the analytics criteria was limited to a specific sphere (ancient times - 16th century). Includes the following categories of authors which are absent in BISLAM:

- Greek and Byzantine authors- Latin authors up to 479
- Medieval vernacular authors
- Anonyms identified by a toponym or meaningful conventional expression-
- Pseudo-epigraphs
- Signatory authors of documents drawn up for legislative or administrative purposes
- Saints, sovereigns, historical characters who are not authors but who represent an access key as a subject (registered with the same heading for each author)

Consultation

BISLAM is an autonomous file which can be consulted using various supports.

AUTH. FILE is a file which can be consulted on line, and is connected to the bibliographical catalogue: the more specialized, wide-ranging and up-to-date the latter, the more authoritative will be the result of the linked consultation between the two files, as well as in the richness of information and of connections present in the authority file.

2. Authority file: Onomastic forms and uniform titles

AUTHORITY FILE // Medieval Author (onomastic forms, taken from BISLAM and, if necessary , integrated)

N. sistema 0000259

Codice autore AM [=Autore medievale]

Status della notizia Aggiornato [=notizia controllata e aggiornata]

Autore persona Thomas de Aquino, santo

Rinvio Thomas Aquinas
Rinvio Thomas d'Aquin
Rinvio Thomas von Aquin
Rinvio Tommaso d'Aquino, santo
Rinvio Thomas Aquinas, saint
Rinvio Tommaso, santo
Rinvio Thomas, saint
Vedi anche Thomas de Aquino, santo, pseudo

Fonte intest. BISLAM (Thomas de Aquino, s.)

Fonte rinvii BISLAM rinvii

Fonte rinvii DEI; BNI (Tommaso d'Aquino, santo)

Fonte rinvii Bibliografia

Nota guida Questa voce comprende anche le opere di attribuzione incerta. Per tutte le opere pseudepigrafe e spurie vedi la voce "Thomas de Aquino, santo, pseudo"

Datazione 1224/5-1274

Nota informativa L'inno "Adoro te devote" è ormai considerato opera di Tommaso (Wielockx Robert, "Poetry and Theology", 1998; J.P. Torrell, Tommaso d'Aquino, 1994, pp. 155-159)

Regole catal. RICA

Fonte del rec. IT Biblioteca di Cultura Medievale

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CATALOGUE // File related to one excerpt (analytical cataloguing of the textual content of each document)

Wielockx, Robert

Poetry and Theology in the "Adoro te devote": Thomas Aquinas on the Eucharist and Christ's Uniqueness / Robert Wielockx. – P. 157-174

Nota In: Christ among the medieval dominicans, Notre Dame, [1998]. - In appendice: Adoro te devote /Thomas Aquinas ; Super Dionysium De ecclesiastica hierarchia / Albertus Magnus (cap. 3; Napoli, Biblioteca Nazionale, ms. I.B.54, fols. 51r-51v)

I. Thomas de Aquino, santo II. Albertus Magnus, santo

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CATALOGUE // File related to one study (subject entry similar to heading)

Grabmann, Martin

Thomas von Aquin : eine Einführung in seine Persönlichkeit und Gedankenwelt / von Martin Grabmann
. – Kempten : Kösel'schen Buchhandlung, 1912. - 168 p. – (Sammlung Kösel)

Ex libris Bruno Nardi, 1912

1. Thomas de Aquino, santo

AUTHORITY FILE // Latin author from late classical antiquity

N. sistema 0000404

Codice autore AC [=Autore classico e tardo-antico]

Status della notizia Aggiornato [=notizia controllata e aggiornata]

Autore Persona Augustinus, Aurelius, santo

Rinvio Augustinus Hipponensis
Rinvio Agostino, Aurelio, santo
Rinvio Augustin d'Hippone
Rinvio Augustin, saint
Rinvio Agostino, santo
Rinvio Augustinus, sanctus
Rinvio Augustin, saint
Rinvio Augustin, san
Rinvio Aurelius Augustinus
Rinvio Aurelio Agostino
Rinvio Augustine of Hippo, saint
Rinvio Augustinus van Hippo
Vedi anche Augustinus, Aurelius, santo, pseudo

Fonte intest. BNI; PAN

Fonte rinvii CPL ; PAN (rinvio) (Augustinus episcopus Hipponensis)

Fonte rinvii DEI ; BS ; BNI (soggetto)

Fonte rinvii Bibliografia

Nota guida Questa voce comprende anche le opere di attribuzione incerta. Per tutte le opere pseudepigrafe e spurie vedi la voce "Augustinus, Aurelius, santo, pseudo"

Datazione 354-430

Nota informativa Per quanto riguarda la "Regola" di Agostino sembra accertato che la "Regula ad servos Dei" ("Praeceptum" o "Regula tertia") sia autentica e che la sua primitiva versione sia quella maschile. Per una panoramica sul problema cfr. A. Trapè, La regola di Sant'Agostino, 1986

Regole catal. RICA

Fonte del record IT Biblioteca di Cultura Medievale

AUTHORITY FILE // File of pseudo Latin author from late classical antiquity

N. sistema 0021945

Codice autore ACP [=Autore classico e tardo antico pseudo]

Statu della notizia Aggiornato [=notizia controllata e aggiornata]

Autore Persona Augustinus, Aurelius, santo, pseudo

Rinvio Pseudo-Augustinus

Rinvio Pseudo-Agostino

Vedi anche De assumptione Beatae Mariae Virginis

Vedi anche Solutiones diversarum quaestionum ab haereticis obiectarum

Vedi anche Testimonia divinae Scripturae et Patrum

Vedi anche Speculum peccatoris

Vedi anche Contra Varimadum Arianum

Vedi anche Testimonia de Patre et Filio et Spiritu Sancto

Vedi anche De altercatione Ecclesiae et Synagogae

Regole catal. RICA

Fonte del record IT [Biblioteca di Cultura Medievale](#)

AUTHORITY FILE // File of uniform title falsely attributed to Agostino

Codice TC [=Titolo Uniforme testo di epoca classica e tardo-antica]

Status notizia Aggiornato

Numero sist. 0032365

Titolo uniforme De altercatione Ecclesiae et Synagogae

Rinvio Altercatio Ecclesiae et Synagogae

Rinvio Commonitorium adversus Judaeos

Vedi anche Augustinus, Aurelius, santo, pseudo

Vedi anche Severus Minoricensis, pseudo

Fonte intestazione [CPL3](#) (577)

Fonte intestestazione [DOC](#)

Fonte rinvii [CPL3](#) (rinvio)

Datazione Saec. V in.

Nota informativa Controversia immaginaria fra un cristiano ed un giudeo

Nota informativa In passato ritenuta del secolo XI. Severo, per la sua lettera sulle tensioni fra cristiani e giudei in cui si parla anche di un Commonitorium adv. Judaeos (o Altercatio Ecclesiae et Synagogae) è stato identificato come autore dell'opera, ma oggi tale attribuzione è superata.

Nota informativa L'opera è anche uno pseudoepigrafo di Agostino ([CCPM IIA 163](#))

Nota disambiguante Non confondere con l'anonima Altercatio Synagogae et Ecclesiae del XII sec. attribuita, in passato, a Gilbertus Crispinus

Regole catal. RICA

Fonte del record IT [Biblioteca di Cultura Medievale](#)

AUTHORITY FILE // Uniform title of work in vernacular language

N. sistema 0030999

Codice titolo TUM

Status della notizia Aggiornato

Titolo uniforme Sept sages de Rome

Rinvio Roman des sept sages
Rinvio Livre des sept sages
Rinvio Sette Savi
Rinvio Libro dei Sette Savi di Roma
Rinvio Dolopathos
Rinvio Roman de Dolopathos
Vedi anche Historia septem sapientum
Vedi anche Iohannes de Alta Silva
Vedi anche Herbert
Vedi anche Roman de Laurin

Fonte intest [ACI](#)

Fonte intest [BNF](#)

Fonte intest [BNI](#)

Fonte rinvii [DLF](#)

Fonte rinvii [DEI](#) (Sette Savi, Libro dei)

Fonte rinvii [DizBiobibl. Einaudi](#)

Fonte rinvii [ACI](#) (rinvio)

Fonte rinvii [BNF](#) (rinvio)

Datazione 1155 ca.

Nota informativa Romanzo francese in versi ispirato all'opera indiana nota come "Sindbad" o "Libro di Sindbad"

Nota informativa Il rifacimento latino in prosa dal tit. "Dolopathos" è di Iohannes de Alta Silva del XII sec. La versione francese versificata del "Dolopathos" è di un certo Herbert del XIII sec. ed ha conosciuto una fortuna autonoma, anche se non comparabile al "Roman des sept sages"

Regole catal. RICA

Fonte del record IT [Biblioteca di Cultura Medievale](#)

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CAT. // File related to the French versified translation of "Herbert" by Dolopathos by Giovanni di Alta Selva (wich is part of the Sept Sages de Rome translation)

Herbert

Le roman de Dolopathos : edition du manuscrit H 436 de la Bibliothèque de l'Ecole de Médecine de Montpellier / Herbert ; publiée par Jean-Luc Leclanche. - Paris : Honoré Champion Éditeur, 1997. - 3 v. - (Les classiques français du Moyen Age ; 124-126)

Si tratta della traduzione versificata del "Dolopathos" di Giovanni d'Alta Selva

MEL 19

Altri autori: I. Iohannes de Alta Silva II. Leclanche, Jean-Luc

Tit. un. sec.: I. Sept sages de Rome

Classe tem.: 1. A Herbert I