

PREFACE

With this *Festschrift*, TIME FLIES, we want to express our respect and admiration for William R. Veder on the occasion of his departure as Professor of Slavic linguistics at the University of Amsterdam. During his career as a linguist, at the Universities of Utrecht, Nijmegen and Amsterdam, he has made a very substantial contribution to the study of Slavic philology, by publishing numerous books, articles and papers, by giving lectures and by personal help and communication. He has inspired many of his students to devote their PhD studies to the history of Slavic languages and cultures, thus guaranteeing the continuing development of this branch of historical linguistics.

Many friends and colleagues from all over the world have participated in the realisation of this *Festschrift* to acknowledge their indebtedness to William Veder and to thank him for his inspiring enthusiasm.

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