

## EDITORIAL

For several decades, art history at St Andrews has chosen to provide for the scholar as diverse a background in the theory and history of artistic production as possible. With the steady expansion of the School of undergraduate studies in recent times, so too have the numbers of postgraduates grown and the School may now claim to form one of the largest units of graduate study in the University. The objective of *Inferno* is to present a taste of a number of research projects in varying stages of progress at the School, one or two of which have recently been completed. The idea of research at postgraduate level reaching a wider audience beyond the confines of the School is seen as an important part of this objective, particularly since Ph.D. and M.Phil. theses, once they have been examined, often tend to gather dust upon the library shelves. In including articles from several branches of art history - from manuscripts to music museums and from painting to plasterwork, we seek to reflect its inter-disciplinary nature and the diversity of approaches and methodologies which this implies. However, a journal can only highlight a limited number of avenues of art historical research at any one time. It is hoped in future issues of *Inferno* to develop this policy further and incorporate the differing research interests of postgraduates as comprehensively as possible. We also hope to create a forum for the publication of ongoing research which may not only represent the thesis topic being pursued, but the broader research interests of individual postgraduates.

The Editors would like to express their gratitude to Professor Graham Smith and David Jones for their advice and support throughout the production of this journal; to Dr John Frew, outgoing Chair of the School, for providing us with the necessary funding for this project, and to all the other staff for their encouragement and enthusiasm. Special thanks must go to the School Secretary, Mrs Dawn Waddell, without whom we might have lost our way before we had even begun.

In choosing a title for this journal, many labels were rejected, but inspiration was eventually to be found in the vini-culture of the Veneto region of Italy.

*Prosit!*

Patricia de Montfort

Cheryl A. Kramer

Carol Richardson

(Joint-Editors, 1994)