ABSTRACTS Vol. I, no. 1/2010

Tristan and Isolde, or On the Conventions and Liberties of Medieval Eros

Florica Bodistean

Abstract:

Although written by men, medieval literature, whose main invention is associated with courtly love, seems to be the echo of women's Eros-related Bovarism. Having a status of servitude in society, the medieval woman is praised in literature. She becomes an object of adoration in a convention that follows the principles of feudal behaviour, but offers to the following centuries a fundamental lesson about love – a love which involves distance and platonicism. In this context, my study aims to point to the modernity of the novel *Tristan and Isolde*, which breaks the known patterns by ambiguating not only the moral medieval Manichaeism, but also the idea of an unconsummated love and by proposing a complex female model, forever different according to the perspective from which she is perceived: the husband's, the lover's, God's.

Keywords: courtly love, adversity, unconsummated love, free will

Paul Desjardins' Bijoux Diaries. Genetic Aspects

Dorica Lucaci

Abstract:

What is a diary? Of all the forms of personal writing, of all the autobiographical practices, it is undoubtedly the most widely spread. Everyone has (or has had) a diary ... And nevertheless, this ...mass practice aroused little curiosity from the part of specialists and of those interested more closely in the autobiographical genre. Paul Desjardins (1859 - 1940), student at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Bergson's and Jaurès's generation, founder – before and between the two wars – of the Decades of Pontigny, had discovered and investigated the "diary" form day by day, in a continuous way, between 1924 and 1939. My purpose is to observe and describe this attempt to manage the daily time starting in particular with a special organization of the writing space (this study takes into account only the year 1924).

Keywords: agenda, diary, intellectual societies, fragmentary writing

Romantic Fantasy and Rusticity in Eminescu's Fairy Tales

Adela Drăucean

Abstract:

In Eminescu's work, as G. Călinescu says, "there is a traditional wind all over", due to the poet's contact with the rustic life, with the people's artistic work. If in Eminescu's poetry one can feel "the traditional wind" through the frequent use of images (forest, river, fountain, shadoof, herd etc.), sounds (elegiac folksong, crescent, horn, long shepherd's pipe, whistle, grif etc.) and rhythm, all characteristic to the Romanian nature, in the narrative fiction some other aspects are added: the national costume, the dwelling (shack, hut) decorated with rather practical objects than beautiful ones and the traditions connected to the transition moments in man's life: birth, wedding and funeral. Eminescu introduces the country life in his works, but the world of fairytales belonging to the gold age, without time and space, makes the poet dream of a beautiful world, of the endless life spectacle. Reality and dream grow and live together.

Keywords: romanticism, fantasy, rusticity, dream

Language and Literature

I. Funeriu

Abstract:

False pretences lead to misrepresentation, even though the underlying judgement may be correct. In this article, the author tries to illustrate this theoretical implication through concrete examples, criticising the subjective dichotomy between language and literature that our schools sometimes create.

Keywords: language, literature, didacticism, textualism

The Human Sublime and Its Rhetoric in Vasile Pârvan's Memorial, Rosalia. They Died for Freedom. A Song of Grief and a Song of Triumph

Dumitru Vlăduț

Abstract:

The author of this study analyses the human and moral sublime and its rhetoric in Vasile Pârvan's memorial Rosalia. They fell for freedom. A grief song and a song of triumph, published in 1918 and dedicated to the Romanian soldiers who gave their lives for a free and united country during WWI. The study starts with some considerations on the various approaches put forth by Romanian criticism connecting Pârvan's works (Memorials and Historical Forms and Ideas) to the anonymous ancient writer of the Treatise on the Sublime. After an extensive treatment of the moral sublime and its developments in Pârvan's work, the author focuses on a series of stylistic devices used by the writer, such as the serene style, the all-embracing declamation, the mythological and biblical references, the syntactic figures, especially those of inversion and repetition, and the rhetoric interrogation.

Keywords: memorial, sublime, rhetoric, ethical

The Lexical Level in Advertising Texts

Carmen Neamtu

Abstract:

The work focuses on the lexical level in texts used in advertising, reviewing the neologisms, the argot and the familiar language in the message of the advertisement. The processes that appear at a semantic level in advertisements are highlighted: the polysemy, the antinomy, word composition, the transformation of the grammatical category of the words. Also taken into consideration is the inflow of foreign words into the language used in advertising, but also the elevated elements from the language of advertisements, or vague words and expletive expressions from the structure of advertisements. The theoretical aspects are accompanied by examples.

Keywords: advertising, advertisement, semantics

Aspects Regarding Word Order and Subordinate Clause Order in Contemporary Romanian. Norm vs. Usage

Bianca Miuta

Abstract:

Word order and the sentence syntax are flexible in the Romanian language, but there are situations when they become strict in order to avoid the confusion that may occur between the syntactic functions throughout communication. It often happens that the constituents of the sentences and the sentences become the subject of the subordinated equivalent, breaching the word order rules and generating ambiguous communication or even special stylistic effects in the works of fiction or in ordinary speech.

Keywords: word order, dependency relations, constituents of clause, syntactic dependency, expressivity, stylistic effects

Long-range comparisons and word roots decay. A statistical assessment on the reliability of long-range comparisons

Dan Ungureanu

Abstract:

The article takes into discussion the reliability of long-range comparison and of linguistic comparisons generally. The article also studies the mass comparison versus the classic arborescent taxonomy. After taking into account the factor of chance in linguistic comparison, the author discusses parameters in which long-range comparison remains possible. He discusses a widespread radical for the meaning "we" in different proto-languages, and the possibility that this comparison be meaningful and falsifiable.

Keywords: glottochronology, factor of chance in language comparison, historical linguistics, taxonomy

Truth-condition in social sciences. A hermeneutic perspective

Florea Lucaci

Abstract:

The topic this survey proposes for debate is the issue of truth in social sciences. Configuring the content of the notion of truth so that it should be functional within a social theory is a problematic matter. There are two sources to generate this, namely: a) the historical dynamics of society; b) the double methodology of scientific research, respectively: application of the methods of natural sciences, and/or assumption of the interpretational methods related to the specificity of social sciences. With hermeneutics, there is the possibility of unicity in the form of complementarity, as it regards truth both as a correspondence of propositions with the reality described, and at the same time, in relation with a cultural paradigm, with the interests for knowledge and the beliefs to be encountered in the existential project assumed.

Keywords: truth in social sciences, hermeneutic, Hans-Georg Gadamer, Paul Ricoeur

The Postmodern Value Crisis and Its Reflection in Visual Arts

Călin Lucaci

Abstract:

The cultural paradigm of postmodernism is contradictory especially because the model it proposes. The enhancement of the artistic sphere assumed in postmodernism leads towards a self diminishment up to the point where these limits become inconsistent, voiding the concept of visual art. The present paper researches the consequences of this visual arts crisis, that in specific circumstances, we must acknowledge, loses its visual aspect.

Keywords: postmodernism, visual art, antiart