Géza Entz would have turned a hundred years of age on 2nd March 2013. He passed away suddenly on his birthday twenty years ago. Apart from several studies the internationally renowned outstanding researcher of the protection of Hungarian monuments and medieval history of architecture wrote three grand books devoted to Transylvania as a result of his five-decade-long collection work: two big data stores published only after his death, and a rare monograph on the Hungarian history of medieval art on the Gyulafehérvár cathedral.¹

Now, having the occasion to celebrate the collection of studies on the main sanctuary of the Gyulafehérvár cathedral restored between 2009 and 2011, we meet the result of a work organised in a way different from the previous monographs: the co-operation of authorities on periods, methods and topics results in a monograph on a building. The book forms part of a series that can be considered unique in the Carpathian Basin.

The reports of the results of scientific research on the episcopal building complex in Gyulafehérvár – the cathedral and the episcopal palace – are published every second year by the Hungarian Teleki László Foundation. The series was begun by Daniela Marcu Istrate with the documentation of the excavations carried out around the episcopal palace, it was followed by Márton Sarkadi’s catalogue presenting the recently found stone sculptures.²

The authors of the volume are experts from the two countries most concerned from the aspect of the Gyulafehérvár cathedral: restorers, archaeologists, architects, art historians of Hungary and Romania. Their studies are not unrelated to one another: the more than one hundred cross-references in the notes assemble the whole book in a network formed by the editor’s care, which is characteristic of the organic unity typical of monographs. The unity building on-, referring to and acknowledging each other’s work demonstrates the internationality of science.

The European Union and the European Council has, for a long time, been trying to create the theoretic frames of a European “citizenship” that spans over the political citizenship of the European Union, and joins the European population on a cultural field. This endeavour produced the 2005 Faro Framework Convention
