

LESSING YEARBOOK I, 1969

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Lessing Yearbook

I

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The *Lessing Yearbook* is published annually, and the editors will be pleased to consider manuscripts relating to German literature and thought of the eighteenth century. Contributions may be in English or German, and should be prepared in accordance with the MLA Style Sheet — available from the Treasurer, MLA, 62 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10011, USA. All manuscripts, books for review, and correspondence should be addressed to:

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FOREWORD

Gotthold Ephraim Lessing belongs to a century which produced truly outstanding men in almost all fields of human endeavor. For Germany the meaning and importance of his life and work can hardly be overestimated nor have they been fully explored.

The American Lessing Society was founded for the purpose of encouraging and furthering the scholarly study of Lessing and his times, and of giving individual effort the backing of a group united by a profound interest in the great German writer. The members of the Society include Germanists of all countries where the study of German literature is established among academic subjects, as well as persons outside the academic field who share a common interest in Lessing and his ideals.

The *Lessing Yearbook* of 1969 presents a selection of articles written by members of the Society and by invited contributors. The editors hope that the *Yearbook* will win new friends for the Society who would then join its efforts to reemphasize Lessing's humanism and his continuing importance throughout the world.

The American Lessing Society wishes to express its deep gratitude to the contributors of the *Yearbook*, to the University of Cincinnati for its unwavering support, to the Max Hueber Verlag for its generous cooperation, to Noel Martin and Richard C. Mouk for their assistance in matters of design, to the American Association of Teachers of German, the German Consulate of Cleveland, the Goethe Institute, Inter-Nationes, the National Carl Schurz Association, and to its many friends for their continuing encouragement and support.

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