

## Note from the Dean

**Anthony T. Kronman**

The *Yale Journal of Law & the Humanities* is ten years old. It has survived the first decade of its existence—a treacherous period for any publication—and arrived at this landmark birthday in flourishing form. One can go further. Of the many law reviews begun during the last ten years, none has established itself more securely, or won a wider audience for itself, than the *Yale Journal of Law & the Humanities*. The *Journal* has been a spectacular success. Why? That is a difficult question. Perhaps the best answer is that it has published consistently interesting and well-written articles on a range of subjects appealing to many different sorts of readers. That is surely part of the answer. But I cannot help thinking that there is more to the *Journal's* success. We live in an age of science and precision. The guiding ideal of our age is that of transparency: Everything must be intelligible all the way down. This ideal has made itself felt in the law as in every field. But what it covers over, and makes increasingly obscure, is the experience of wonder or amazement with which all real thinking starts. To keep this experience alive without lapsing into a mystical obscurantism on the one hand, or a self-deluding scientism on the other, is a great challenge and a marvelous achievement. That is what the *Yale Journal of Law & the Humanities* has managed to do. Between Scylla and Charybdis the *Journal* sails. This is also, surely, a factor in its success. May it keep the course it has established, to the delight of its readers, who share the ancient conviction that wonder should be enlightened rather than abolished by thought.

