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GUESTS IN A MANUSCRIPT – AN UNKNOWN VERSION  
OF A LATIN EPIGRAM BY ŠIME BUDINIĆ (1530/1535–1600)  
FROM ZADAR

In Osimo (Italy), at the Biblioteca Istituto Campana, there is a manuscript ms. 18. L. 13, containing Latin works by Nardino Celinese. This Italian humanist was magister publicus in Zadar in 1508-1521. The manuscript codex seems to have remained in Zadar even after Nardino left, as is implied by the fact that five Latin epigrams on ff 26v-27r were written by a different, later hand, using Italic bastarda, and that one of the epigrams was indubitably composed in Zadar during the 1560s. The epigram is the only Latin poem by Šime Budinić (Simone Budineo, Simon Budineus, Zadar, 1530/1535 – 1600), priest, notary, and translator of psalms into Croatian. Comprising 14 elegiac lines, the poem is also known from Budinić's autograph (State Archives in Zadar, Notarial documents of Šime Budinić, Bastardel II, p. 54 and back cover; incipit: Cornisona inmenso cecinisti carmina cornu; explicit: Quinquigeros omnes cornibus aequo dicas).

The other four epigrams on ff 26v-27r are: the poem *Anthologia Latina* 786, in the Osimo manuscript ascribed to Antonio Beccadelli (*De Aermofrodita per D. An. Panormitanum*); an *Epitaphium Lucii Pape* III. (incipit: Luca dedit lucem tibi, Luci, pontificatum; explicit: exilium; curas Ostia; Luca mori); an anonymous antisemitic epigram *Iudeus ad Virginem Mariam* (incipit: Fruges non opto nobis, castissima Virgo; explicit: Quae nos Iudeos efficit esse meros), and the poem *Paulus Simoni*. 1564 (incipit: Uxorem qui nescit mecham, in uertice gestat; explicit: Credit et uxori, cornua quinque gerit). The epigram which »Paulus« dedicated to »Simon« in 1564, on five classes of cuckolds with sets of horns ranging from one to five, is attested outside Zadar as well; it is quoted in books from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, while the earliest version known to us was printed in Giovanni Antonio Taglietti, *Poemata ex quamplurimis autorum probatissimorum scriptis quae nondum edita fuerunt*, Brixiae, 1568, f. 42 (there the poem is ascribed to Trifone Benci, fl. 1535-1555).

Budinić's epigram, entitled »Simon Paulo« in the Osimo manuscript, is undoubtedly a response to »Paulus Simoni. 1564«. The lyric subject excludes himself from the group of cuckolded husbands, and reinterprets the classification of cuckolds, acknowledging only those with one, two, and five sets of horns. Budinić was not very adept at Latin versification; his line 11, Dissimulant multi bicornes itaque multi, is not a correct hexameter; the poem's complicated language makes it difficult to understand on its own, without the context of the earlier epigram. Still, Budinić manages to use Latin creatively, coining the otherwise unconfirmed compound adjectives cornisonus, unicorniger, cornunus, quinquiger.

Budinić's poetic conversational partner »Paulus« could have been one of his brothers (in 1594, a »Paulus« who had agreed to provide his brother Šime Budinić with lifelong maintenance in exchange for the latter's share of the inheritance), or his cousin Paulus de Sanctis, active as notary in Zadar in 1545-1551. The epigram, composed in 1564, could have been connected with Budinić's personal conflict with the priest Martin Jurjević in November 1563 (the confrontation earned Budinić the punishment of brief excommunication).

**Key words:** epigram, Zadar, priests, adultery, family, manuscript, copy, commonplaces