The Architecture of the Cosmos

St. Maximus the Confessor
New Perspectives
The Architecture of the Cosmos

St. Maximus the Confessor
New Perspectives

Edited by
Antoine Lévy, Pauli Annala,
Olli Hallamaa and Tuomo Lankila

with the collaboration of
Diana Kaley

Luther-Agricola-Society
Helsinki 2015
Contents

Acknowledgements ............................................................ 7
Contributors .......................................................................... 8

ANTOINE LÉVY, OP
A polycentric introduction ..................................................... 11

Chapter One: Contextualization

PETER VAN DEUN
Building the Architecture of the Cosmos: the Maximian Bricks ...... 27

CHRISTIAN BOUDIGNON
Pseudo-Macarius as source of the Mystagogy of Maximus
the Confessor ........................................................................ 39

Chapter Two: Philosophical Approaches

CHRISTOPHE ERISSMANN
Maximus the Confessor on the logical dimension of the
structure of reality .................................................................... 51

TORSTEIN THEODOR TOLLEFSEN
The Concept of the Universal in the Philosophy of St Maximus ....... 70

VALERY V. PETROFF
Ὑπάρξις and ὁ φύσιςμα in Maximus the Confessor’s Ambigua .......... 93

GRIGORY BENEVIICH
Maximus Confessor’s teaching on God’s Providence .................... 123
PASCAL MUELLER-JOURDAN
The Metaphysical Position of the Divine as ‘Desirable’ in Proclus
Platonic Theology and Maximus Confessor’s Thought.......................... 141

Chapter Three: Theological Approaches
ANTOINE LÉVY, OP
Γοβία: Looking into the Corners of St Maximus’ Cosmic
Architecture......................................................................................... 153

NIKOLAOS LOUDOVIKOS
Acting Upon God: Maximus the Confessor’s Eucharistic
Gnosiology.............................................................................................. 175

VLADIMIR CVETKOVIĆ
The Mystery of Christ as Revived Logos Theology................................. 189

ISTVÁN PERCZEL
St Maximus on the Lord’s Prayer: An Inquiry into his relationship
to the Origenist tradition...................................................................... 221

PAULI ANNALA
From the Exterior to the Interior, and Beyond: Spiritual Topography
in St Maximus Mystagogia..................................................................... 279

Chapter Four: Modern Approaches
ALEXEI V. NESTERUK
The Sense of the Universe:
St Maximus the Confessor and Theological Consummation of
Modern Cosmology............................................................................ 298

Bibliography......................................................................................... 345
Actores antiqui .................................................................................... 348

Acknowledgements

On behalf of the Department of Systematic Theology at the University of
Helsinki and the Helsinki Studium Catholicum, we would like to express
our heartfelt gratitude to those who made the St Maximus the Confessor
Conference and publication possible. We address our special thanks to
The Federation of Finnish Learned Societies and The Department for
International Relations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland.
We are grateful to the Cultural Centre Sofia for its collaboration in hosting
our meeting. We also thank H. E. Metropolitan Ambrosius for welcoming
and blessing the work of the Conference. Our appreciation goes to Dr
Ari Ojell whose creative support greatly contributed to the success of
the Conference. The Luther-Agricola-Society has kindly accepted the
conference proceedings for publication.

The Editors