

l'opera d'arte [più] che non l'opera d'arte nella storia»⁵⁸. Approfondire e precisare i legami tra questa produzione letteraria e le signorie settentrionali, tenendo conto che il sistema politico italiano dell'epoca «mostra ormai chiaro il suo collegamento al processo di formazione del sistema politico europeo, dal quale, anzi, finisce per essere sempre più condizionato»⁵⁹, permette infatti di concludere che la letteratura franco-veneta può ben dirsi europea non soltanto per l'uso della lingua e dei modelli letterari francesi.

Abstract

The purpose of this article is that of giving a new impulse to scholarly research interested in bringing to light as many traces as possible of historical and political events which characterize the settings of some medieval Franco-Venetian texts. According to this aim, the author analyses Niccolò da Verona's *Pharsale*, taking it as exemplar case study. This poem, relating facts connected to the ancient Roman Civil War, was composed in 1343 in honour of Niccolò I, Marquis of Este. Luca Morlino devotes special attention to the anachronisms of the story, focusing on a group of significant examples which have been neglected by former scholars, with the only exception of Joachim Leeker (1986), whose interpretation is here confirmed and improved through a deeper analysis of Niccolò's historical and political context. It follows then that the anachronisms appear to be echoes of medieval politics; more specifically, they would be reminiscent of the conflict between Frederick of Habsburg and Louis of Bavaria (from 1314 to 1322), and between Louis of Bavaria and the papacy (for the following twenty-five years) centered on the succession to the imperial throne and on the universal supremacy. Therefore, the *Pharsale* seems to reflect the political point of view of its patron, who formed a new alliance with Pope Clement VI just in 1343.

Parole chiave: Letteratura franco-veneta, Niccolò da Verona, *Pharsale*, storia medievale, letteratura e politica.

Keywords: Franco-Venetian Literature, Niccolò da Verona, *Pharsale*, Medieval history, Literature and politics.

⁵⁸ E. Raimondi, *Metafora e storia. Studi su Dante e Petrarca*, Einaudi, Torino 1982² (1970), p. x.

⁵⁹ Manselli, *Il sistema degli stati italiani*, cit., p. 209.