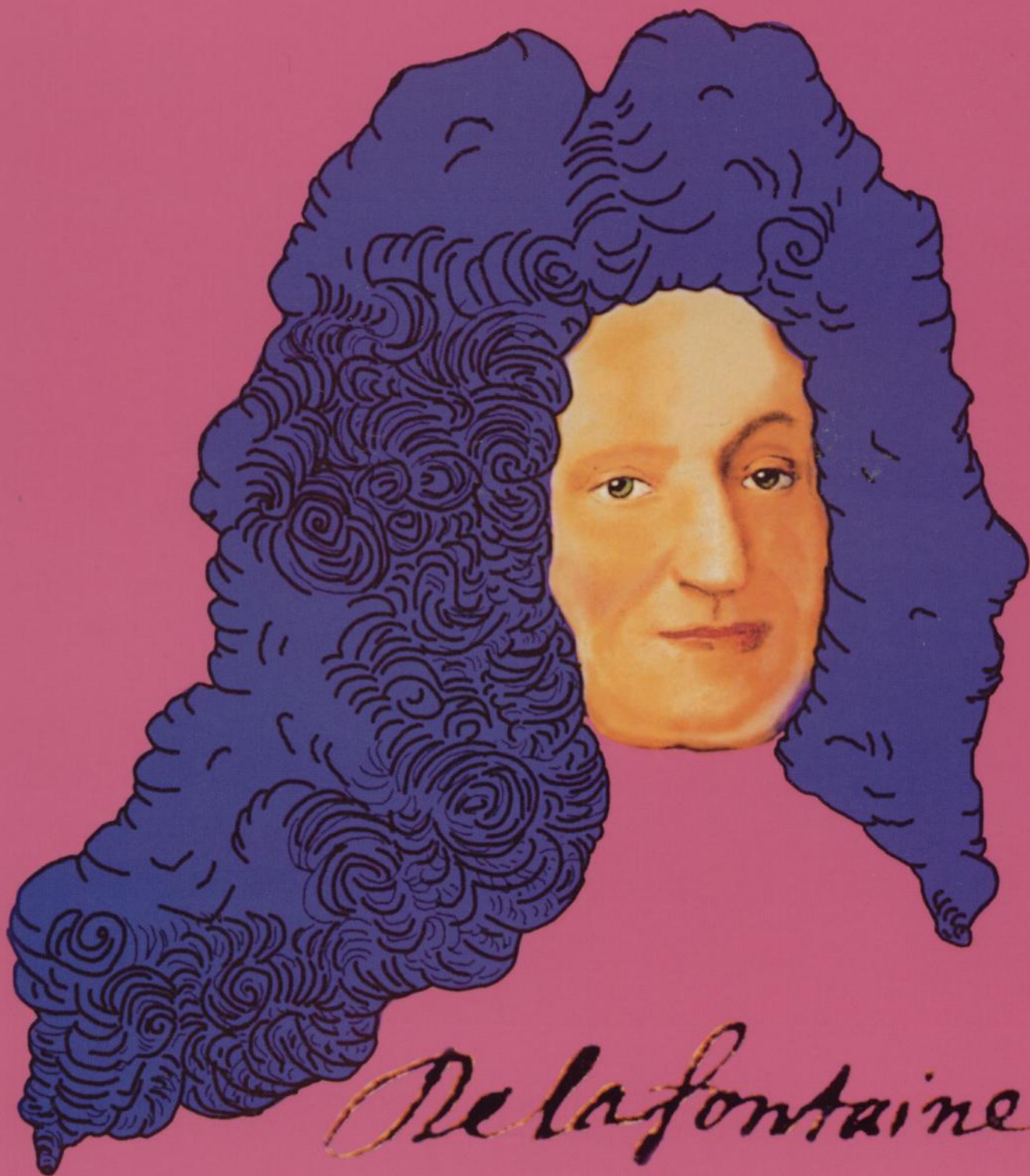


Fables of La Fontaine

~ I L L U S T R A T E D ~



De la Fontaine

Fables of La Fontaine

COMPILED & EDITED BY

KOREN CHRISTOFIDES

Introduction by Constantine Christofides

TRANSLATIONS BY

Constantine Christofides & Christopher Carsten

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON PRESS *Seattle & London*

in association with

MARYLAND INSTITUTE COLLEGE OF ART *Baltimore*

INSTITUTE FOR AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES *Aix-en-Provence*

Epilogue

BOOK XI

L'Épilogue

Simonetta Moro, Italy

Thus my Muse, cresting on a limpid wave,
Interpreted in godlike language
The utterances of so many creatures,
So many different tribes
Who attempt to fathom Nature's idiom.
These beings I used as Actors in my work;
Because in this Universe no living things
Lack a proper language of their own:
All are even more eloquent in their exchanges
Than they seem to be in my Poetry.

And though there are some who think
That I am not close to nature,
And that my work is not a good model,

At least I pioneered something.

Others can give the perfect touch.

Favorites of the Nine Sisters can finish the job:
Give us the lessons that I have not given to this art.
But you are too busy.

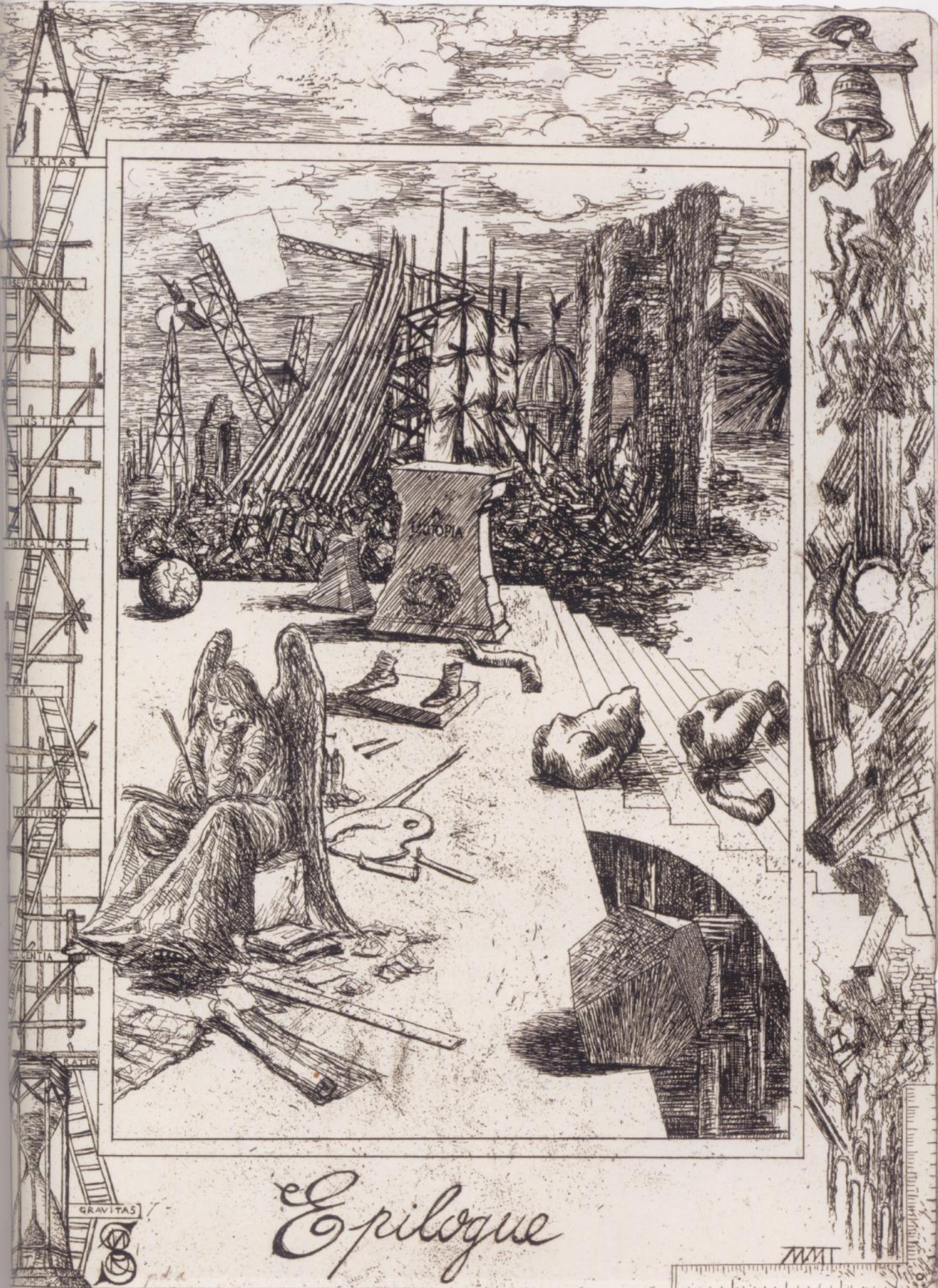
Even as my innocent Muse does her best,
King Louis is subjugating Europe,

And with a strong hand, he guides

The most notable projects to a conclusion

Better than any Predecessor.

Favorites of the Nine Sisters, these are some topics
To take up and deal with in time and with inspiration.



VERITAS
SERVANDA
IUSTITIA
SERVANDA
AUDI
SERVANDA
RATIO
GRAVITAS

Epilogue

MMT

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