

PREFACE

This anthology documents a symposium that was convened by the Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual History of Asia of the Austrian Academy of Sciences from 24 to 26 September, 2003. The aim of this symposium, part of a research project on the history of the Rāmānuja School and the tradition of Pāñcarātra, was to bring together scholars who work in these two fields for an academic exchange of ideas on the mutual influences between the two traditions, especially with regard to the rise of the Śrīvaiṣṇava tradition.

In addition to the papers presented in this volume, ALEXIS SANDERSON participated in the symposium with the lecture “Did the Pāñcarātrika ritual system reconfigure itself along Śaiva lines? Evidence of influence of middle-period Saiddhāntika Śaivism on the Earliest Pāñcarātrika Saṃhitās” and MARZENNA CZERNIAK-DROŹDŹOWICZ read the paper “About the Author of the Paramasaṃhitā,” which was a summary of the most important results of her monograph on the Paramasaṃhitā¹. JOHN B. CARMAN, who did not present a paper at the symposium, has kindly provided a contribution for this volume.

The editors would like to express their thanks to CYNTHIA PECK-KUBACZEK, who read the manuscripts of contributors whose native tongue is not English and suggested various stylistic corrections.

¹ CZERNIAK-DROŹDŹOWICZ 2003.

