

THE LONG EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

4th Issue

Likeness and Otherness
in the Culture of 18th and 19th Centuries
Abstracts

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1. ITALY IN THE IMPRESSIONS OF THE 18TH-CENTURY RUSSIAN TRAVELLERS

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Travel and especially the Grand Tour (educational trips which completed the education of a young man of noble origin) are not just a fashion, but a characteristic feature of the 18th century. In fact, travellers of the time often sought the "roots" of their own culture. Even from "wild Russia," the aristocrats came to Europe and frequently to Italy, collecting their impressions of their journeys. Precisely the impressions of Italy of some of these 18th-century Russian travellers are the subject of this article. In particular, the works of P. A. Tolstoy and E. R. Dashkova are analysed. The latter were written respectively at the beginning and end of the century, so the aim of this work is to emphasize all the similarities and differences in the image of Italy in these two different periods of the ongoing process of Russian "Westernisation." In fact, the introduction briefly describes the social and cultural phenomenon of the Grand Tour and it gives some bibliographical suggestions. Then, the writings of the two Russian travellers are analysed, by explaining the historical context and the reasons that led the two to undertake their trips to Italy. Finally, in the conclusions it is shown how internal transformations of the Russian Empire are reflected in the way Italy is seen. The article presents some preliminary considerations on the subject and aims to contribute to any further research on this theme.

Keywords: Grand Tour, Italy, Russian travellers, 18th Century, Westernisation, E. R. Dashkova, P. A. Tolstoy

2. THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE MIDDLE AGES AND THE RENAISSANCE IN BULGARIN CONTEXT (TWO TRANSLATIONS OF AGAPIOS LANDOS' SERIES "MIRACLES OF THE THEOTOKOS")

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The article examines two translations of Agapios Landos' series "Miracles of the Theotokos." The first one was made by Samuil Bakachich in 1684 (formally at the epoch of the Middle Ages in the Balkans) and the other one was made by Joakim Karchovsky in 1817 (formally during the period of the Bulgarian Revival). The article poses once again the problem where is the boundary between the two epochs in Bulgarian context.

Keywords: Samuil Bakachich, Paisiy Hylandarski, Joakim Karchovski, Middle Ages, Renaissance, Revival

3. PAISIY: MYTH, BIOGRAPHY AND FICTION IN NEDA ANTONOVA'S NOVEL "SILENCE"

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The article examines the image of Paisiy Hilendarski, presented in Neda Antonova's book "Bezmalvie" (Silence), as a myth, biography and fiction. It emphasizes what we know about Paisiy today, what we would like to imagine about him, how a biography is written through a novel, and the closeness and distance between what we know about Paisii and what the author of the novel presents to us. The most important aspect he considers is the place and significance of the novel between authenticity and fiction.

Keywords: Paisiy Hilendarski, Myth, Biography, Fiction, Authenticity

4. THE ENLIGHTENMENT IDEAS OF DOSITEJ OBRADOVIĆ IN STANKA NIKOLITSA SPASO-ELENINA'S TRANSLATION

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In the present text the reader will get to know the figure of Stanka Nikolitsa Spaso-Elenina. Her image will be developed through her literary work as a translator and a poet. She herself is considered as the first Bulgarian poetess because of the printed poem at the back cover of the book consisting of two translated texts by the Serbian writer Dositej Obradovic. Along with being a poet, the fact that she chose to translate texts of this Serbian writer is of key importance for her personality. Stanka Nikolitsa Spaso-Elenina provides the Bulgarian women with an inspiring reading, presenting very modest but combative women who stand up for the sake of their families, who fight along their male counterparts and who are faithful and not subject to temptations. The presented characters are exemplary women, who could inspire the readers and serve well the initiation of women's education in Bulgaria.

Keywords: Reception Studies, Dositej Obradovich, Women's Literature, Bulgarian Translations, Revival Period

5. CHILDHOOD AND CONSUMPTION IN THE FIRST BULGARIAN CHILDREN'S JOURNALS FROM THE OTTOMAN PERIOD

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The article presents the way the concepts of childhood and consumption are interpreted in the first Bulgarian journals for children. In order to provide a wider perspective to the problem this text makes parallels with the first children's journals of the other communities in the Ottoman Empire at the second half of the nineteenth century. Meant to fulfil educational purposes, the first journals of each community serve also as a channel for foreign ideas from the time of Enlightenment about the pure children's mind and its capacity to develop knowledge about the surrounding world by means of learning and without physical punishment. Despite the quite vivid discourse of instruction based on moral postulates that one can observe in the first Bulgarian journals for kids, there were also illustrations of the "new child" in modern attire who was voicing his/her own wishes and observation.

Keywords: Childhood, Consumption, Ottoman Children Journals, Bulgarian Children Journals, Illustrations

6. THOUGHTS ON FASHION, OR ON A DIALOGIC DIPTYCH FROM THE PERIOD OF THE BULGARIAN NATIONAL REVIVAL

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The article aims to compare two works in the genre of dialogue from the period of the Bulgarian National Revival – "*Momicheshki razgovori*" (Girl's Conversations) by Dimitar Dushanov and "*Chasovnika*" (The Clock) by Georgi Zhivkov – in the context of the problem of fashion and endangered identity. The main idea is that everyday conversations (between pupils, between parents and children) have become disputes concerning Bulgarians' national destiny.

Keywords: Identity, Fashion, Dialogues, Bulgarian National Revival

7. MODELS OF FEMININITY AND RECEPTION IN THE COMEDY “EVIL WOMAN” BY JOVAN STERIA POPOVICH

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The article deals with the comedy “Evil Woman” (*Zla zhená*) by the Serbian author Jovan Steria Popovich, explores its plot, characters, and motives, and emphasises especially on the perception of women during the 19th century. Although Popovich’s text may seem simple, it actually enlightens us about the context during which it is written and the context in which it is translated into Bulgarian – thanks to that we can conclude what kind of plays the mass public preferred and what was the mass public then.

Keywords: 19th Century, Jovan Steria Popovich, Femininity, Comedy, Translation

8. IN NAYDEN GEROV’S LESSONS ON GLORIOUS BULGARIAN PAST

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The article briefly presents a manuscript “Bulgarian history,” written by the Revival enlightener Nayden Gerov in the middle of the 19th c. (Fund 22 of the SS. Cyril and Methodius National Library – Bulgarian Historical Archive, Inventory I, archive unit 603, pp. 1–95). The unexplored textbook confirms the key role of historiographical works as a symbolic resource in the construction of national identity. Gerov’s lesson for remembering and imagining great moments and exemplary personalities has become a major factor in the making of the young Bulgarian nation. The story of Bulgaria’s glorious past goes into building a myth about the negative consequences of foreign/hostile interference in the Bulgarian governance. This is one of the directions in the teaching of native history—a direction that suggests the pedagogical and ideological message to the Revival reader to understand the manipulative ways of power.

Keywords: Nayden Gerov, Manuscript Heritage, History Textbooks, “Bulgarian history”, Remembrance, Imagination Lessons, Memory, National Identity

9. IVAN NAYDENOV – CONCEPTS ABOUT RELIGION, THE SOCIETY AND INDEPENDENCE IN CONTRAST TO THESE OF HIS OPPONENTS

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This article is about the ideas and concepts of the Bulgarian intellectual and journalist Ivan Naydenov regarding the Bulgarian church and society. It takes as a basic printed source Nikolay Aretov's newly published collection of Ivan Naydenov's works. My text focuses particularly on the way Naydenov's contemporaries react in opposition to his statements. The opinions of Petko Slaveikov, Hristo Botev, Lyuben Karavelov are taken into account in this regard. There are more detailed comments publications in two of the newspapers which Ivan Naydenov edits: “*Pravo*” (Right) and “*Napredak*” (Progress).

Keywords: Ivan Naydenov, Newspapers, “*Pravo*”, “*Napredak*”, Church, Petko Slaveikov, Lyuben Karavelov, Hristo Botev

10. THE PERIODICAL PRESS – ASPECTS OF THE VISUAL IMPACT

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The text examines some effects, peculiarities of the visual design of newspapers during the National Revival period – a more detailed example is given with the newspaper “*Gaida*” (Bagpipe) whose editor is Petko Slaveykov.

Keywords: Periodical Press, Newspaper, Font, Graphics, Illustration

11. LUBEN KARAVELOV AND THE BULGARIAN EXARCHATE

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The article is dedicated to the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the Bulgarian Exarchate. It reveals the role of Luben Karavelov's texts from his earlier years, spent in Russia, which tend to present to the local readers an authentic picture of the Bulgarian society and culture. The author conceptualizes the term “*Turkish-Byzantine civilization*” as a danger to the development of Bulgarian independence and illustrates it with the decline of the Greek clergy and Ottoman political bureaucracy. In this way the author tries to convince the Russian readers of the need of separation of the Bulgarian Church from the Christian Orthodox Patriarchate of Constantinople, as well as to express his disagreement with the official position of Russia, without contradicting the idea of Slavic reciprocity. The finale of the article opens up its scope to a more general perspective. It argues that the romantic representation of Bulgarian protagonists in Russian literature is meant to symbolize the emotional connection between the two nations.

Keywords: Luben Karavelov, Bulgarian Exarchate, Turkish-Byzantine civilization, Russia

12. MECHANISMS FOR DEVELOPING THE CULT OF HADZHI DIMITAR IN THE BULGARIAN CULTURE OF THE 19TH CENTURY

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The article tries to explore the figure of Hadzhi Dimitar in the Bulgarian culture of the 19th century and seeks answers to the questions: how does the biographic person Hadzhi Dimitar turn into a heroic figure of the culture and how does Hadzhi Dimitar function as a hero in Hristo Botev's poem which carries his name as a title. The study consists of three parts. The first part goes through the development of the heroic type in the Bulgarian folklore to which Dimitar Asenov belongs. Secondly, the article tries to explain how the cult of Hadzhi Dimitar changes after Hristo Botev's impact on his socio-cultural context. And the third part of the text looks on the figure of Hadzhi Dimitar in Hristo Botev's poem as a lyrical and cultural hero. The interpretation is based on Joseph Campbell's "Hero with a thousand faces" and deals with "Hadzhi Dimitar" as it builds a parallel with the phase from "The adventure of the hero" named "The belly of the whale." The article also tries to present an idea which is left unproved: if the state presented in any poem could be equalised with one of the phases from "The adventure of the hero."

Keywords: Hadzhi Dimitar, Cultural Hero, Folklore, Hristo Botev, "The hero with a thousand faces", Bulgarian Culture of the 19th Century