THE THEME

To get the deepest insight into the poiesis of life through the strategies of its logos we have taken in these two volumes from our Conference in Krakow, September 1999 (Analecta Husserliana, Volumes 74 and 77), an unusual approach, namely that of inquiring directly into the nature of the interplay of the dynamism which carries life onwards and into life’s shaping proficiencies. Yet, how can we dissociate these two powers of the logos of life since at each and every point of their enactment they are already intermotivated, inter-generated? It is proposed (by Tymieniecka) that there are phases in the unfolding of individualizing life at which we find an occasion to disentangle in an originary way their respective prerogatives within a fusing effort to carry on the becoming of life. We have seen previously that in order to unfold in its evolutive stages, life does not employ nor posses all the necessary resources at once. Each phase is preparing the advent of the next, but waits for the surging of an “additional” autonomous propulsion. At each stage the work is established by “an originary matrix”, whose originality with respect to the preceding one stems from the transformative and inspirational powers of this new “additional” factor. With it new forces and new shaping devices emerge.

These are the reasons for which in order to grasp them in their authentic, pristine nature we have proposed to investigate the specificity of energies, the forces and dynamisms of life, on the one side, and its shaping powers and devices, on the other side, at the plane of their respective matrices of life’s origination. I have distinguished three originary matrices of life: the “womb of life”, the “gregarious sharing in life”, and the “creative matrix of life”. After having already analyzed the differentiation of forces and shaping of life in the first two matrices (in the first volume) it is the creative matrix which is the object of the present inquiry. Our approach to life’s becoming, distantiating itself from the so far dominating attention focusing upon the formation, and focusing instead upon the dynamisms, forces, and energies of the logos which prompt and carry this formation—that it through the distinctive dependencies and autonomies of forces and shaping which characterize the different phases of its advance in complexity —allows us to enter into the deepest ontopoietic resources of life and the intricacies of its unfolding. Each of the preceding matrices has revealed to us special strategic
turn. With this third, creative matrix, we hope to uncover a plane for the investigation of life at which the philosophical riddles which have tantalized humanity, namely that of the relation of reason to nature-life and of the origin of this former may find a new and adequate formulation.

This collection, which contains a great variety of specific issues within the compass of our project offers the beginning stage of this promise.