

I. Literature and Cultural Studies

Roxana NUBERT/Ana-Maria DASCĂLU ROMIȚAN (Timisoara/Bucharest):

The Dictatorship in Herta Müller's novel *The Land of Green Plums* – With special reference to the language

Abstract: In the novel **The Land of Green Plums** (1994) the author renders an apocalyptic image of Romania during the communist dictatorship, Timișoara representing the tragic background of the narrated events. From this perspective, language becomes for Herta Müller a way of distancing from the dictatorial system, the author managing to express, through specific processes of language, the circumstances that generated those events.

The aphorisms and the idioms used in the text express the wrong behavior and communication mechanisms of the protagonists, demonstrating the presence of the security forces and of the dictatorship.

The author often appeals to repetitions to highlight the continuous threat and the repression force of the authorities.

Thus, the language is for Herta Müller a form of resistance against the totalitarian regime and the only place of expressing freedom, even under the dictatorship.

Keywords: dictatorship, aphorisms, sayings, repetitions, German literature from Romania, "Heart Animal", Herta Müller.

Markus Fischer (Bucharest):

„I is another“ – Self-images and images of the other in Max Frisch's novel *Stiller*

Abstract: According to Arthur Rimbaud's famous saying "Je est un autre" Max Frisch develops in his early diaries an idea of love which has to orient itself by the ban on images in the Old Testament and which, as a modern concept, has to renounce every image of oneself and the other at all. In Max Frisch's novel *Stiller* the roots of this seemingly biblical belief can be found both in an aesthetic attitude towards life (as pointed out in Sören Kierkegaard's scriptures, especially in *Entweder-Oder*) and in an existentialist understanding of life (as set forth in the philosophical work of Jean-Paul Sartre). Max Frisch's novel *Stiller* can be read as a literary experiment of achieving the ultimate goal of love and self-acceptance by radical self-negation and negation of the other.

Key words: Max Frisch, Sören Kierkegaard, Old Testament, literary experiment

Alexander RUBEL (Iasi):

„Against Indians“. The Representation of the Enemy in Ernst Jünger's „Storm of Steel“

Abstract: This paper tries to present Ernst Jünger's perception of „the enemy“ in his first publication, the novel-like, personal report on his experiences in WW I, „Storm of Steel“,

published for the first time in 1920. Interestingly his characterization of the French, English, Scottish – and a squad of Indian – Soldiers varies in the different editions of this work, which suffered six to seven revisions (the last one for editing the opera omnia in 1978). While especially the 1924 edition had a nationalistic bias, as Jünger for example mocked on French civilization, such passages were eliminated during a revision in 1934. Generally, also in the earlier editions, Jünger's approach towards describing the enemy is distinguished by high respect and an outmoded chevalersque ethos of a warrior-caste, which was in WW I already part of the historical past. Only some traces of every-day racism, typical for the German imperial age, found its way also in the last editions: the description of colonial military forces (Moroccans, Indians).

Key words: Ernst Jünger, Storm of Steel, First World War, Diary, Memory, Enemy.

Maria SASS (Sibiu):

Not even what seemed very stable did have any durability. The Representation of the own and other Image in Andreas Birkner's Novel *Die Tatarenpredigt*

[The Tartaric Sermon]

Abstract: The present study focuses on imagology. Starting from the theoretical aspects of the concepts self-image and hetero-image, the analysis ponders upon the imagological constructs of two ethnical groups in the novel of the Romanian German-language author Andreas Birkner. In this analysis, the self image identifies with the one of the Transylvanian, and the image of the other is that of the Roma. The analysis of Birkner's novel leads to the conclusion that there have been certain mental images deeply rooted in historical reality and which can be, partly, explained by means of collective memory parameters. Stereotypes and prejudices should be considered in this context.

Key words: Andreas Birkner, imagology, self-image, hetero-image, stereotype, prejudice

Carmen Elisabeth PUCHIANU (Braşov):

Representation of the Self and of the Other in "Nursing Case" by C.E. Puchianu and R.G. Elekes

Abstract: The article aims at discussing the play *Pflegefall (Nursing Case)* by C.E. Puchianu and R. G. Elekes from the point of view of an obvious interrelation between real and fictional self as a result of stage performance. The author focusses on some specific means of dealing with the self and the other such as auto-fiction and travesty.

Key words: auto-fiction, care for the self, nursing case, travesty

Sunhild GALTER (Sibiu):

The Other as an indispensable Counterpart in Sibylle Berg's Novel *Der Mann schläft*

Abstract: Sibylle Berg develops in her novel *Der Mann schläft* a new, nihilistic definition of love. Nietzsche considers that modern mankind killed the god in itself, Dürrenmatt shows the absolute hopelessness of the postmodern society and Berg presents the end of all known forms of love. For her protagonist it is enough to have found someone who needs her as much as she needs him to feel save and complete. But “the man” disappears during a journey to Asia while going to buy some papers. After waiting for three month for him to return she decides to stay there for the rest of her miserable life. The novel has an interesting structure, the story is told in dozens of short scenes, not in a chronological order but referring to the period with “the man” and without him that confers to it a certain dramatic touch.

Key words: Sibylle Berg, *Der Mann schläft*, nihilistic definition of love, hopelessness.

Joachim WITTSTOCK (Sibiu):

Within the Braiding of Identities. Moments of Cultural History, Evoked in the Case of János Bolyai:

Abstract: The Transylvanian-born János Bolyai (1802-1860) never ceases to attract the attention of all those interested in the history of science, as he is one of the founders of non-Euclidean geometry. Bolyai also concerns the philosophy researchers, due to a social utopia, which he presents in his works, unpublished during his lifetime. From older and newer documentation, it is known that the Hungarian Bolyai nobility descent also has a German origin, from German Grafts. On the Calvaserului Valley, situated north of the Hârtibaciului Valley, lies the Buia parish, named Bolya by the Hungarians, Bell by the Germans, where the Bolyai family owned an estate and a castle. In this work, the author presents approaches concerning the genealogy of János Bolyai and reports about visits to the places where Bolyai has lived, such as Buia, Domald (Viișoara parrish) and Târgu Mureș.

Key words: Transylvanian cultural history; mathematician and philosopher János Bolyai, the origin and places linked to his and his ancestors' biography

Alexandra CHIRIAC (Iasi):

The Transylvanian „Bertoldo“ at the end of the 18th century. The role of the cultural “other” for the linguistic and literary development of the Enlightened Transylvania.

Abstract: The Romanian literature of the 18th century is witnessing a remarkable metamorphosis, whereas step by step the Enlightenment's ideas penetrate the Romanian-speaking soil and through various mechanisms replace the medieval order in society, politics and arts. In this time of the Enlightenment the small popular book “Bertoldo” from the late Italian 16th century was adapted in French and then in German and through the German intermediary reached Transylvania at the end of the 18th century (Hermannstadt, 1799). In the centre of our analysis

we place the concept of “cultural transfer” and that of the “cultural translation”, concepts that help us illustrate the adaptation strategies of the foreign material and the integration principles of the Enlightenment’s ideals on the Romanian soil. Working with eloquent examples from the “Bertoldo”-text in a comparative manner we will try to bring to light the interaction of the poetical and ideological functions of the translations from German and its role in forming and shaping a new kind of Romanian cultural and literary sensibility.

Key Words: Aufklärung (German Enlightenment), cultural transfer, cultural translation, adaptation strategies.

II. Linguistics

Doris SAVA (Sibiu):

Reflections about some erroneous assessments from the perspective of language use

Abstract: Aspects of the use of language can be discussed from different perspectives. This article discusses, among other things, the resort to jargon, the stylistic classification and the lexicographic description of phrasemes, insisting on standards that define the value of a lexicographic work.

Keywords: jargon, phrasemes, stilistic values, lexicographic standards

Adina-Lucia NISTOR (Iasi):

The Image of “The Other” in the Street Names of Sebeş. *Siculorumgasse, Griedungasse, Saxonii Noi Street.*

Abstract. The purpose of this study is to reconstruct and document the image of “The Other” starting with the historical street names in the Transylvanian town of Sebeş, Alba County, founded in the thirteenth century by German settlers. Due to the fact that, throughout Middle Ages, one of the criteria of naming the streets of a borough was, *inter alia*, the ethnic one, the street names of the town reveal the ethnic groups which would form the population of the town: Székelys (*Siculorumgasse*), Saxons (*Sachsgasse, Herrengasse, Petrigasse* a.s.o.), Romans (*Opricestengasse, Suseni– and Joseni Viertel*), Greek and Macedonian, as well as Germans from the Southwestern Germany and Austria, who founded the north quarter of the town, in the eighteenth century (*Saxonii Noi Street, Saxonii Vechi Street, Quer Gasse*). In Sebeş, the street names established after the specific place the road leads the way to also contribute to the image of “The Other” (*Petersdorfer Gässchen, Daiagasse and Hermannstädter Straße*). Furthermore, the names of various local or super regional personalities who influenced the existence of the town also have an important contribution. Examples to illustrate this aspect are particularly the street names from the early stalinist period of communism in Romania (*Stalin Street, V. I. Lenin Street, Miciurin Street, Malinovski Street, Rosa Luxemburg Street*).

Key words: onomastic, historical street names in Transsilvania, ethnic and political groups.

Sigrid HALDENWANG (Sibiu):

Insight into another world, that oft the little winged beings of the Transylvanian world of birds. About owl species – proper names as well as names borrowed from neighboring languages

Abstract: There was always a close connection between human beings and plants, mammals and insects, but also birds, which enlivened yards and gardens, fields and forests with their flight, playfulness and their voices. Therefore it does not come as a surprise that some of our linguists and folklorists like the North-Transylvanian linguist Gustav Kisch and the South-Transylvanian linguist and folklorist Pauline Schullerus refer in some minor works to wellknown bird names as they appear in traditions, fairy tales, rhymes, idioms (sayings) and proverbs. But they never mention any owl species.

This presentation provides the names of certain owl species as they appear in Transylvanian-Saxon and neighboring languages, as they were grouped by certain criteria according to their appearance. Descriptive idiomatic examples reflect their specific features and way of life.

Key words: Transylvanian-Saxon, birds, linguist, folklorist, owl, specific features.

Adriana DĂNILĂ (Bucharest):

The representation of power relationship in the political discourse (The case of the politicized commemorative speeches delivered on the death of the former President of the German Democratic Republic Wilhelm Pieck)

Abstract. The present paper deals with the way in which the relations between different political governments and their representatives are expressed at the linguistic level on the strength of power positions in the official political discourse. The political value system and its justification are expressed in the official political discourse, which lays down rules and indicates attitudes with normative status and at the same time reveals the relations between the supporters of the respective ideology. For this purpose, three commemorative speeches are analysed; these speeches were published in the newspaper *Neuer Weg* on the 11th September 1960 and they were delivered by the German politicians Otto Grotewohl, the prime minister of GDR and Walter Ulbricht, the deputy prime minister of GDR and the Romanian politician Chivu Stoica, the secretary of the presidium of the General Council of the Party, on the death of the former President of the German Democratic Republic Wilhelm Pieck.

Key words: political discourse, power relationships, wooden language, language of the press, communism, Rumäniendeutsch.

Ana Karlstedt (Bucharest):

The image of "the other" in intercultural pedagogy

Abstract. For intercultural language teaching, coaching students on how to perceive the cultural "other" is of crucial importance in order to avoid culturally based misunderstandings. This paper

explores how perceiving the other can offer conclusions for perceiving and becoming aware of the self. Through that, a process of giving and taking ensues in which perceptions of the self and of the other are constantly fluctuating depending on the context in which the communication is taking place. At the crossroads between members of two different cultures, a dialogue emerges in which the points of view of both parties are changed. The paper outlines how perception is a construct in which one's own origin, education, and emotions are blended in. Intercultural learning is the way to deal with this constructs in a flexible manner so as to create new interpretation patterns. It teaches how to sympathize with the other and how to better understand oneself.

Key words: intercultural communication, intercultural (language) learning, cultural diversity, identity, otherness

Iulia ZUP (Iasi):

The translations of the Habsburg civil code in Romanian

Abstract. This paper explores the context and reasons for the extensive translation of legal texts from German into Romanian in Bukovina during the Habsburg period (1775–1918) and immediately following the unification with the Romanian Kingdom. The Austrian civil code from 1811 was translated in the three important periods of translation, corresponding to the major administrative changes in the province. The paper analyses the different translations and their impact on the Romanian legislation, legal terminology and juridical style.

Key words: civil code; Habsburg Bukovina; translation; Romanian legislation; legal terminology

III. Book Show

Maria Sass: Review

Doris Sava: Review

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