

Markus FISCHER (Bucharest):

Return to granted life

The figure of Alkestis in literary works of Euripides, Hofmannsthal and Rilke

Abstract: The present contribution deals with the reception of the figure of Alkestis both in Greek antiquity (Euripides) and in German literature around 1900 (Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Rainer Maria Rilke). The contribution shows on the one hand that already Euripides had problems with the dramatic transformation of the antique mythological narrative into a tragic subject. On the other hand it shows that the two modern versions of the narrative of Alkestis around 1900 deal with it quite differently: Hofmannsthal's free adaptation of the Euripidean *Alkestis* shifts the subject matter into a Dionysian context, in the light of Schopenhauer's and Nietzsche's philosophy, whereas Rilke implants themes and motifs of his own poetry in the narrative of Alkestis and amalgamates them with it.

Keywords: The figure of Alkestis; The reception of Greek antiquity around 1900; The myth of Dionysus; Euripides; Hofmannsthal; Rilke

Ivana PAJIĆ (Novi Sad)

The function of the narrator in the construction of the image of the other in

Saša Stanišić's novel *How the Soldier Repairs the Gramophone*

Abstract: In his novel *How the Soldier Repairs the Gramophone*, the author Saša Stanišić shows the complex relationship of the narrator (Aleksandar) to his native Bosnia and Herzegovina on the one hand and Germany on the other hand, which becomes (because of the Civil War in Bosnia and Herzegovina) the new random home of Aleksandar's family. The resulting problems such as loss of home, integration, construction and reconstruction of „auto-image“ and „hetero-image“ are treated from a unique perspective - of a growing child. In this work, using the example of the novel *How the Soldier Repairs the Gramophone* will be examine, what specific child perspective as a narrator in the construction of „auto-image“ and „hetero-image“ and what is a difference in a perspective between the child and the adult narrator.

Keywords: Saša Stanišić, the child narrator, auto-image and hetero-image

Francisca SOLOMON (Iași)

The Bukovinian dimension and the experience of “Otherness“ in Alexander Spiegelblatt's short story *In fartogikn groy*

Abstract: The historical events during 1918, which marked the dissolution of the Habsburg Monarchy, along with the violent acts of World War II were for the majority of the “Austrian-Bukovina” Jews the catalyst leading to profound identity disruption and disorientation. The destruction of the old “foundation” and the loss of the existential centre of reference were perceived by a large number of Bukovina Jews as extremely painful. The most of them continued

to cultivate the old “Austrian” values. The experience during the war and the Holocaust shattered the survivors in an irremediable way.

In this paper, I rely deliberately on the short story „In fartogikn groy” written by the Yiddish writer Alexander Spiegelblatt in order to illustrate the traumatic transition from a multinational to a “national(-istic)” construction, marked by severe a “new” values.

Key words: Bukovina Jews, deportation, Alexander Spiegelblatt, Yiddish language, cultural identity.

Teodora-Bianca MORARU (Sibiu):

**The Synaesthetic Representation of the World as an Erotic Journey in Gheorghe Crăciun’s
*Femei albastre***

Abstract: The novel *Femei albastre*, published in an unfinished version six years after the death of its author, the Braşov born writer Gheorghe Crăciun, registers a complex symptomatology of losing and finding oneself on the background of the Romanian post-communist transition. The main theme is the narrative depiction of the senses’ polyphony, the daily drama of the body, whose fundamental loneliness can be observed both in the pain, as in the Eros. The main aim of this article is to present the narrative filtering of various synaesthetic aspects, the written transfiguration of the information received through the senses. This is done through a series of experimental techniques, such as photographic reproduction, camera perspective and commuting between the real and the imaginary. Just like one of Crăciun’s earlier novels, *Pupa russa*, *Femei albastre* is also not an entirely epic novel, the story is replaced also in this case by a detailed observation and a profound introspection, by a sensory exploration of the world, including its internal transformations and the physical perception. The author himself claims that this novel is to be understood as a conglomerate of eroticism, sensuality and somatic investigation: „Şi acest roman este focalizat asupra erosului, cu nu puţine deschideri spre erotism, senzualitate şi explorare somatică“

Key words: Gheorghe Crăciun, detail view, eroticism, camera perspective, synaesthesia

Alina BRUCKNER (Iasi):

The Romantic Mood: the Characteristic of Mass Literature Authors

Abstract: This paper intends to briefly analyze the features of the popular writers of the 19th century. This is a period, in which the literary manifestations may be regarded under extremes: the interest lies primarily on the syncretism of literary currents and movements, among which worth mentioning is the “other” Romanticism, i.e. a decorative form of Romanticism.

A short presentation of some successful writers of the 19th century, who could be considered mass literature authors, allows one to sketch the portrait of the typical mass literature author and subsequently of the typical mass literature reader, which should be understood under the cultural and social circumstances of that specific period. The stylistic and thematic similarities among these authors may be extrapolated to such an extent that one may conclude the Romantic mood (here one should understand this “other” Romanticism) is indeed a characteristic of the mass literature authors of the 19th century.

Key words: mass literature, Romanticism, reader, kitsch

II. Linguistics

Doris SAVA (Sibiu):
Wedding announcements from a contrastive and intercultural point of view.
Outlook on future research themes

Abstract: This study offers in its first part a brief description of the text genre, analysing the specific lexical and formal features as well as the specific text composition means. As wedding announcements haven't been examined from a contrastive (German/Romanian)/intercultural point of view yet, it is relevant to mention some research directions and methods.

Keywords: wedding announcements, text genres, research themes

Ellen TICHY (Sibiu):

German after the political change in 1989 in Central and Eastern Europe - study programs in German, German teacher training and German for specific purposes

Abstract: The article discusses recent history developments in Central and Eastern Europe more than a quarter century after the political change of 1989 on the development of programs at former traditional departments of German studies, the training of teachers for German as a foreign language and the growing importance of German for specific purposes.

Keywords: Central and Eastern Europe, University programs in German, German teacher training, German language for specific purposes

Adriana IONESCU (Bucharest):
Greek lexical traps in German. False friends between
Eros and Thanatos

Abstract: This article presents a new dimension of the lexical category of "false friends". False friends are the result of complex phenomena, exceeding bilingualism, so that they are not to be explained solely within the context of the mother tongue or of the foreign language. Many false friendships, i.e. potential false friends, stem from so-called internationalisms. In this article I discuss, in a concrete manner, based on some examples of Greek words in German, the way in which false friendships build an unorthodox triangle, going further than the limits of one language pair.

The main purpose of the article is to show that the etymological condition, even if only optional in defining false friends, has a major role to play in the international lexical patrimony of European languages.

Key-words: false friends, language hybridity

Ioana CONSTANTIN (Sibiu):

Love in the Time of Billeting. Morals in Seventeenth Century Transylvania as Depicted in a Judicial Protocol from the National Archives in Sibiu

Abstract: The Romanian National Archives in Sibiu keep a wide range of documents concerning the history of the Transylvanian Saxons and the every day life of the city of Sibiu. Although of major interest for historians, linguists and translators, these documents have not been fully studied so far. They represent valuable evidence of the evolution of the former German language spoken on the Transylvanian territory and, if translated into Romanian, could offer to the Romanian reader a new perspective on the Transylvanian Saxons' history. This paper analyses, in the historic context of the time, the depositions of witnesses in a civil trial during the Austrian billeting in Sibiu in the 17th century and discusses the contents by observing the main structural characteristics of the text.

Key words: Transylvanian Saxons, billeting, archive documents, Judikat, depositions of witnesses, structural elements of the text

Mihaela PARPALEA (Braşov):
Fashionable language in trivial journalism

Abstract: The topic of this article relies on the assumption that books are unfortunately more and more driven to the wall while series products that are created for a short-term communication remain fashionable. The assessment of the forms and contents considered to be fashionable depends on ratings while the aesthetic criteria, authenticity and depth of the messages are simply ignored. The language and the style of both the printed and the visual media fashionable products are at a level just sufficient to convey messages with stereotyped expressions. Although easy to understand and relaxing, they remain a commodity for a specific audience, a substitute for the real world. For their readers, these series products provide a reading that is consistent with the life they live. Designs and linguistic structures of this trivial journalism are described in this paper.

Keywords: Trivial journalism, pejorative accents, aesthetic verdict, fashionable word, literary topos

III. Translation studies and translation criticism

Lăcrămioara POPA (Sibiu):

Alfred Margul-Sperber- Portrait of a brilliant poet and translator

Abstract: The present study intends to analyze the literary personality of the German-language writer and translator Alfred Margul-Sperber and his approach to Romanian folk poetry and Romanian folk ballads. Alfred Margul-Sperber is known as a classical German-language poet from Romania, as a discoverer and supporter of literary talent, but also as a brilliant translator.

Impressions from his childhood and life experiences contributed to Alfred Margul-Sperber's interest for Romanian poets and especially for Romanian folk poetry, which left its own mark on Sperber's literary creation. The author was fascinated by its plurality of forms, its richness of rhymes, images and sounds. The masterpiece of Romanian folk poetry, "Miorița/The little Ewe"-ballad raised the interest of the multilingual translator who proved his outstanding talent by translating the original text into German as accurately as possible and remarkably close to the spirit of the Romanian folk poetry, thus popularizing it among the German readers at home and abroad.

Keywords: Alfred Margul-Sperber, Translation, Romanian folk ballad, Romanian folk poetry

Carmen POPA (Sibiu):

A 17th century witch trial in Sibiu discussed from a historical, cultural and translational point of view

Abstract: The analyzed and translated text represents a judicial protocol of a witch trial from 1697. After a brief description of the general phenomenon of the witch hunt and its characteristics in 17th century Transylvania the text is discussed from a point of view of its translation. The most problematic aspects are found in the depositions of the witnesses, which abound in linguistic peculiarities, ranging from archaic structures to dialect. The translator faces a dilemma when having to decide whether to translate the archaic structures into archaic ones, thus preserving the stylistic personality of the text, or into modern Romanian, which would mean creating an "open translation". In any case the translation should not neglect the informative and oral character of the source text.

Key words: judicial protocol, witch trial, translation, archaic structures and dialect, "open translation".

IV. Book Show

Delia COTĂRLEA (Braşov):

Review

Abstract: The paper presents Horst Samson's volume of poetry *Kein Schweigen bleibt ungehört -No silence stays unheard* (2013). The review focuses on the main themes dealt with: emigration / exile, absurd existence within the Romanian society during the communist period and national socialist past of the former generation of the German ethnics in Romania. Although the themes may seem disparate one from another, the analysis shows eventually similarities in the stances of the lyrical self.

Keywords: book review, emigration, exile, communism, fascism

Ewelina WILKOS (Szczecin/Polen):

Review

Abstract: The article is a scholarly review of the Stefan Kühtz's handbook „Wissenschaftlich formulieren. Tipps und Textbausteine für Studium und Schule” (Scientific express. Tip and text block for studies and school). The book contains the information about, how to write a scientific paper and many of examples of right and wrong sentences. Such tips can be useful not only for students of German as a foreign language, but also for native speakers of german language.

Key words: Stefan Kühtz, Scientific express, right and wrong sentences