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# Newsletter

Volume 20, no. 1, July 2003

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The RSAA Newsletter is published twice a year.

**RSAA YEAR BOOK:** Dr. Paul Teodorescu, Editor in Chief  
307 Pueblo Drive  
Salinas, CA 93906

**REMINDER:** All RSAA members who have changed their mailing address and institutional affiliation, or who now also have an e-mail address, are kindly requested to update these data by contacting the editor. He is still collecting the dues (\$10.00) for 2003: please send him your checks (payable to RSAA) as soon as possible.

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**NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

Your support of RSAA through yearly dues is essential to keep this publication active. I am aware that the

cost of living has gone up during the last couple of years; however, the amount of \$10.00 representing the RSAA membership dues is still in place (one of the few expenditures kept at a steady level). As the calendar year is not over, I hope to be able to collect more of your modest contributions to RSAA.

I would like to reiterate and strongly encourage my previous invitations that every one of our readers send in materials concerning their current work and research (presentations of events relevant to Romanian studies, work in progress, books recently published or in print, shorter scholarly papers or their abstracts, academic initiatives, etc.). Since most of us do publish articles in other academic or public interest journals, I would strongly encourage you to send me the summaries of those articles. Their publication in the Newsletter will faithfully mirror the rich and diverse preoccupations of the RSAA members and, at the same time, may turn this periodical into a forum of frank and constructive discussion to the benefit of all. I hope to be able, with your help, to fill the pages of the next issue with interesting readings. Therefore I appeal to you to send me such materials. Please accept this challenging invitation!

Nicolae Harsanyi  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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### **RSAA on the Web**

<http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/RSAA/index.html>

Since the beginning of 1999, thanks to Professor Calin A. Mihăilescu, RSAA has a home page maintained at the University of Western Ontario. You can have easy access to the RSAA by-laws, as well as to past and present issues of the Newsletter. Please bookmark this site.

2003 MLA Convention, San Diego, CA, 27-30 December 2002

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### **2003 MLA Convention, San Diego, CA, 27-30 December 2002**

#### **The Politics of Fiction in Pre/Post Communist Europe**

Panel organized by RSAA

Presiding: Ileana Alexandra Orlich, Arizona State University

1. "Milan Kundera and the Aesthetics of Nostalgia: You Can't Go Home Again," Martha Kuhlman, Bryant College.
2. "Speech After the Long Silence: The Autobiographical Translations of Lucian Blaga," Sean Cotter, University of Michigan.
3. "The Poetics of Fear: Witnessing the Quotidian in the Romanian Fiction of the Communist Era," Ileana Alexandra Orlich, Arizona State University.
4. "In the Aftermath of the Revolution: Post Communist Strategies of Romanian Criticism," Letitia Guran, University of Georgia.

#### **Eugène Ionesco--Between Cultures and Literatures: A Quest of Identity**

Panel organized by RSAA

Presiding: Jeanine Teodorescu-Regier, University of Illinois at Chicago.

1. "Looking for a Little Bit of Paradise: The Voyage of Ionesco's Everyman from Romania to the Land of the Dead," Deborah Gaensbauer, Regis University.

2. "Language, Exile, and Identity in l'Homme aux valises and Voyage chez les morts." Ingrid Chafee, Morehouse College.
3. "Ionesco Despite Himself: Politics and the Absurd," Domnica Radulescu, Washington and Lee University.

**Loss and Gain: The 20th-Century East European Experience in Exile - a round table discussion**  
Organized by the Discussion Group of Romanian Studies

Presiding: Noemi Marin, Florida Atlantic University, and Anca L. Holden, University of Georgia

Participants:

- Graham Benton, California Maritime Academy: "What's Old is New: Arthur Philip and the Post-Cold War Lost"
- Valentina Glajar, Texas Tech University: "Writing Czech Novels in German: Exile, History, and Subjectivity in Libuse Moníková's Treibeis"
- Anne Roth, UCLA: "Remembering Moscow Exile in East German Literature"
- Gabriella Kecskes, Temple University: "Detours of Identity: The Geographical Rendering of Identity Crisis in the life of a Young Immigrant in Gary Shteyngart's The Russian Debutante's Handbook"
- Monica Grecu, University of Nevada, Reno: "The Theology of Exile: The Art and Poetry of Stefan Munteanu"
- Haritina Gratiela Dobrescu, University of Toronto: "The Nostalgic Commute of a Cultural Migrant in Marthe Bibesco's Isvor"
- Anne Quiney, University of Mississippi: "The Poetics of Nostalgia and Rage: Emil Cioran's Philosophy in Exile"
- Maria-Sabina Draga-Alexandru, University of East Anglia: "Reading Exile: Irina Grogorescu Pana's Australia and Monica Pillat's America"
- Anca L. Holden, University of Georgia: "Loss and Gain: Cultural Exile in Carmen-Francesca Banciu's Berlin ist mein Paris"
- Jerry Tesar, San Diego State University: "Loss and Compensation: Reinterpreting Czech History and Culture in Several Czech-American Novels."

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**New Officers elected at the Business Meeting of the RSAA at the 2002 MLA Convention in New York**

Dr. Peter Christensen convened the business meeting on December 28, which was attended by five RSAA members and one non-member. The participants elected Dr. Jeanine-Teodorescu-Regier to lead the RSAA as President over the period of 2003-2004. Gratiela Dobrescu was elected as the new member on the Executive Committee of the Discussion Group on Romanian Studies and slated to chair it in 2007. Minutes of the meeting were taken by Anca Luca Holden.

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**NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS**

Professor Maria Manoliu-Manea has opted to become an Honorary Life-Time Member through her a donation of \$100.00. Many thanks for her generosity! For decades, Dr. Manoliu-Manea has been a great supported with much enthusiasm the activity of our Association.

During the past two years Dr. Manoliu-Manea has published the following articles:

"The conversational factor in language change: From prenominal to postnominal demonstratives." In Historical Linguistics 1999. Selected papers from the 14th International Conference on Historical Linguistics

(Vancouver, British Columbia), edited by Laurel Brinton. Amsterdam: Benjamins, 2001, pp. 187-205.

"La pragma-sémantique d'un opérateur complexe: le cas du roum. si." In Actes du 22e Congrès International de Linguistique et Philologie romanes, Brussels, July 25-28, 1998. 2002.

"Conventional Implicature and Language Change: the cyclic evolution of the emphatic pronouns in Romanian." In Historical Linguistics 2001. Selected papers from the 15th International Conference on Historical Linguistics, edited by R. Blake (Melbourne, Victoria, Australia). Amsterdam: Benjamins, pp. 301-318.

In 2002 Professor Manea-Manoliu also presented the paper "From conjunction to discourse markers or vice-versa: Romanian si - Old French si" at the International Conference on Comparative Romance Linguistics, 19-21 September, 2002, held at the University of Antwerp, Belgium.

In the first six months of this year, the RSAA was joined by three new members:

Gratiela Dobrescu (University of Toronto) - Dept. of French

Anca Luca Holden (University of Georgia) - Comparative Literature

Ramona Uritescu Lombard (Harvard University) - Comparative Literature

The 2002 double (and latest) issue of *Literary Research / Recherche littéraire*, edited by Professor Calin Andrei Mihailescu is now available online at [http://collection.nlc-bnc.ca/100/201/300/literary\\_research](http://collection.nlc-bnc.ca/100/201/300/literary_research)

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BOOKS OF INTEREST**

The Columbia Guide to the Literatures of Eastern Europe Since 1945, edited by Harold B Segel, New York: Columbia University Press, 2003, 776 p. ISBN 0-231-11404-4. This hefty Guide includes an analytical overview of literary themes and trends in historical context, ranging from World War II to the disintegration of Yugoslavia; an A-Z section of almost 700 entries on those writers whose literary debuts or major literary activity came after the war, with lists of works about the authors and of works by the authors available in English translation; a general bibliography; and an author index.

The author entries -the heart of the book -provide the most salient information about the writers and concise interpretations of their works. The two-part general bibliography lists references to books and articles only in English. The first part contains works of a general nature on Eastern Europe, primarily but not exclusively after 1945. The second cites works, listed by country, that fall into four categories: histories, literary histories, anthologies, and monographs on genres and movements.

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, January 8 - 11, 2004  
Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki Hotel, Honolulu Hawaii, USA

Submission Deadline: August 18, 2003

Web address: <http://www.hichumanities.org/>

Email address: [humanities@hichumanities.org](mailto:humanities@hichumanities.org)

The conference will provide many opportunities for academicians and professionals from arts and humanities and related fields to interact with members inside and outside their own particular disciplines. Cross-disciplinary submissions are welcome.

Topic Areas (All Areas of Arts and Humanities are Invited)

\*American Studies \*Archeology \*Architecture \*Landscape Architecture \*Art \*Dance \*English \*Ethnic Studies \*Film \*History \*Languages \*Literature \*Linguistics \*Music \*Performing Arts \*Philosophy \*Religion \*Second Language Studies \*Speech/Communication \*Theater \*Other Areas of Arts and Humanities \*Cross-disciplinary areas of the above related to each other or other areas

The Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities encourages the following types of papers/abstracts/submissions for any of the listed areas:

Research Papers - Completed papers.

Abstracts - Abstracts of completed or proposed research.

Student Papers - Research by students.

Poster Sessions/Research Tables - informal presentation of papers or abstracts.

Work-in-Progress Reports or Proposals for future projects.

Reports on issues related to teaching.

Panel Discussions, Practitioner Forums and Tutorials are invited.

Workshop proposals are invited.

For more information about submissions see: [http://www.hichumanities.org/cfp\\_artshumanities.htm](http://www.hichumanities.org/cfp_artshumanities.htm)

#### Submission Guidelines

1. Submissions may be made electronically via e-mail to [humanities@hichumanities.org](mailto:humanities@hichumanities.org) or mailed. Electronic submissions are preferred. Submissions will be acknowledged within 48 hours.

If submissions are mailed, submit two copies of your paper, report, abstract, proposal or study. Submissions imply that at least one author will register for the conference and be present at the time designated in the conference program. Submissions must be received by August 18, 2003. E-Mail, fax or mail submissions to:

Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities  
P.O. Box 75036  
Honolulu HI, 96836, USA

Telephone: (808) 949-1456

Fax: (808) 947-2420

E-mail: [humanities@hichumanities.org](mailto:humanities@hichumanities.org)

There is a limit of two contributed papers per lead author.

2. Each submission must include a separate title page as outlined below:

- a. title of the submission,
- b. topic area of the submission (available at [http://www.hichumanities.org/cfp\\_artshumanities.htm](http://www.hichumanities.org/cfp_artshumanities.htm)),
- c. two or three keywords that describe the submission,
- d. name(s) of the author(s),
- e. mailing address(es),
- f. e-mail address(es),
- g. phone number(s),
- h. fax number(s),
- i. corresponding author if different than lead author.

Correspondence regarding receipt of submission will be made by e-mail unless another mode of correspondence is requested. **BE SURE AND INCLUDE THE TOPIC AREA AND TWO OR THREE KEY WORDS DESCRIBING THE SUBMISSION.**

3. Submissions will only be published in the conference proceedings if at least one of the authors attends the conference. Instructions for submitting a computer readable format for the proceedings will be provided when the submission is accepted.

4. If you wish to be a reviewer, session chair, or discussant, please e-mail your request to [humanities@hichumanities.org](mailto:humanities@hichumanities.org) and indicate the topic area in which you are interested. Registration for the conference is required to be a session chair or discussant.

Web address: <http://www.hichumanities.org/>

Email Address: [humanities@hichumanities.org](mailto:humanities@hichumanities.org)

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**Romanian Studies Association of America**

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