

POSTFACE

A word about the title of the book.

E pluribus una admits of at least two interpretations, both of which seem appropriate in the context of Anna, her life and her times. (A third, obvious reading we leave out altogether, since it seems pretty far removed from certain trends in Anna's work, i.a. her lifelong aversion to, and struggle against, any kind of supremacy – monetary, linguistic, or otherwise).

First of all, then, we see Anna's linguistic work as centered around the idea of making the several, multifarious strands of language come together, while preserving their individual shapes and character: the unifying force in, and behind, the diversity of approaches: *una e pluribus*.

But then also, one could read the *una* as feminine singular, rather than as neuter plural, and then it would be most appropriate to characterize Anna as a unique figure among the crowd of her contemporaries: not just any old 'one among many', but what an outstanding, young one: *E pluribus una!*