OPROŠTAJ

Tin Ujević

Ovdi usrid luke naša mlada plavca
Uzdvigla je jidra voljna, smina i nova.
I hoteća pojti putom svojeg plova
Gre prez kog vojvode al zakonodavca.

Budi da smo virni krivovirna pravca,
Ništar manje čtîmo (koko i zemlja ova)
- Kî va versih libar množ harvacki skova -
Marulića Marka, splitskog začinjavca.

U lipom jaziku, gdi "č a" slaje zvoni,
Mi dobročasimo garb slovućeg greba
I tokoj ti napis, dijački i stari.

Zbogom, o Marule! Pojti ćemo, poni
Žaju imimo velu sunčenoga neba:
Korugva nam ćuhta; gremo, mi puntari!

(Hrvatska mlada lirika, 1914.)

FAREWELL

trans. by Željka Zanchi

Here amidst the harbour our young boat
Has raised her sails, willing, daring, and new.
And, wishing to set out on her course,
Sails without a leader or a legislator.

Since we are faithful of heretic persuasion,
We do not honour less (as well as this country)
- the one who forged many a book in Croatian verses -
Marulić Marko, the Bard of Split.

In the beauteous language, where "ča" more sweetly resounds,
We pay homage to the glorious tomb,
As well as the inscription, Latin and ancient.

Farewell, o Marul! We are sailing out,
For we have an unquenchable thirst for the sunny skies:
Our flag is flying; we set out on our voyage; we, the rebels!

RIJEČNIK

PLAVCA – lađa, brod
SMIN – smion, hrabar, odvažan, srčan
VIRNI KRIVOVIRNA PRAVCA – krivovjerci, heretici; neortodoksni vjernici
PREZ - bez
ČTIT – poštovati, častiti
VERSI – stihovi
ZAČINJAVAC – stihotvorac, pjesnik
DOBROČASITI – častiti, slaviti
GARB – grb
SLOVUĆI – slavan, znamenit
GREB – grob
TOKOJ - također
DIJAČKI – učen, latinski
PONI – zato što, jer
ŽAJA – žeđ
KORUGVA – zastava, barjak, stijeg
ĆUHTATI – vijoriti se, lepršati
PUNTAR – buntovnik, pobunjenik

This famous anthology poem by Tin Ujević (1891-1955), the greatest 20th Century Croatian poet, is dedicated to the memory of Marko Marulić (1450-1524), the leading figure of the Early Renaissance and the pioneer of the Croatian language in literature, justly referred to as 'the father of the Croatian literature'.

By writing in the traditional sonnet form and the archaic language of Marulić's day, Ujević pays homage to his great predecessor, also announcing the contemporary trends in his generation and paving the way for Modernism.

The poem is inscribed at the back of the monument, located in the centre of Marulić's native Split, and sculpted by Ivan Meštrović (1883-1962), the most prominent Croatian sculptor and architect of the 20th Century.