ABSTRACTS
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Research Articles

THEORY, HISTORY AND LITERARY CRITICISM

Proper Monitoring and Parenting of the Girl Child in Nigerian Stand-up Comedy

Idowu James Adekunle

Abstract:
Stand-up comedy is an oral dramatic performance that is commonly enacted by a solo-performer or a duet before a live audience. Some existing literatures examined it largely from humour and entertainment to the neglect of its deeper societal values. Therefore, this paper investigates its new trend in gender discourse through its oral structural form by discussing the social responsibility of mothers on proper monitoring and parenting of the girl child. Besides, it also investigates the linguistic devices employed by the selected female comedian to reveal the roles of female comedians as the gatekeepers and conscience of society. Five digital video discs of live performance recordings of Helen Paul, a Nigerian female comedian, were purposively selected. The selected live recordings were based on the informing sociological realities and choice of satiric mode. The paper employed Schechner's Performance, Freudian and Jungian psychoanalytic theories were used to analyse the informing sociological realities and choice of satiric mode. The data were subjected to performance and literary analysis.
Keywords: the girl child, stand-up comedy, female comedian, proper monitoring and parenting, performance

The Writer's Racial Paradox: August Wilson, Choosing the Black Route

Alwan Hassan Khalaf Albulanee

Abstract:
Two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, critically acclaimed African-American playwright, August Wilson was one of the 20th century's foremost writers who highlighted the struggles of the African-American community. A victim of racial discrimination himself, Wilson was terrified as a child as he experienced traumatic episodes of racism in school. Not only was he kicked out of school for being the only African-American, but he was also threatened and abused to the point of being physically assaulted. It was these experiences that deeply marked young Wilson, so much so that he began to express his feelings through his writings. One of the first African-American men to achieve success on Broadway, Wilson was instrumental in shaping the African-American movement and highlighting their plight in the eyes of people around the world. For Wilson, the African-American community had, has and will always have a different view of life, because that view was built from a very different past from the white community, and that past affects to the present the way the black acts, his decision-making, his interaction with others, something that in his opinion was never accepted by the white community.
Keywords: African-American community, discrimination, identity, race theatre, Wilson August

Alexandru Macedonski and his
Theory on Versification

Florina-Diana Cordoș

Abstract:

This article presents Alexandru Macedonski's contribution to Romanian literature concerning the promotion of new literary tendencies – at the beginning in those times – Symbolism and Parnassianism. In this study I brought into discussion the vocation of "Mecenas poet" that Macedonski had in the literary space of Bucharest after the foundation of the society *Literatorul*. I also presented in this paper the Macedonski's conception on versification. His ideas were published in the pages of the magazine "Literatorul", in the colection entitled *Arta versurilor*. I highlighted here his activity as a promoter and guider in the Romanian literary space, because this is a quality that makes him radically different from his contemporaries.

Keywords: prosodic elements, free verse, lines, rhyme, rhythm, metre

The Subtlety of Discursive Forms in Nikos Kazantzakis'
Grădina de piatră

Amalia Drăgulănescu

Abstract:

This article presents the proteicity of some forms of discourse which combines aesthetics and representations, referring to mentalities and even ideology, in a genuine kind of meta-text. Being a pretext for his atipic literature with philosophical insertions, Nikos Kazantzakis' voyages in China and Japan create the appropriate atmosphere for a temperate fiction and a hyperbolic reality. From this perspective a realistic allegory about the *eternal China* and the fragile Japan, two sources of chaos and wisdom in the same time, arises. Prefiguring some patterns of a *sui generis* postmodernism, this writing includes several topical ideas like the universality of a unique religion, the intercultural changes and even the idea of a mankind which recovers the signs of the humanity.

Keywords: voyage accounting, the category of sublime, Oriental mystique, spiritual pilgrimage, ultimate reality

Reconciling Religious Orientation with the Demands of Fiction in Andrew M. Greeley's Selected Novels

Mark Anthony G. Moyano

Abstract:
This article attempts to reconcile the religious orientation of Rev. Andrew M. Greeley with the demands of fiction, *i.e.* the literariness required in a masterpiece. As a sociologist-priest, he has written fictions that are considered or labeled as popular or those that belong to genre fiction. Using Russian formalist literary theories in reading Greeley's selected novels, the researcher was able to elucidate that Greeley's craftmanship is present, though it heavily relies on his background as a priest and sociologist.

Keywords: Greeley, sociology of literature, sociology of religion, fiction, craftmanship

Quelques considérations sur l'imaginaire dans les sciences

Nicolae Şera

Some Considerations on the Imaginary in Science

Abstract:
Our study analyzes the relationship between the imaginary / imagination and scientific rationalism while mirroring seemingly contrasting aspects. Just as the imaginary has its own reasoning (structures, archetypes, the capacity to produce meaning – analyzed by Gilbert Durand, Gaston Bachelard and Northrop Frye), rationalism is subject to its own logic (cause- effect, arguments, deduction/ induction, etc.) which may surface in the realm of the imaginary. We further analyze the cognitive function of the imaginary, which is at the core of analogy-based knowledge and manifests itself through the metaphorical side of language. Thus a subtle, yet rigorous game emerges between clarity (characteristic to science) and ambiguity (a feature of the imaginary), between visible and invisible, further leading towards an understanding of reality beyond abstract rationalism which, in its turn, may lead to fiction while exploring possible worlds.

Keywords: imaginary, real, reason, cognitive, fiction, possible worlds / *mundus imaginalis*

Christian Identity in a Secular World

Mihai Handaric

Abstract:

This paper intends to argue for the necessity to preserve the Christian identity in the secular world, in which the believer is called to live in. The manifestation of this identity is seen especially in the area of ethics. It is analysed the way ethics is interpreted in postmodernism and in Christianity. On the one hand, the postmoderns want to equalize the biblical perspective on ethics, which supports *the good and evil* antithesis. Stanley Hauerwas talks about differences between Christian and Postmodern perspective in the area of ethics. The reader is invited to compare the two systems of moral values, and come up with some conclusions. It is demonstrated that Christianity bases its morality on *Scripture*. On the other hand, the postmodern perspective allows all the voices in the society to support their own view. The author presents the actual tendency to ignore the classical values, such as good and evil. There is also a tendency to remove guilt. In this paper it is argued that from the biblical perspective of moral antithesis is rooted in creation. The sacred text argue that because man ignored the divine commandment from *Genesis* 2: 16-17, he committed a moral action with dramatic consequences for all human race. The biblical books written by the so called "Deuteronomistic School", are guided by the central idea of "blessings and curses". By doing good, man is expected to be blessed, and by doing evil, he is expected to be punished.

Keywords: Christian, identity, *Scripture*, postmodernism, ethics

Fr. Dumitru Stăniloae:
Portrait of a Public Theologian

Daniel G. Oprean

Abstract:

It is the aim of this article to sketch the portrait of Fr. Dumitru Stăniloae as a public theologian. Starting with his biography and continuing with his intellectual and spiritual development will become clear that Fr. Dumitru Stăniloae was a theologian profoundly involved in the cultural, intelectual and spiritual life of the Romanian society of the twentieth century. We will observe the fact that the uniqueness of Dumitru Stăniloae in the tapestry of Romanian theological thought is given, among many other things, by his robust interaction with different traditions than his own, an interaction that roots his interdisciplinary, dialogical approach to theology. We will also focus on the way Stăniloae is a theologian who rediscovers the vital connection between theology and spirituality. Moreover, we will understand that there are also many elements in Stăniloae's theological thought that could be taken in account in a formulation of new ways of thinking about the Church and her mission in third millennium Romania.

Keywords: theology, spirituality, culture, society, legacy

Accounts of Holiness.
A Socio-Religious *Tour d'horizon*

Ciprian Gheorghe-Luca

Abstract:

The purpose of this paper is to sketch a working definition of holiness, by offering a brief, comparative, and critical *tour d'horizon* of the notion, on the basis of five influential socio-religious accounts, namely those put forth by Emile Durkheim (*taboo*), Jonathan Söderblom (*mana* and *tabu*), Rudolf Otto (the *numinous*), Emmanuel Levinas (*ethical meaning*), and Mircea Eliade (*sacred* vs. *profane*). The paper ends with a theological wrap-up *in lieu* of conclusion.

Keywords*:* holiness, the sacred, sociology of religion, phenomenology, theology

The Ideological Challenges
of Religious Pluralism and Multiculturalism
for Globalized Societies

Mark Omorovie Ikeke

Abstract:

The phenomenon of globalization has led to many globalized societies. Globalized societies are societies that have experienced and are influenced by the features of globalization. In globalization, time and space have shrunk and the world's peoples and cultures are now more interlinked and interconnected through transportation and information communication technology which has led to the movement of human capital and transmission of ideas and cultures. Globalization has facilitated the meeting of different religions and cultures. In many societies today you now have people of different religions and cultures living/working side by side. Religious pluralism and multiculturalism are now ideological standpoints as they are now sets of beliefs of how society should be organized. This paper will hermeneutically examine these phenomena and the challenges that they present. Through analysis the paper argues that both religious pluralism and multiculturalism are facts of globalized societies not to be ignored. The paper concludes that religious pluralism and multiculturalism can be managed for harmony in society. These done globalized societies will experience more social harmony and concord.

Keywords: ideology, religious pluralism, multiculturalism, globalization, globalized societies

On the Violence and the War
What is the most Important Philosophical Problem of War?
A Possible Interpretation on the War

Sándor Karikó

Abstract:

Wars and war conflicts have been seen through history. It seems this is a necessity. From the history of philosophy – among others – Hegel can be quoted, who set the necessity of wars to moral cause. Karl Marx continues: he shows how unleashing wars relates to the appearance of property and ownership. According to him, man approaches the terms of production (mainly the land and its resource) as if they were the man's hands or own accessories. This general correspondence in the history of philosophy (could be hard to challenge its justness), does not negate the moral lesson: it is everyone's responsibility to protect peace, sedate war conflicts and solve them.

Keywords: war, violence, property, moral, peace, individuality