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Márta Bodó

Paupercula Feminea Forma. A Simple Woman of the Middle Ages and her Musical Visions

Keywords: Middle Ages, sainthood, religious women, drama, oratorio, vision

In the Middle Ages most of the saints were men (90%). After 1200 women saints represented 18%. At first martyr men and women were quite the same, no female specific was named in case of beatification. In the 13th century women got the spotlight, as the Church began beatifying more and more women. The Church Fathers considered all that was female weak, disposed to erotic failure and thus not able to live the life of a saint. In the 13th century the model of sainthood was transformed, first women of aristocratic descent were also beatified. Later, in the 15th century even women of lower descent, peasant girls became saints. The article analyses the model of sainthood in the case of Hildegard von Bingen.

László Holler

What is the Meaning of the Word *ualallal* as it Appears in the Old Hungarian Lament of the Virgin Mary?

Keywords: earliest Hungarian text records, Old Hungarian Lament of the Virgin Mary, words of unidentified meaning, noun valál, verb vall.

The Lament of the Virgin Mary, written in Old Hungarian, is one of the earliest dated Hungarian texts on record. It was likely composed between 1200–1225; (see Holler, László: “Chronology of the Earliest Hungarian Text Records and the Explanation of the Expression *kyniuhhad* Occurring in the Old Hungarian Lament of the Virgin Mary.” *Erdélyi Múzeum* 77. (2015) 117–134.) The meaning of some words in the poem are disputed even today. One of these is the word *ualallal*, found in the 10th verse; pronounced [*valállal*]. The author concludes that, contrary to former explanations, the meaning of the word is ‘with suffering’. The author supports this postulation with citations from several excerpts from 15th –16th century texts in which the verb *vall* clearly has the meaning ‘to suffer’. He further argues that, regarding the Lament, this meaning semantically fits into the text perfectly. The correct spelling of the word would have been “*uallallal*”, but in order to achieve a perfect rhyme with the word “*halállal*” the poet used the special form “*ualallal*” having only one *l* after the *ua-* letters. This article further discusses other problems related to the 10th verse of The Lament of the Virgin Mary and extrapolates on the verse’s meaning as well.

Csaba Maczelka

Dialogue, Paratext, Polyphony – Points of View for the Interpretation of Thomas More's Works

Keywords: Thomas More, utopia, paratext, dialogue, Unitarian literature

This paper offers a brief look at some of the more recent research trends concerning the interpretation of Thomas More's masterpiece, the 500-hundred-years old *Utopia*. First, it reviews the history of the first editions, and in connection with it, discusses the paratextual elements surrounding the text, which reflect the ambivalence so characteristic of the utopian genre (simultaneously reinforcing and questioning the fictional framework). These elements, and especially the verse pieces among them, are characterised by an intense presence of self-reflectivity, which the paper also identifies in the main text. For the text, written in a dialogue form informed by both the Platonic and the Lucianic tradition, reveals – besides the actual topics discussed (best form of state, laws, etc.) – a debate about the genre and methodology of the discussion itself. The discussion of this self-reflexive thread is followed by the question of the Transylvanian-Hungarian reception of *Utopia*, together with certain aspects of the European transmission. The novel results concerning the regional reception are complemented with considerations for further research.

Gyula Dávid

Bánffy and Kós

Keywords: Miklós Bánffy, Károly Kós, Transylvania, Bonțida, Erdélyi Helikon

Studying the relationship between Miklós Bánffy and Károly Kós, an important chapter in the history of Transylvanian Hungarian literature from the first half of the 20th century is outlined in vivid colors. In the early 1910s, they were brought together by the literary and artistic orientations that marked the beginning of the century (they became acquainted due to Kós's chronicle in lyrics about legendary king Attila and Bánffy's drama about the same character). The young aristocrat of Cluj county and the politician writer from a modest family, the editor of *Kalotaszeg*-journal had similar views on the sociopolitical situation at that time as well as on the problems and prospects of Transylvania. Their careers, especially after the events of the First World War and the return of Bánffy from Hungary in 1926, connected to establish institutions that would ensure the survival of the Hungarian minority community: in the literary politics of the Helikon-writers, in the editing of *Erdélyi Helikon* magazine, on the issues of *Erdélyi Szépmíves Céh*. After the end of World War II we find them both in the renewed literary life. Kós has even acted as a politician, but Bánffy became the target of the class struggle. The common history of these two careers did not end with the death of Bánffy in 1950. Kós, as the absolute witness of the events of the past, will be the principal representative of the values expressed by the *Erdélyi Helikon* group, will defend the helikonists' legacy (implicitly, Bánffy's work) against all interpretations stemming from prejudices, reluctance or lack of information.

Adél Csata

The Language Policy of László Teleki (1764–1821) by his Work Entitled *A' magyar nyelv elé mozdításáról buzgó esdeklései gróf Teleki Lászlónak*

Keywords: language policy, diet, form of government, scientist society

The work of László Teleki, which appeared in 1806 does not only represent the possibilities of the cultivation of the Hungarian language, but the author also deals with some state theoretical speculations as well. The last part of the work, which has the name Toldalék, was born due to the diet in 1805 and in some way supplements the incompleteness of the Diet` diary. In this part Teleki`s dilemmas are also formulated, which refer to the status of Hungarian language. We can also read about a plan of founding a scientist society. According to his plan it seems that he has already learned from the previous societies mistakes. This work is also interesting because of the fact that it reflects on language problems from the 18th and 19th century, which are current issues today.

Attila István Kárpáti

„Our Readers Wish Delightful...” Miklós Wesselényi and the Transylvanian Museum.

Keywords: 19th century, Miklós Wesselényi, Gábor Döbrentei, Transylvanian Museum, philanthropic pedagogy.

Although the political activity of Miklós Wesselényi is circumstantially known in the history via Zsolt Trócsányi`s monograph, the research of his literary pursuit did not tone. Though Gábor Csaba Dávid literary historian published his three unknown writings, we do not know much about his belletristic work. The present study examines the young baron`s literary interest in the era of his studies in Cluj, his relationship with Gábor Döbrentei, the founder of the Erdélyi Muzéum [*Transylvanian Museum*], and with the help of several unknown sources it outlines Wesselényi`s literary ambition and motivation.

Éva Szegedi

The Catalog (Registry) of Count Imre Mikó`s Personal Library

Keywords: Imre Mikó, catalog, personal library

The catalog of Count Imre Mikó`s personal library can be found at the special collections department of the Central University Library of Kolozsvár (call number Ms 260). The catalog

lists the authors and titles, where known, the place and time of publication, and frequently provides the format of the document. Most often the bibliographic data is inaccurate and incorrect, at times incomplete, with many abbreviations. As to the year of publication, the volumes appeared in the time frame of the 16th-19th century. Mikó's specialized inventory of titles comprises 34 thematic groups. The extent of the thematic groups gives evidence of a conscientious enrichment of the collections; fiction and ancient classical authors make up the majority of the volumes, followed by documents pertaining to the fields of history, law and politics. History of religion and theology are also highly represented, but philosophy or linguistic categories are fields that also not be overlooked. Mikó's collection should not be considered an aristocratic library of encyclopedical character, because he has shaped it after his own individual needs, the collection is emulated in close connection to his personal interests, bearing an accurate testimony of his erudition, deeply rooted in the European culture.

Eszter Benő

Literature in the Tower of Babel

Keywords: literature, literary translation, Hungarian online literary anthology, linguistic diversity, multilingual portal.

The article presents an online multidimensional-multilingual anthology „Hungarians in the Tower of Babel” specially created for translators and translations. The text corpus consist of thousands of Hungarian literary texts and their translations into 24 languages, as well as of literary texts written in foreign languages and their Hungarian translations. (Among the authors translated into Hungarians 85 are Nobel Prize winners). The anthology is displaying parallelly the original and the translated works. The author appraises the usability, multimediality and openness of the text corpus and makes some critical remarks concerning the weak points of the anthology.