

Ivo Pospíšil

**THE JUBILEE, A TALK ABOUT THE ESSENCE
OF CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE STUDIES AND BEYOND**

Abstract

The present interview created by Roman Mních, a Polish slavist, and literary scholar of international reputation, and Ivo Pospíšil, a Czech slavist, and comparatist, contains several thematic spheres concerning the evolution of a researcher, his biographical data and important life events mostly related to philology, literary criticism, and their conceptions as well as individual understanding including the educational process in secondary schools and universities, both in the past and in the present with a concise future prospect. The slavist mentions his interest in immanent methods, Russian formalists, and Czech structuralists, and critically comments upon contemporary condition of literary scholarship, Slavonic Studies in general, and his favourite books.

Keywords: life in/with literary criticism, university education, methodology of literary criticism, favourite books

Zsuzsa Hetényi

**‘THE OTHER SHORES’
(ON THE HUNGARIAN SLAVIC STUDIES AND VLADIMIR NABOKOV)**

Abstract

The author argues that the boycott of official Russian culture at present is important and provides its reasons and forms. While all forms of anti-Russianism in Ukraine are understandable, the anti-war intelligentsia should not be left alone, because after the Putin regime, there must emerge and there will be another Russia. The task of the humanities at present is to provide textual analysis, done especially by those in third countries. Science and higher education have been hit hard by the war. Literature itself cannot be blamed, only its interpretation can be used and abused. The Russian language as such is also suffering from the war temporarily since it became a symbol of aggression but in due course, it must be given back its role as a working language, as one of the languages of the world.

Keywords: boycott, War in Ukraine, cultural bridge, Slavic Studies in Hungary, Vladimir Nabokov, soft power, cancel culture

Danuta Ulicka

**ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF CONTEMPORARY POLISH
LITERATURE STUDIES**

Abstract

The interview focuses on the book *The Age of Theory. A Century of Polish Literary Studies (Wiek teorii. Sto lat nowoczesnego literaturoznawstwa polskiego, 2022)*. Taking this publication as a starting point, the scholars discuss the questions related to the history of literary studies in Poland and other neighbouring countries (Russia and the Czech Republic), analyse the role of tradition in literary theory and poetics, interpret current tendencies in the humanities in general. A special accent is laid on the so-called Polish Theory and its historic development.

Keywords: theory of literature, the Polish Theory, modernity, Central and Eastern Europe, canon

Maryna Savieljeva

**THE MANIA OF RICHARD III
(THE LESSONS FROM THOMAS MORE AND WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE)**

Abstract

The article deals with an analysis of the positions of Thomas More and William Shakespeare in relation to the usurpation of supreme power taking the personality of Richard III as an example. It is shown that the distortion of the personal characteristics of the king can be considered not only as a deliberate falsification of historical events but also as a „moral“ for those who set themselves the purpose of achieving power by any means. The main signs of Richard's behavior that characterize him as a maniac are unrestrained hate of all rivals and supporters; the desire to exterminate all who interfere with him; permanent incitement of internecine strife; physical destruction of all members of the rival dynasties. According to both thinkers, the phenomenon of Richard III was formed on the basis of the unity of three factors: imperfect physicality, the evil spirit of Richard Gloucester, and contradictions in English politics. His mania became a way to compensate for the lack of physical and spiritual merits, and the unstable politics in the country was the catalyst for his ideas. Thomas More and Shakespeare show convincingly that the success of manic behavior is never conclusive. An individual who is possessed by mania never achieves the goal set, because mania is a manifestation of insanity.

Keywords: power, mania, Renaissance, monarchy, personality, individual, crisis, contradiction, will, reason

Nadezhda Grigorjeva

**ANTHROPOLOGICAL EXPERIMENT IN LITERATURE:
DOSTOEVSKIJ, VAGINOV, ZOSHCHENKO**

Abstract

The article examines anthropological experiment as literary praxis of Russian novels in various epochs from realism to the late avant-garde. The author investigates how writers tried to substitute anthropology with literature in *Besy* (F. Dostoevskij), *Trudy i dni Svistonova* (K. Vaginov), and *Pered voshodom solnca* (M. Zoshchenko). The author concludes, that Dostoevsky turned his heroes into test subjects and put them in extreme situations; Vaginov portrayed a writer who conducted experiments on people in order to “transfer” them to the “afterlife” of literature; Zoshchenko created a text in which he recorded an experiment on himself and disproved psychoanalysis.

Keywords: anthropology, experiment, realism, avant-garde, metafiction, psychoanalysis, confession

Victor Dmitriev

THEOPHILOLOGY OF VLADIMIR KANTOR. Book review: Кантор В. *Изображая понимать: Sententia Sensa: философия в литературном тексте.* Российская Академия Наук (Центр гуманитарных инициатив). Москва-Санкт-Петербург 2018.

Tatiana Avtukhovich

SEMIOTIC SPACE IN THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL DIMENSION. Book review: Сабо Т. *Статьи по поэтике Л. Улицкой.* Москва: Флинта, 2022.