

Pozvánka na přednášku v rámci přednáškového cyklu

**Renesance a novověk I**

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**Benedetto Varchi's Psychology**

**9.4. v 15:00 hod.**

Katedra filosofie FF UP Olomouc, Křížkovského 12, učebna 220

## Marco Sgarbi

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### Benedetto Varchi's Psychology

Benedetto Varchi (1503–1565) was one of the most important and complex figures in the sixteenth-century Italian intellectual landscape. His interests ranged from history to literary criticism, from science to poetry. However, he is mainly remembered by the scholarship for his interpretation of Dante and Petrarch, for his discussion on the “question of language”, and for his general activity as man of letters and pedagogue at the Accademia Fiorentina. Very few studies seek to reconstruct Varchi’s profile as a philosopher. None consider the mountain of unedited manuscript material which is currently held in the Filze Rinuccini of the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale in Florence, being mostly based on the philosophical fragments published in the nineteenth-century edition of Varchi’s works edited by Giuseppe Aiazzi and Lelio Abib, the reliability of which has been questioned by the latest philological studies. The manuscript material has been shamefully ignored by the scholars, who have fostered and broadcast a false image of Varchi as a mere literary critic, or at most a serious scholar of vernacular language, but an amateur in the field of philosophy nonetheless. Yet, much of Varchi’s life was spent poring over philosophical texts, in particular those of logic, ethics and natural philosophy. In this paper, I wish to present the first full-fledged investigation of Varchi’s manuscript writings on psychology, which in my opinion show the depth of his familiarity with philosophy and his originality as a thinker.

