



Interregional and Intermedial Character in the Successor states of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy under the Flourishing Era of the Avant-Garde

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 >> Budapest >>

In the organisation of Prof. Dr. Béla Bacsó, director of the Art Theory and Media Research Institute of the Eötvös Loránd University, and Prof. Dr. Pál Deréky, professor of the Finno-Ugrian Institute of the University of Vienna, are planning to give an international conference in Budapest.

It is the experience of the 20th century that when modernity is in focus, reality is only accessible via the medial techniques. It is obvious, that this feature flourished when the arts of the avant-garde reached their peak. The school of the avant-garde managed to exploit not only the materiality of sign but also the material substance of cultural products. Meanwhile, the other branches of modern literature and art were not able to discover these features. Together with the formerly mentioned facts, the attempt to relate the artistic and non-artistic media had great influence on the avant-garde, which made it possible to insure a ground for the research, which was accomplished in connection with the intermedial character. The separation of the various media occurred parallel with each other in the fields of literature and visual arts. The framing of the question joins the aspects of comparative literature, theory of literature and the philosophy of arts. The theme of the conference is about the historical process that can be understood solely via the collaboration of the distinct branches of sciences. This makes the discussion of the following problems necessary:

How can the development of the new system of conditions be grasped at from a historical point-of-view, when we are on the way to discover the way of attachment of the intermedial character? What kind of differences can be observed in the case of the avant-garde when we are talking about the anomalies of the medial character? What kind of a role is given to this new way of the perception of the medial character, when the history of linkage and interaction of these anomalies are in question?

In the last few decades the question of connection formation among the distinct nationalities was transformed into the question of interregional connections. During this procedure, the



region itself was conceived as being multilingual. Due to this fact, in the case of the late comparative literature the intra- and interregional interactions can be interpreted as the phenomenon of dialogism.

In the 20th century literary studies and in other artistic schools of the avant-garde, the interregional character meant the formation of a network in the successor states of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. It may be said that the very concept embraces the Hungarian, Austrian, Yugoslav and Romanian avant-garde movements. It is obvious, that it is not possible to omit the connections of the Austrian expressionist with Prague or with Belgrade. For a similar reason, it would also be advantageous to plot the Romanian-Yugoslav connections while the conference is running. The multilingual nature, either it appears as a regional phenomenon or it extends through the borders, was a great challenge in every country when the task was writing literary history of the given nation. As a result of the wider recognition of the developing cultural techniques, the knowledge of the multilingual nature reached new dimensions. Regarding the regional and interregional connections, new and unveiled possibilities have arisen. We hope to receive answers concerning the previously described topic. The questions that pertain to it are the following:

In what ways does the nature of the cultural connections change when they cross the borders and connect different cultures? Do the medial techniques of culture integrate the range of the interregional connections that are dissimilar to each other, or do they rather multiply it? Can the centre-periphery model of the national literary history writing avoided by combining the explanatory horizons of the interregional and intermedial character? Can a new horizon be discovered in connection with ›minor literature‹ if they are not defined by their deviation and lateness in space and time compared to the ›major literature‹?

The conference lasts for two days. It takes place in 29-30. April 2004.

Papers will be presented in German or English. The approximately one page long abstracts should be sent until 30. November 2003. These are going to be sent beforehand.



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