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exhaustive manner, nor to offer an organized synthesis of the extensive bibliography of works about him. It is rather designed as an instrument to help in an encounter with the Nyssen. Nothing could be further from his mindset than the spirit of gratuitous erudition and rationalism, one reason that the term *dictionary* rather than *encyclopaedia* was chosen for the book.

This work was born in the context of various colloquia dedicated to Gregory, in particular those of Olomouc and Tübingen. The scholars present at these conferences expressed a desire to develop such an instrument, due both to the increasing number of works on the Nyssen and the growing interest in his thought,<sup>1</sup> at once quintessentially classic and modern, even post-modern, as is expressed in the title of the latest work of Morwenna Ludlow.<sup>2</sup> It is significant that the work is thus a fruit of the personal encounter of those who became its contributors, an encounter occasioned by a common passion for Gregory of Nyssa.

This dictionary can be placed beside the *Lexicon Gregorianum*,<sup>3</sup> the publication of which commenced in 1999 under the direction of Friedhelm Mann, as well as the important bibliography published by this same

<sup>1</sup> For a recent commented bibliography, see: M. Cassin, *Chronique bibliographique Grégoire de Nysse (2000-2007)*, "Adamsantus" 14 (2008) 411-419.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. M. Ludlow, *Gregory of Nyssa: Ancient and [Post]modern*, OUP, Oxford 2007.

<sup>3</sup> F. MANN (Ed.), *Lexicon Gregorianum: Wörterbuch zu den Schriften Gregors von Nyssa*, Brill, Leiden 1999-2008.