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## Introduction

Liliana ALIC<sup>1</sup>

This issue of the *Bulletin of Transilvania University* is an illustration of the polysemy of two words: *gender* and *genre* and of the way people make use of them. *Gender* may mean a grammatical marker of the biological sex in animates or a distinctive feature of the same; as for *genre*, it may refer to a literary genre, to discourse genre or to a stereotype of human beings: easy-going, pleasure-seeking individuals, revolutionary individuals, anarchist or conservative ones, rebellious, malcontent ones, militants for human rights, the dandy, the emancipated type, the careerist kind, the upstart and many others.

The great variety of meanings of the two lexical items, *gender* and *genre* inspired some of our contributors, most of them on their way of getting their PhD title.

**Gabriela Chefneux** analyses the woman manager's identity and the ways of expressing the power she has acquired through language and language strategies. The paper uses some transcripts of a meeting in a medium-sized Romanian company and illustrates how topic choice, turn taking, politeness, directness and control-acts are used by this type of woman.

**Sofiana Chiriacescu** reflects on the effects of animacy and gender on the choice of referring expression. The author starts from the assumption that the process of referring is dynamic, constantly changing, and that referents become more or less accessible as the discourse unfolds. She aims to highlight the roles played by accessibility, animacy, and gender in the choice of referring expressions.

**Adrian Toader**, in his study about the projection of self in Romanian political discourse, deals with communication in institutional settings as a specific form of dialogic interaction. He aims to identify instances of authorial self in sub-genres of political discours(es). The author's main goal is to demonstrate that stance is an important feature of public communication.

**Alexandru Agache** deals with Ian McEwans's supportive attitude towards the feminist cause. The author shows a great interest in McEwans's questionings of feminism in his novels and in his screenplays. Some of the aspects of the British

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<sup>1</sup> Transilvania University of Braşov, lilianaalic@gmail.com

author's novels are put forward: the status of women in religious communities surviving in a multicultural English society or the discrimination of women in professional and scientific fields, traditionally dominated by men.

**Monica Harsan** tackles the problem of feminine human genre and its relationship to different cultural paradigms throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century. She follows this theme along Jérôme Ferrari's novel « *Le sermon sur la chute de Rome* » which deals with the destiny of a Corsican family along four generations. The study of various types of feminine prototypes is diligently dealt with, and so are the conditions that influence their appearance, such as the Second World War.

**Miruna Iacob** examines Oscar Wilde's approach to sex and sexuality and its reception in Europe and in the United States. The article focuses on some of the features of the Aesthetic movement, on the author's contribution to this movement, as well as on the way in which the aesthetic doctrine was built.

In her contribution, **Diana Radu Tătăruș** presents four case studies on autobiographical and fictional novels belonging to contemporary Romanian authors. She analyzes some boy and girl stereotypes as they appear in Romanian contemporary prose.

**Zoe Larisa Bădoiu** deals with sexual discrimination by means of language as seen in contemporary feminine media in Romanian society. The author insists on the fact that the image of women in the Romanian society is still covered by prejudices and mentalities that hardly change.

**Ramona Hârșan**'s article comprises an analysis of the Romanian author Mircea Nedelciu's fiction as regards the problem of *gender* and *genre* in the Eastern European context. The author insists on the importance of Nedelciu's contribution to a regional interpretation of "sexistentialism" as a cultural topos in the Eastern European literature of the 1980s.

**Ingrid Tomonicska** shows a special interest in some feminine figures as presented in the Korunk Magazine (from Cluj-Napoca) in the first decade of the Inter-war. The article insists on women's battle for political, social, economic, and educational rights.

In the end of this issue, **Larisa Stîlpeanu** reviews the book *Manifestazioni. Il manifesti avanguardisti tra performance e performatività* by Alessandro Catalano, Massimo Maurizio and Roberto Merlo (eds.), while **Anca Dumitru** reviews *Poezia confesiunii la Sylvia Plath și la Mariana Marin* by Cristina Pipoș.