

THE SLOVENE NOVEL

Symposium December 5-7, 2002

Miran Hladnik

If you have any questions or require additional information please contact the secretary of the symposium, Ms. Mojca Nidorfer-Šiškovič (simpozij.obdobja@ff.uni-lj.si, +386 / 1 / 241 13 21, fax +386 / 1 / 425 70 55.

Mojca Nidorfer-Šiškovič
Secretary
Prof. Miran Hladnik,
Chair of the Symposium
Obdobja 21

The *Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures* at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana is organizing an international symposium entitled *The Slovene Novel*. The members of the organizing committee, chaired by Miran Hladnik (University of Ljubljana), are: Ada Vidovič-Muha, Marko Juvan, Vladimir Osolnik, Franc Zadavec (all of University of Ljubljana), Timothy Pogacar (Bowling Green University), Zvonko Kovač (University of Zagreb), Peter Scherber (University of Göttingen), and István Lukács (University of Budapest). The annual event, the twenty-first in the series of the *symposia Obdobja*, will take place December 5-7, 2002 in the halls of the high-rise at Trg republike 3 in Ljubljana.

The Title

When several years ago the series of *symposia Obdobja* – which since 1979 had treated systematically the Middle Ages, Reformation, Baroque, Romanticism, etc. in Slovene lands – was exhausted, the symposium opened a new, two-thematic series with the working title *Methods and Genres*. The first theme includes the symposia about the creative rhythms (1992) and historicism (1999), the second the symposia about the Slovene sonnet-writing (1998), the Romantic epic poem (2000), and last year's symposium about the Slovene literary language. This year's topic, the Slovene Novel, is a logical continuation of research which in future years intends to shed light on other important forms, types, and genres in Slovene literature, language, and culture. Countless scholarly gatherings, symposia, and conferences devoted to the novel have been organized around the world, and the Slovenistic symposium does not intend to be another reference of this type. Since one of its important missions is to assemble active foreign and domestic Slovenists in Ljubljana, it will maintain its specificity, as did previous symposia, by emphasizing the adjective »Slovene« in its title. The organizer reserves the right to select from among the applications. Preference will be given to papers with more focused reference to Slovene novelistic production. Of particular interest are papers that broaden the horizon of literary research by including the tools of other fields, e.g., marketing, psychology, sociology, culturology.

Since the novel is a very broad concept, difficult to define, the initial consideration of the title of the symposium aimed at description. The title *Longer Slovene Prose* or *Slovene Long Narrative* would better suit the Slovene literary facts and the purpose of our symposium (examples of similar symposia titles around the world), but since it is assumed that a great majority of presenters will discuss the novel in the narrower sense of the word, the final decision was in favor of the inclusive term »novel«. The presenters should understand it as broadly as possible and should not avoid the treatment of the longer texts which, for various reasons, have been called differently, e.g. »novella«, »story«, or »tale«. Terms for kinds of narrative texts were applied to them with great insecurity, hence it is not always clear what one is dealing with. Janez Cigler's book of 1836, *Sreča v nesreči*, was in Slovene literary history most often called »the first Slovene story«, but it was also considered a successor to the European novelistic tradition; however the author gave it the subtitle *popisovanje zgodbe*. The decision for the term was not so much a result of the awareness of a particular literary structure as it was an expression of terminological practices: the first hundred years the standard term for Slovene prose was »story«, while nowadays the common term is »novel«, even for rather short texts. These examples raise doubts whether it makes sense to consistently separate these narrative kinds. It would be possible to include in the title the nationally most specific and in the past most common kind of longer prose, i.e. the povest; however, the more up-to-date term in the title, *the novel*, is just as appropriate.

Topics

The topics included in this list outline the horizon of possible discussions on the Slovene novel, but they remain open to additional suggestions.

- What is the novel? The definition of the narrative kind and possible Slovene specifics.
- Processes and characteristics: the main and other characters, story, narrator, space and time, composition, intertextual quotations, etc.
- Genres (historic, autobiographic, criminal, ...) and forms (epistolary, travelogue, chironical, feuilletonistic, ...), relationship to the novella, story, epic, epic poem, novel in verse, short novel, epic novel.
- Language and style of the novel.
- Periodization: tradition, modernism, postmodernism; romanticism, realism, naturalism, ...
- The novel and the nation: canonization, critical edition.
- Relationship to other literatures: translation (from Slovene, into Slovene), influences, relationship to (South) Slavic, European, and world novel, the image of foreigners in the Slovene novel, Slovenes in foreign novels, German novel in Slovene lands.
- The novel in school instruction and education.
- The novel and society: woman's perspective, local readers, the Slovene novels abroad, manipulation, awards, subventions, popularity (cult novel), therapy, self-censorship, judiciary.
- The novel and the market: publishing houses, bookstores, libraries, reading.
- Significant authors.
- The novel and other media (digitalization, screen realization, etc.), novel and other types of art.
- The novel in literary history, criticism, theory, research methods, significance of novel for other fields (psychology, history, criminology, medicine, ...).

Symposium working formats and languages

The working languages of the plenary sessions will be Slovene, English, and Russian; in the thematic sessions and in round table sessions the use of other languages is possible.

Accommodations

No application fee is required from the participants and the event is open to the public free of charge. The organizer will cover the hotel accommodation, including breakfast, for foreign participants, but cannot cover their travel expenses.

Application deadlines

We would greatly appreciate if you would participate at our symposium either as presenter of a paper, discussant, or organizer of a round table. The presenters are asked to limit their presentations to 15 minutes. Please send the enclosed application form to the following address: Filozofska fakulteta Simpozij Obdobja, Aškerčeva 2, SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenija, no later than May 31, 2002. You will be informed about the acceptance of your application by the end of June. The abstracts of the papers (in Slovene, English, or Russian, no longer than 150 words) will be published in a booklet prior to the event. The entire paper for publication in the Obdobja proceedings, which must not exceed 30 000 characters, may be given to the editor at the symposium or sent in by the end of January, 2003. You will receive detailed formatting instructions in a timely manner.

Symposium Obdobja 21: The Slovene Novel

The annual three-day symposium *Epochs (Obdobja)* in Slovene language, literature and culture – in 2001 celebrating its twentieth anniversary – is designed as an international, scientific and humanities convention, where Slovene and foreign linguists and literary theorists are joined by experts from other fields of the humanities. Last year, the systematic arrangement for treating individual epochs in the development of the Slovene language, literature and culture, important anniversaries and the work of prominent linguists followed the theme of methods and genres.

Obdobja Symposium is one of the traditional international activities of the *Department of Slavic Languages and Literature*, which as part of its long-term programme suggests and chooses the annual theme of the symposium.

Programme

Thursday, December 5, 2002

- 08.00 Registration
- 09.00 Literary walking tour through the Ljubljana old town
- 10.30 Opening of the symposium in the TR 3 (Trg republike 3) in the Konferenčna dvorana

Konferenčna dvorana **Contemporary novel**

- 11.15 **Franc Zadavec** (Ljubljana): Reality and Fantasy in the 20th Century Slovene Novel
- 11.30 **Helga Glušič** (Ljubljana): The Expression of Insecure Consciousness (Outlines of the Contemporary Slovene Novel)
- 11.45 **Peter Scherber** (Göttingen): Rewriting: A Literary Method and Its Realization in the Slovene Novel
- 12.00 Discussion

Vladimir Bartol

- 12.15 **Marija Mitrović** (Trst): Vladimir Bartol's Novels and Otto Weininger
- 12.30 **Niko Jež** (Ljubljana): Paratextual Elements as a Means of Innovation in Polish and Slovene Prose Between the Two Wars (Stanislaw I. Witkiewicz and Vladimir Bartol)
- 12.45 **Tatjana Petzer** (Berlin): Eros and Ecstasy: On the Enactment of Sacrifice in Vladimir Bartol's Novel *Alamut*
- 13.00 Discussion

Okrogla dvorana **War Novels and Young Adult Novels**

- 11.15 **Olena Džjuba** (Kijev): The Tragedy of National Consciousness in Novels about World War I (on the Examples of Slovene and Ukrainian Literatures)
- 11.30 **Zoltan Jan** (Nova Gorica): The Image of the Young Adult in Some Recent Slovene Novels
- 11.45 **Dragica Haramija** (Maribor): Genres of the Slovene Young Adult Realistic Novel
- 12.00 Discussion

Autobiographic Novels and Other Genres

- 12.15 **Majda Stanovnik** (Ljubljana): Literary Documentariness of Rožanc's *Roman o knjigah*
- 12.30 **Alenka Koron** (Ljubljana): The Novel as Autobiography
- 12.45 **Aleksandra Belšak** (Ljubljana): Genres in Slovene Longer Prose
- 13.00 Discussion
- 13.15 Lunch

Okrogla dvorana Ivan Cankar

- 14.30 **Jože Lipnik** (Maribor): The Structure of Martin Kačur with Place Names
- 14.45 **Ivana Živančević-Sekeruš** (Novi Sad): Cankar's Unwritten Novels – A Model for Self-Conscious Narration
- 15.00 **Jožica Čeh** (Maribor): The Metaphor in Cankar's Novels
- 15.15 Discussion

Techniques and tendencies, 1

- 15.45 **Irena Novak Popov** (Ljubljana): Lyricization of the Novel
- 16.00 **Jola Škulj** (Ljubljana): The Form of the Novel and Slovene Modernism
- 16.15 **Mária Bátorová** (Bratislava): The Novel in European Literary Modernism
- 16.30 Discussion

Sejna dvorana Nation and Politics

- 14.30 **Zoran Konstantinović** (Innsbruck): The Importance of a Novel for the Survival of a Minority: *Pupil Tjaž* by Florian Lipuš
- 14.45 **Katarina Bogataj Gradišnik** (Ljubljana): The Transformation of the Sentimental Tradition in the Nation-Building Role of the Slovene Novel
- 15.00 **Timothy Pogacar** (Bowling Green): Liberalism and Slovene Literature: Ivan Tavčar's Novels
- 15.15 **Julija A. Sozina** (Moskva): The Attempt at Distancing the Slovene Novel from Ideology in the Pre-Secession Period
- 15.30 Discussion

Historical Novels

- 15.45 **Igor Grdina** (Ljubljana): The Slovene Historical Novel
- 16.00 **Nadežda Starikova** (Moskva): The Slovene Historic Novel between the Wars. The National and the Universal
- 16.15 **Vanesa Matajč** (Ljubljana): The Contemporary Slovene Historical Novel

- 16.30 **Irena Samide** (Ljubljana): Fictitious Reality or Evasive Images of the Slovene Biographic Novel
- 16.45 Discussion
- 17.00 Break
- 17.30 Professional sessions

Okrogla dvorana
Readers and Market

- 17.30 **Manca Košir** (Ljubljana): The Representation of the Slovene Novel in the Mass Media or how to Stimulate Reading as a Public Virtue
- 17.45 **Gregor Kocijan** (Ljubljana): The Readership of the Novelistic Prose in Slovenia between 1973 and 1998
- 18.00 **Milan Dolgan** (Ljubljana): Is Jože Topolovec's Writing Simple or Intricate?
- 18.15 Discussion

Sejna dvorana
Travelogues and Criminal Novels

- 17.30 **Alojzija Zupan Sosič** (Ljubljana): The Most Recent Slovene Travelogue
- 17.45 **Peter Svetina** (Ljubljana): The Slovene Criminal Novel before World War II
- 18.00 **Barbara Pregelj Balog** (Ljubljana): The Mystery Novel in Contemporary Slovene and Spanish Literature
- 18.15 Discussion
- 18.30 **Presentation of the Obdobja Symposium Proceedings:**

Obdobja 18 – Historicism in Research into Slovene Languages and Literatures

Obdobja 19 – The Romantic Epic Poem

- 20.00 Reception at Društvo slovenskih pisateljev (Slovene Writer's Ass.)

Friday, December 6, 2002

Okrogla dvorana
Techniques and Tendencies, 2

- 9.00 **Bojana Stojanovič-Pantovič** (Novi Sad): On the Question of the Slovene Expressionist Novel
- 9.15 **Marija Mercina** (Nova Gorica): The Intertextual Cryptogram in Ciril Kosmač's *Pomladni dan*
- 9.30 **Katarina Marinčič** (Ljubljana): Izidor Cankar: *S poti*. The Decadent Novel as Ironization of Naturalism?
- 9.45 Discussion

Education

- 10.15 **Milena Blažič** (Ljubljana): Slovene Realistic and Fantastic Narrative in Elementary School Literary Pedagogy
- 10.30 **John K. Cox** (Wheeling): Teaching (with) Kocbek's Novellas
- 10.45 **Alenka Žbogar** (Ljubljana): The Novel in College Preparatory High School
- 11.00 Discussion

Sejna dvorana

Women

- 9.00 **Silvija Borovnik** (Maribor): Contemporary Slovene Female Novelists (The Contemporary Slovene Women's Novel?)
- 9.15 **Alenka Jensterle Doležal** (Radovljica, Praga): The Mythologization of the Woman in Cankar's Prose
- 9.30 **Katja Mihurko Poniž** (Ljubljana): Is Zofka Kveder's *Njeno življenje* a Feminist Novel?
- 9.45 **Mateja Pezdirc Bartol** (Ljubljana): The Mother-Daughter Relationship in the Contemporary Slovene Novel
- 10.00 Discussion

Contemporary Novel: Virk, Flisar, Jančar

- 10.15 **Nada Petkovska** (Skopje): The Structure of the Love Story in the Novels *The Tenth Brother* and *Earthquake 1895*
- 10.30 **Metka Peserl** (Maribor): Psychological Mechanisms of Abuse in Evald Flisar's Novel *Velika žival samote*
- 11.45 **Joanna Pszczoła** (Sosnowiec): Drago Jančar's *Mocking Desire*
- 12.00 **Elena Popovska** (Celovec): The Image of the Stranger in Jančar's Novel *Galjot*
- 12.15 Discussion
- 12.30 Break

Okrogla dvorana

Language

- 11.45 **Marko Jesenšek** (Maribor): Lexical Synonymy in Caf's Translation of *Robinson Jr.*
- 12.00 **Francka Premk** (Ljubljana): »Srce« – a Key Word in Tavčar's *Mrtva srca*. Lexical and Textual Analysis, Juxtaposed with a Monograph about Ivan Tavčar. (On the Occasion of the Twentieth Anniversary of the Death of the Literary Historian Marja Borštnik)
- 12.15 **Ljudmil Spasov, Lidija Arizankovsk** (Skopje): Functional Styles of Language and Their Role in the Narrative Structure of the Contemporary Slovene and Macedonian Novel
- 12.30 Discussion

Sejna dvorana
19th Century

- 11.45 **Martina Orožen** (Ljubljana): Jurčič's Slovenski svetec in učitelj
- 12.00 **Sergio Bonazza** (Verona): Ideological Aspects of the Slovene Novel in the 19th Century
- 12.15 **Evald Koren** (Ljubljana): A New Version of Govekar's Novel *V krvi*
- 12.30 Discussion
- 13.00 Lunch

Okrogla dvorana
Material, Myth

- 14.15 **Miran Štuhec** (Maribor): The Bourgeois Topos of the Slovene Novel-Function and Dialectics
- 14.30 **Marija Stanonik** (Ljubljana): The Function of Slovene Folklore in the Contemporary Slovene Novel
- 14.45 **Vlado Nartnik** (Ljubljana): From the Image of the *Tenth Brother (deseti brat)* to the Image of the Village Loafer
- 15.00 **Lidija Bošković** (Novi Sad): Models of Myths and the Deviation from the Myth in V. Zupan's *Menuet za kitaro*
- 15.15 Discussion

South Slavs

- 15.45 **Zvonko Kovač** (Zagreb): Two Novels by Zofka Kveder
- 16.00 **Vladimir Osolnik** (Ljubljana): The Slovene and South Slavic Historical Novel in the Second Half of the 20th century
- 16.15 **Naume Radičeski** (Skopje): National-Existential Tendencies in the Novels *Mara* by Stojan Hristov and *Kaplan Martin Čedermac* by France Bevk
- 16.30 Discussion

Sejna dvorana
Other disciplines, 1

- 14.15 **Jožef Muhovič** (Ljubljana): The EKG of the Magnificent New World or Art after the End of the »Great Stories«
- 14.30 **Gregor Pompe** (Ljubljana): Slovene Operatic Creativity and the Slovene Novel
- 14.45 **Sabina Mihelj** (Ljubljana): Communicative Conventions from 19th Century Realistic Literature to Contemporary Informative Television Broadcasts
- 15.00 Discussion

Other disciplines, 2

- 15.45 **Primož Jakopin** (Ljubljana): The Minimal-Entropy Language Model Applied to Texts of Ciril Kosmač and Ivan Cankar

- 16.00 **Günter Mühlberger** (Innsbruck): Slovene Issues in German Historical Novels Before 1945. A Survey Taken from the Innsbruck Historical Novel Database
- 16.15 **Cvetka Tóth** (Ljubljana): Schopenhauer and Slovene Thought
- 16.30 Discussion
- 16.45 Break

Okrogla dvorana
South Slavs, 2

- 17.15 **Branka Brlenić-Vujić** (Osijek): Kosmač's *Pomladni dan* and Desnica's *Proljeća Ivana Galeba*: a Comparative Approach
- 17.30 **Dušan Marinković** (Zagreb): Novelistic Models of Borrowing (Representation) of the Historical
- 17.45 **Surūa Strsoeglavec** (Ljubljana): Slovene Prose Abroad
- 18.00 Discussion

Sejna dvorana
Slovene Novels in Translation

- 17.15 **Ivan Dorovsky** (Brno): Slovene Literature in Czech Translations
- 17.30 **Fedora Ferluga-Petronio** (Trst): Ivan Trinko and His Italian Translation of Stritar's *Gospod Mirodolski* and Tavčar's *Vita Vitae Meae*
- 17.45 **István Lukács** (Budimpešta): The Slovene Novel in Hungarian Translation
- 18.00 Discussion
- 19.30 Presentation of the Slovene Movie *Zvenenje v glavi*

Saturday December 7, 2002

Foreign Novel and Slovenes

- 9.00 **István Fried** (Szeged): The Slovene Novel – A European Novel
- 9.15 **Božena Tokarz** (Sosnowiec): Gombrowicz in Niko Jež's Translation
- 9.30 **Florence Gacoin-Marks** (Pernica): Mira Mihelič's *Obraz v zrcalu* in the Light of the European Novel
- 9.45 **Marek Tomaszewski** (Bruselj): *The Catcher in the Rye* of J.D. Salinger. Relationship to Other Literatures: Translation from American to Polish and French
- 10.00 Discussion

Foreign Novel and Slovenes, 2

- 10.30 **Matjaž Birk** (Maribor): The German Historical Story in Slovene Lands in the First Half of the 19th Century
- 10.45 **Gizela Polanc Podpečan** (Velenje): Šeligo's Novel *Stolp* in the Light of the Contemporary European Novel
- 11.00 **Danica Čerče** (Slovenj Gradec): Steinbeck's Examples in the Slovene Social-Realistic Novel

11.15 **Tone Smolej** (Ljubljana): *Germinal* as a Model for Finžgar's Novel *Iz moderne sveta*

11.30 Discussion

Sejna dvorana

Slovene Novel and the English Language

9.00 **Henry R. Cooper** (Bloomington): Are Adamic's Novels 'Slovene Novels'?

9.15 **Tine Kurent** (Ljubljana): When Can a Text about Real Events Be Called a Novel?

9.30 **Mihael Kuzmič** (Ljubljana): The Novel *So Shall They Reap* by Ernest A. Stiegler and St. John's Slovene Evangelical Church in Betlehem, PA, USA

9.45 **David Limon** (Ljubljana): The Slovene Novel in English – Bridging the Cultural Gap

10.00 Discussion

Theoretical and Historical Questions

10.30 **Marko Juvan** (Ljubljana): Fiction and Law

10.45 **Mirjana Stefanović** (Novi Sad): What is the Novel? (The Poetics of the Genre in the 18th Century)

11.00 **Janez Vrečko** (Ljubljana): Greek Novel – The Novel Before the Novel

11.15 Discussion

12.00 Closing of the symposium

12.30 Excursion and lunch