



ACADEMIA ROMÂNĂ
SCOSAAR

Anexa nr.6

SUMMARY OF THE HABILITATION THESIS*

TITLE : ARS POETICA IN THE MIHAL SADOVEANU'S WORK

HABILITATION FIELD : PHILOLOGY

Author : VICOL DRAGOŞ

*în cazul în care teza va fi redactată într-o limbă străină, textul în limba română va fi adaptat

The habilitation thesis „ Ars poetica in the Mihail Sadoveanu’ s work” is a work with a personal conception on the Sadoveanu’s work. The vast aesthetic considerations made by literary critics since the beginning of the twentieth century, the opinions, the ideas expressed on the work of the great novelist led to the shaping of a general portrait frame, adequate, well nuanced, in the context of Romanian literature. However, from the point of view of my scientific approach, the way and perspectives of critical research need to be rethought, reconsidered and updated, especially in line with new trends in phenomenological approach to literary work in general and Sadoveanu’s creation in particular.

The paper „ **Ars poetica in the Mihail Sadoveanu’ s work”** elaborated by Mr. VICOL Dragoș, PhD in philology, associate professor, is a complex study, a scientifically appreciable research, with an elegant language and a rare consistency of the text.

The predilection for the critical study of the Sadoveanu’s works complex began since my years of student life, on the Faculty of Humanities banks of the University of Bucharest, where I completed my bachelor degree and later doctoral studies. Thanks to the distinguished PhD, univ.prof. Dumitru Micu, who inspired in me a *sui generis* scriptural determination, fully captivating me and motivating to examine in a multifaceted way the *topos* and the integrating facets of Sadoveanu’s creation, I tried to make full use of this genuine literature, which is the Mihail Sadoveanu’s prose. Under his leadership, I elaborated my bachelor’s thesis, having as subject the Sadoveanu’s historical novel, but in 1998 I defended my doctoral thesis, entitled **“The Romanian spiritual universe in the Mihail Sadoveanu’s work”**. I published 5 monographs and 2 collections of scientific articles, my modest works being noted in the academic and university environment for the “substantial contribution to the complex research of Mihail Sadoveanu’s work”). I was awarded the prize of the weekly “Literature and Art” (2000), “for capitalizing on the Mihail Sadoveanu’s work”, the mention of the National Book Salon (2000 edition); the volume “Sadoveanu or the Miracle of the Romanian soul” being appreciated as “Monograph of the year” by the Senate of the Free International University of Moldova. The same study also obtained the National Award

for Youth in the field of Literature and Arts (2001), given by the Government of the Republic of Moldova. The respective volumes benefited from positive reviews and critical references, where we selectively mention the names of some famous literary historians: Dumitru Micu, Ion Rotaru, Constantin Ciopraga, Mihai Cimpoi, Constantin Popovici, Ionel Oprișan, Stancu Ilin, Alec Hantă, Mihail Dolgan, Sava Pânzaru, Viorel Dinescu, Ion Apetroae etc.

Over the years (including in the weekly "Literature and Art"), I maintained the section "Sadoveniana", where I constantly published scientific articles on the subject. Multiple articles and scientific studies have been approved and recommended by the Senate of the Free International University of Moldova; I have participated in various scientific conferences and symposia, in the country and abroad, including the University of Bucharest and the Catholic University in Paris. Relevant aspects of my research were presented in scientific communication sessions (ASM, SUM, FIUM, National Library, Association People of Culture, Science and Art, "Soros" Foundation, etc., during the years 1998-2020),

The work is current by its perfect inscription in the paradigm of contemporary multiculturalism. The author starts from the premise that the synchronization of Romanian literature with universal values occurs also through the Sadoveanu's masterpieces. The successful realization of such a "procedure" was possible only through a thorough research of those works. Moreover, this was the essential motivation of the **actuality of the researched topic**. Articles about M. Sadoveanu published so far have capitalized unsatisfactorily or only fragmentarily on the sustainable artistic element, limiting themselves to revealing disparate, insignificant elements. Critical judgment has often been ideologically bound, not approaching the essential Sadoveanu's artistic extents.

The critical emphasis was placed, first of all, on investigating the local background and on rereading the technique of Sadoveanu's "storytelling" from today's perspective, being thoroughly researched the inner structure, which belongs to the "obscure", "archaeological" layer of creation. The respective elements also represented the main purpose proposed by the author of the thesis. The focus was on the following **objectives**:

the theorizing of the “Sadoveanu’s model” in the context of Romanian and universal prose; highlighting the importance of Sadoveanu’s work by applying national and universal literary comparativism; outlining a critical image of synthesis of the Sadoveanu’s work; highlighting the Sadoveanu’s vision on the world and on the ethno-socio-cultural-linguistic universe, establishing the ontological similarities with the respective vision in other peoples; identifying the mythological and scriptural support of the Sadoveanu’s work, the critical substantiation of the aspects regarding the artistic dimensions of the symbol and archetypal images.

The Sadoveanu’s case proves that Romanian literature is open to universality. In this context, the defining elements of the Sadoveanu’s “phenomenon” were revealed. **The novelty** of the analytical approach of the habilitation thesis lay in highlighting the fundamental themes and motives, of the favorite narrative techniques. The inner coordinates of the Sadoveanu’s universe were highlighted, completing some critical assessments that have been made so far. The interpretative act presupposed the methodical reading of the Sadoveanu’s writings, regardless of whether the object researched was prose, journalism, memoirs, interviews, surveys, etc. A guiding thread has been happily identified in the multitude of critical perspectives on the writer’s creation, in controversies, exaggerations, confusions and even in actions of disregard. The equidistant analysis led to the detection and formulation of the defining characteristics, which aim at the top Mihail Sadoveanu’s creations .

The author mentions the fact that Mihail Sadoveanu is an exponential writer of Romanian literature and universal literature, in this order of ideas being appreciated, commented and debated the older critical opinions (G. Ibrăileanu, G. Călinescu., T. Vianu, Perpessicius, P .Constantinescu, Vl.Streinu), and relatively new ones (D.Micu, C.Ciopraga, I.Vlad, N.Manolescu, M.Spiridon, F.Băileşteanu, Z.Sângorzan) and more original (D.Florea, N.Frigoiu , C.M. Popa).

For the future, I intend to emphasize more strongly the unique vision of the world in the Mihail Sadoveanu’s work, a vision found in the critical process of "perception" of this creation taken as a whole and related to the national writers’ masterpieces. The ideas

outlined in this habilitation thesis will allow me to place a distinct emphasis on **poetry** in the writer's work (**ars poetica being considered the primary pillar of that artistic creation**), an element corroborated with other integrating facets, such as: the itinerary of life and of Mihail Sadoveanu's prose, the reflection of the spiritual unity of the historical principalities, the inn, as a symbol of the novelist's favorite archetype, the principle of historicity in evoking the past, capitalizing and reinterpreting national myths in Sadoveanu's key, sacred and profane, the grace to tell and the magical lyricism of uttering etc.

The habilitation thesis outlines a critical image of synthesis on the Sadoveanu's work, highlighting the importance of this creation by applying comparativism. The author identifies the mythological and scriptural support of the Sadoveanu's creation, talks about the role of the symbol and the archetypal images, "Dacism", of the origins and past cult in M. Sadoveanu's work, philosophical dimension.

I conclude that the most representative and sustainable element of Sadoveanu's work is undoubtedly *ars poetica*, to which I assign defining values not only for the reception of Sadoveanu's work itself, but also for "identifying" the narrative model and its aesthetic virtues in Romanian and universal literature.