

SAPIENTIA ORATORIS

Wisdom, rhetoric, society in Cicero's writing De inventione

LAJOS-ZOLTÁN SIMON *

(Abstract)

The work De inventione by Cicero was fundamental in the European education for hundreds of years and its impact is inestimable. The introduction of Book I balances the social benefit and disservice of rhetoric, which leads to the issue of intercommunication of rhetoric and philosophy, as well as the origin of human civilization. This paper expounds this culture theory of Cicero and its preludes, then examines the late antique commentaries which reinterpreted Cicero's work in the view of Neoplatonic philosophy so that it could become a core text of the medieval and Renaissance rhetorical theory.

Keywords: Cicero, De inventione, About the composition of arguments, Gorgias, sophists, Plato, Marius Victorinus, Gryllus, rhetoric, sapientia, Neoplatonism, culture theory

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The whole essay will be available soon.

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* The author: *Lajos Zoltán Simon* (1970) assistant professor (Eötvös Loránd University, Faculty of Arts, Latin Department). Dissertation (2006): *Bucolic poetry in Nero's era: The eclogues of T. Calpurnius Siculus (Bukolikus költészet Nero korában: T. Calpurnius Siculus eclogái)*. Research area: Roman literature, Neolatin literature, reception history, antique rhetoric. He contributed to the new Hungarian translation of Quintilianus and Cicero (Institutio Oratoria, Book X, 2009; De Inventione Book I-II, 2012).

¹ The Translator: *Zsófia-Judit Szabó* (1996) Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest.