

# Introduction

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This special issue of the journal *Studi sull'Aristotelismo medievale (secoli VI-XVI)* is proudly and entirely devoted to the great Franciscan John of Ripa (fl. 1354/1355 ca.), also known as the Super-subtle Doctor, who finally begins to be recognized as a milestone in the evolution of XIV century thought. Since his powerful metaphysical system can outstand the logical and nominalist drift of the mid of the century, John of Ripa is a perfect figure to overcome the historically ineffective oblivion that has fallen on the period immediately after Gregory of Rimini. The occasion for this special issue was born at the end of 2022, when Davide Riserbato, Ernesto Dezza, Alessandro Ghisalberti and I organized a conference in the city of Ripatransone, which took place on the 29<sup>th</sup> of December. Thanks to the councillor for culture, Roberto Pasquali, we had the opportunity to share with the citizenship, in the prestigious venue of the Luigi Mercantini city theatre, an in-depth analysis of Ripa's philosophical system and its originality, appreciating its place within the more general framework of XIV century philosophy.

In addition to the splendid hospitality that the municipal administration extended to us – and which testifies the region's vivid interest in its illustrious medieval fellow-citizen – it is worth noting that the attendance of Alessandro Ghisalberti represented the link with a previous conference, held in Ripatransone in the year 1997, from which the collected volume *Giovanni da Ripa e dintorni: una cultura della complessità*