

Abstracts

Volume IV, no. 1(7) /2013

Research Articles

THEORY, HISTORY AND LITERARY CRITICISM

Erich Maria Remarque, “*All Quiet on the Western Front*”: Nazism – Collective Responsibility and Individual Option

Florica Bodiștean

Abstract:

This study analyses the novel *A Time to Love and a Time to Die* by the anti-fascist writer Erich Maria Remarque. It deals with a specific representation of the individual of the twentieth century, that of the relationship between the heroic and the erotic, between the involvement on the public level of History and the private level of individual fulfilment. The novel illustrates the restructuring of the traditional categories of heroism and reveals the fact that in the past century, involvement in war was a matter of personal opinion, of consciousness, not one of duty or calling. My study aims at proving that this novel, although written in a serious, journalistic style, follows established patterns, as it is infused with two myths: that of initiation, closely related to a spiritual master, and that of love and the recovery of mankind's golden age through a cyclic catastrophe – the only way to cast off the horrors of Nazism.

Keywords: humanism, Nazism, twentieth century, individual option, the myth of initiation, the myth of the golden age

Henriette Yvonne Stahl: A Special Case in the Romanian Literature

Laura-Lia Bălaj

Abstract:

The Romanian author of French origin and contemporaneous with Simone de Beauvoir, Henriette Yvonne Stahl enriches our country's literature through a sensible touch of the particular feminine universe (and of the couple, through extension), eluding the social-communist context which overwhelms and engrains the artistic manifestations of mid past century. Preoccupied with the meaning of the existence and baiting a proustian type of prose, the author launches out in a realistic and well-rounded writing on dikes of her own life experience, permanently juggling between concepts such as *reality*, *the illusion of reality*, *human evolution* and *understanding of life*. Partner of two important Romanian writers from different periods of her existence – Ion Vinea and Petru Dumitriu –, the Romanian writer of French origin invested herself frenetically in her work just like a profoundly preoccupied artist of the message sent to his peers, a pure humanist one.

Keywords: the illusion of reality, the meaning of being, the obstacles of human evolution

L'Architecte de Mircea Cărtărescu – un projet identitaire de la quête et du sacrifice

Bogdan Rațiu

The Architect by Mircea Cărtărescu – an Identity Project of Quest and Sacrifice

Abstract:

In our study we try to analyze the novel *The architect* of volume *Nostalgia* from a new perspective, creating the identity of stages for the creation of the main character – Emil Popescu. Mircea Cărtărescu's novel is alternatively consider an imaginary match tension caused by authentic identity and on the other hand the sacrifice (re) found in the postmodern world. Also, the theme of superhuman passion of the Architect meets the theme of communication (ethos, pathos, logos) and sacrifice for creation Balkanism gained.

Keywords: ethos, pathos, logos, vision, communication, sacrifice, identity

Cella Serghi – Variants and invariants of a novel

Lavinia Ionoaia

Abstract:

This study uses the comparative method inside the same piece of work. Although variants of only one novelistic structure (*Barotă's Daughters* and *Parallel Love Stories*), presenting consequently numerous elements of cohesion, I considered necessary to approach especially the intention differences, the style thoughts, the way in which a theme is built or moulded from an edition to another.

On the other hand, I highlighted the existence of a context being extremely consistent and problematic that led to rewriting of some works concerning Cella Serghi, well known during the inter war period through the popular novel *The Spider web* and who was forced, beginning with the Communism era, to make a lot of compromises regarding literature, in order to be published.

Keywords: socialist realism, rewriting, theme, character, classical style, movie construction

The Nightmare in Kingsley Amis's Novels

Odetta Manuela Belei

Abstract:

Amis is chiefly known as a comedic novelist of mid-to late-20th century British life, but his literary work extended into many genres – poetry, essays and criticism, short stories, anthologies, and a number of novels in genres such as science fiction and mystery. Amis, originally wished to be a poet, and turned to writing novels only after publishing several volumes of verse. He continued throughout his career to write poetry which is known for its typically straightforward and accessible style, yet which often masks a nuance of thought, just as it does in his novels.

Keywords: Angry Young Man, Lucky Jim, biography, fiction, nightmare

Noaptea fantastică. Forme și funcții ale nocturnului în literatura supranaturalului

Emanuela Ilie

The Fantastic Night. Forms and Functions of the Nocturne in the Supernatural's Literature

Abstract:

An essential aspect regarding the difficult process of constructing the fantastic atmosphere is the lucid option of the fantastic stage designer for the nocturne. Even the innocent reader of the fantastic text or the ingenuous admirer of a fantastic painting can observe the night recurrence in these works of art: practically, the nocturne appears as the ideal frame for conceiving and proliferating the monsters that the auctorial fantasy uses and sometimes overbids. The general impression is that the fantastic art and literature don't utilize the sacred, Eleusis night, but the terrifying night that prefigures the demonic apparitions. Our study is focused exactly on the forms and functions of the (potentially hostile) nocturne in the supernatural's art and literature. We will analyze them closely only after a theoretical prologue centred on the night's mythological significances.

Keywords: nocturne, mythology, fantastic, monsters

Mito y literatura: hitos de la identidad cultura latinoamericana

Alina Țiței

Myth and Literature: Landmarks of Latin-American Cultural Identity

Abstract:

In this paper we aim at emphasizing the organic connection between two essential components of Latin American cultural ethos: myth and literature. We attempt to define myth and to contextualize it within the culture of the subcontinent and, correlatively, we map a series of antinomies which delineate its spirituality, antinomies subsumed to the antithetical binomials civilization \neq barbarity and Europe \neq America. We also analyze the bonds that link myth, literature, identity and history, and we focus on the relationship between the image of the hero and the myth of the savior, the providential man, on the one hand, and the Latin American dictatorial figure, historic and fictional, on the other, associating both with the identity specificity of Latin America.

Keywords: myth, literature, identity, hero, dictator

The Predicate in Romanian Grammar Books. From Ion Heliade-Rădulescu to Hariton Tiktin

Lizica Mihuț
Anca Stoenescu

Abstract:

The predicate, as main part of the sentence along with the subject, is competently analyzed for the first time by Ion Heliade-Rădulescu, in his *Gramatica românească* (1828). It approaches language from a logical-rationalist perspective, dominant at the age, according to which every sentence must be centered upon a subject and a predicate, which he calls *Prezis* (= Foretold). The next significant grammatical work in Romanian linguistics is Timotei Cipariu's *Gramatica limbii române*. Consisting of two volumes – *Analitica* (1869) and *Sintetica* (1877) –, it is considered to be the first academic grammar of the Romanian language. Conceived along the same logical-rational lines, we can find in it all the features a modern grammar should contain. The two linguists had such an impact on Romanian linguistics that, in the specialized literature, the terms *Heliade's age* and *Cipariu's age* are used. The first linguist with an authentic scientific upbringing (acquired in Paris) was Al. Lambrior. His *Gramatică română. Fonetica și morfologia* (= Romanian Grammar. Phonetics and Morphology), published in 1892, was held in great esteem among specialists. The last grammarian analyzed in this paper is Hariton Tiktin, with his *Gramatica română*, in two volumes: *Etimologia* (= *Morfologia*) and *Sintaxa* (published between the years 1891 and 1893). It is a work of unquestionable scientific value, whose greatest merit is to have introduced the basic modern terminology into Romanian grammar books.

Keywords: predicate, linguistics, grammar, phonetics, etymology, morphology, syntax

Improving Writing Skills through the Use of Toulmin's Model of Argumentation

Otilia Huțiu

Abstract:

The paper presents Toulmin's model of argumentation and argues that it can be used in ESP and EAP classes to enhance argumentative competence and improve the writing skills of students. It also stresses the importance of teaching argumentation to students as part of their English classes, as this may help them in acquiring not only the language but also the discursive formats and text types (genres) of academic writing in general.

Based on an analysis of argumentative and opinion essays written by students during the ESP seminars, the author highlights the fact that although the general format of these written genres is known to students, a scarcity of arguments and rhetorical strategies could be noticed.

The author concludes that exercises illustrating the layout of arguments as proposed by the Toulmin model and the various argumentative schemes that can be used may improve both the writing skills of the students and their knowledge of research and academic discourse.

Keywords: argument layout, written genres, warrants, claims, backings

Teacher Personal Development – a Priority of the Present Age

Dana Sorana Urs

Abstract:

The author discusses the concept of teacher personal development with the purpose of revealing the necessity of including aspects that, up to the present, have been ignored. The new context of globalization and development based on knowledge and innovation has opened the necessity of an increased focus on the quality of teaching. As a function of human psychology, quality cannot be pursued without considering intuition, creativity and introspection skills. The paper examines the possibility of stimulating the inborn capabilities of teachers by resorting to a recent method of activating the INDIVIDUATION process postulated by C. G. Jung.

Keywords: Self Realization, transformation, thoughtless awareness, physical health, yoga

„Gura satului” (Die Stimme des Dorfes) (1867–1871) – eine sogenannte „humoristische“ Zeitschrift in Österreich-Ungarn

Daciana Marinescu

“Gura satului” (“Voice of the Village”) (1867–1871) – a So-Called Humour Magazine in Austria-Hungary

Abstract:

The Romanian weekly magazine “Gura satului” was first published in 1867, in Pest (Hungary), by the well-known lawyer, writer and journalist, Iosif Vulcan. The magazine appeared in two series, from 1867 to 1881 and from 1901 to 1903. So far, no researcher specialized in the history of the Romanian press has dedicated a monographic work, exclusively to this periodical. Aspects relating to the place of this magazine in the Romanian modern press were analyzed only in a broader framework. The authors of all these approaches have concluded that the journal had a mainly literary character. “Voice of the Village” was therefore included in the genre of satirical press. A background analysis of the numbers of the magazine that appeared between 1867 and 1871, when its headquarters was in Pest, allows us to draw new conclusions. They point out the national and militant character of the magazine. Therefore, at least for this period, the journal may be considered one of the main Romanian political journals in dualist Hungary.

Keywords: “Gura satului”, Romanian political press, literary press, Austria-Hungary, dualism

Theoretical Mediations in the Definition of the Concept of Power

Matei Şimandan

Abstract:

This article highlights the diversity of the perspectives which analyzes the power of relationships and the theoretical terms which intervene in the relation of power with the domination, power, legitimacy and authority. In the first part of the article I will present a few approaches of the relations of power, with an accent upon Weber's contributions regarding the ideal types of domination and legitimacy. The second part of the article focuses upon the interactions which are instituted in the process of exercising power, while the third part analyzes the functioning of power relations within the "structural duality". The last part of the paper brings in the center of attention the mechanisms through which power is exercised as a "symbolic" domination and the consequences which develop from it for the theory and practice of social research.

Keywords: power, domination, legitimacy, mediation, interaction