

CONFERENCES AND COLLABORATIONS



The Unravelling of a Precious Collection of Legacies

On the Newest Volumes of the Series

Collected Works of Aladár Kuncz and the Conference Organized in the Light of Recent Research Results

In 2014, the NSZL's Directorate of Research and Academic Affairs and the Kriterion Publishing House – in cooperation with university departments and the Institute for Literary Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS) – decided that by involving fellow and independent researchers of the Aladár Kuncz oeuvre, would start discovering and publishing with critical meticulousness the main texts and works of the prominent writer that were influential in terms of the Hungarian literature of the first decades of the 20th century (more precisely the literary life of Transylvania between the two World Wars). The research group that was formed (with the leadership of Tamás Gusztáv Filep and László Boka) had marked in advanced for 8+1 volumes the publication of the uniquely varied oeuvre (of the writer, editor, monographer, literary critic, translator, professor), including in addition to his basic writings the not yet processed and diverse correspondence, and the professional reception of the works of the writer passed away almost 90 years ago. We planned to do one volume per year, and we have been managing to carry out this rather large amount of work for six years now, even though newer and newer research results have emerged throughout the work, which made it necessary to change these plans. For example, in the previous years, primarily during processing the Elemér Jancsó legacy kept in the NSZL's Manuscript Collection, the colleagues of this small research group and the responsible editors of the certain volumes discovered such documents that have fundamentally nuanced, added to or overwrote the knowledge regarding Kuncz gained until now. (The mentioned legacy arrived at the library thanks to Kuncz's niece, Magda Máthé Szabó's husband, a renowned professor of literature from Kolozsvár (Cluj-Napoca), who apart from his own legacy took good care of the documents obtained through his life. This consists

of more than 28 boxes of documents, a part of which has already been processed.)

The series entitled *Kuncz Aladár Összegyűjtött Munkái* [Collected Works of Aladár Kuncz] (hereafter CWAK) obviously began with the author's literary works: among these was the best known work entitled *Black Monastery* – completed with those parts that had been censored in the previous decades and the original photographs –, published in 2014, on the centenary of the First World War. This was followed by the so-called novel of the city of Kolozsvár, *Felleg a város felett* [Cloud over the City] – including fragments unknown until now, and new fragments of the second and third volumes of the trilogy considered unfinished – and his lesser works like shorth stories, vignettes and an early play. After his literary works, we continued the series with the major documents of his non-literary works, the publication of which turned to be gap-filling indeed: these were all known by Hungarian academic literature, but they were either forgotten (like an early short book about Ferenc Toldy from 1907), or worse, they were not available. Kuncz's larger work of literary history synthesis probably written around 1909 (entitled *A magyar irodalomtörténet elméletének és módszerének fejlődése Toldy Ferenc óta* [Developments of the Theory and Method of the History of Hungarian Literature since Ferenc Toldy]) were merely touched upon even by such basic works as the Kuncz monograph by Béla Pomogáts, as the original work had remained a manuscript for almost 110 years, up until 2018. Therefore, during the exploration of the oeuvre, our series could come up with completely unknown texts completing those not or only partly known, and this is true for all of the essays and articles on literature and arts written by the writer, literary historian and critic Kuncz published in the volumes of 2019. Through this, the last three volumes of the oeuvre draw up an authentic picture of the essayist and theorist Aladár Kuncz.



Monographs

The early minor monograph by the very young doctor of philology Kuncz, attending simultaneously the University of Pest and the Eötvös College, about the ‘father’ of Hungarian literary history, Ferenc Toldy became a gap-filling work already in its time, as Toldy’s figure and his work had already been forgotten by 1907, the time this work was being written. The recently republished and professionally footnoted work summarises Toldy’s work and impact in six chapters, primarily in line with the features called *faculté maitresses* highlighted primarily by Hippolyte Taine. This way of expression still following rather teleological and development-principled practices of the time turned into a much more nuanced one in Kuncz’s later work, therefore in his major summarizing work on the history of science as well, to which the Toldy monograph served as a forerunner. This synthesizing work entitled *A magyar irodalomtörténet elméletének és módszerének fejlődése Toldy Ferenc óta* [Developments of the Theory and Method of the History of Hungarian Literature since Ferenc Toldy] originally written as a contest entry, has been kept in the NSZL’s Manuscript Collection up until now. It aimed at summarizing everything that occurred and it is considered to be important and worthy of knowing in Hungarian literary historiography since Toldy’s operation as literary historian until the end of the first decade of the 20th century – and touching upon the European ideas as well – was written with good sense of ration and comparative approach. The work originally consisting of 354 handwritten pages is also an outstanding document mirroring its own time, providing a clear picture of those major approaches that were known after the turn of the century from Hungarian non-fiction prose, and critical and literary history discussions. The language and style of Kuncz’ early monographic works is predominantly essayistic, in some

parts, however, is ironic as well, while the author provides a full picture about the Hungarian literary history writing of the past half century (and its limits and white spots) and approaches some of its elements with harsh critical manner. The publication of Aladár Kuncz’s early works on literary history and academic history edited by Zsuzsanna Rózsafalvi and the writer of these lines – as the fourth volume of the series – has honourably put together the two pieces of the career torn apart by the First World War which are further strengthened by the newest volumes of CWAK published in 2019.

Studies, portraits, essays, critiques

The smaller, but rather important writings by Kuncz organically continued the results of the early synthesizing works on literary history were collected into two volumes, edited by Tamás Gusztáv Filep and Andrea Juhász. The writings included in the volumes 5 and 6 draw the clear arch of the complete but tragically short career of 45 years’ critical and non-literary segment and their topics, dates and locations of writing, forums of the original publication and handwritten inscriptions help us to pay attention to punctual and authentic ratios when evaluating the whole oeuvre. Of course, the two volumes published in the summer of 2019 are organically correlated, and apart from the limits of the length, the caesura between the two volumes is the year 1932, when Kuncz moved back to Transylvania, as the career expanding until 1931 is clearly made up of two stages, the period in Budapest and the one spent in Kolozsvár. In his work, Kuncz, the writer departing from the circles of the literary journal *Nyugat* [West], later becoming the editor of the literary journal *Erdélyi Helikon* [Transylvanian Helicon], promoting simultaneously the ideology of Helikon,

the Transylvanian concept, Europeanism and regionalism, demanding for the principle of quality but also having good diplomatic sense, gives proof of open-mindedness towards the world, professional accuracy and a sense of critical attitude. Obviously, the volume also takes into account Kuncz's translations never examined before, and those who open it would easily see the fact that the perspective and interest of the author did not change even after 1923: he dealt in the same manner and to the same extent with those literary phenomena from Hungary and from the world just like with the best and recent works of Transylvanian literature which was forced to become independent (within Romania).

Like the other volumes of the oeuvre series, the editors publishing the critiques, portraits, studies, essays and reviews aimed at being exhaustive and have added a system of notes to the works listed chronologically, and of course, every single primary text is introduced by a comprehensive accompanying study. Furthermore, as it had been already made a tradition by the so-called *Monográfiák* [Monographs] volume, it is an important feature of the critical publication of non-literary works that every volume is completed at the end with a valuable, often chapter-long index and explanation of names which not only lists every name found in the volume but is also adds entries similar to encyclopaedias articles. Thanks to this, the volumes provide a meticulously complete picture not only of the works critically read, analysed and examined works and periods, but also about the predecessors and contemporaries of the writer, representatives of Hungarian and world literature, and last but not least referenced secondary literature and Kuncz' readings.

Memorial conference

The findings of the past years' research and new documents that came to light proved that it is necessary to partly update and partly nuance the picture painted earlier by literary history about Aladár Kuncz. The already published works also pointed out the fact that the predominant part of the writer's diverse and valuable oeuvre consists not only of literary fiction. Moreover, the best novel of the oeuvre, and the artist's work as literary organizer in Transylvania, editor and translator – recognized and highlighted by many with good reason – somehow puts slightly in shade his critical and essayist work prior to 1923. In the light of these, an academic conference was organized on 4 October 2018 with the sponsorship of the Hungarian Academy of Arts (HAA), in order to discuss various questions regarding those documents that have emerged during the preparation of the oeuvre series. The lecturers of the memorial conference held in the NSZL's Ceremonial Hall and the participants of the closing

round-table undertook the task of finetuning scientifically the creative work that was interrupted by the First World War and then broken in two to some extent, nuancing the values of the oeuvre and analysing from psychoanalytical perspective Kuncz's colourful personality. During the one-day-long event, we evoked the different stages of Kuncz's life, works and network of connections, identified in what lies the true significance of his activity, and it also searched the answer whether in the light of all these he only has a place in the pantheon of Hungarian literature as the author of the *Black Monastery*. Imre Lakatos' line was evoked already in the opening speech of the conference, which says 'he expressed averseness against those limited by their own worldviews [...] he was not willing to yoke his sober critique because of them. However, he could be amazingly understanding towards opposing opinions, as well.' Therefore we, the organizers of the conference thought that we would honour the valuable work of Aladár Kuncz in the most appropriate manner not by building an embellishing cult any further, but by recognizing his open-mindedness, critical rigour, humbleness and professional erudition instead.

This event was also the first significant collaboration between the workshops of the NSZL and the Hungarian Academy of Arts, therefore it seemed to be logical to have the edited lectures of the conference published as a mutual book of the NSZL Publishing House and the HAA Publishing House. The book launch of the volume published in the spring of 2019 took place in the new building of HAA on Bajza Street, with the attendance of Tamás Gergely Kucsera, chief secretary of the HAA, László Boka, literary historian, head of the NSZL's Directorate of Research and Academic Affairs and head of the NSZL Publishing House, and Györgyi Pécsi, CEO of the HAA Publishing House and corresponding member of the HAA.

*

Starting from the publication of the first volume of the oeuvre in 2014, we had been organizing successful book launches for all the volumes of the series (and in 2019 complemented with the volume of studies of the memorial conference) both in a number of locations in Transylvania and in Budapest. According to our plans, in 2021 and 2022 the CWAK series will be continued with volumes of correspondence that is a huge task for the tiny research group, and for the realization of which the scientific and comprehensive discovery and processing of multiple legacies found at local and Transylvanian institutions will be necessary.

László Boka
boka.at.oszk.hu

Web Archiving Workshops at the National Library



In 2017, the preparatory phase of a national web archive was launched at the NSZL. The Department of Electronic Library Services has been dealing with the collection of internet documents since the beginning of the 2000s, but this activity only covered books downloadable as individual files, issues of periodicals and images. Web archiving makes it possible to save and search of webpages containing high number of files, blogs, and other types of websites. As this is still a new activity in our country, apart from setting up the archive, the members of this work team find it important to raise awareness of this and initiate professional dialogues. The cooperation of memory institutions is necessary in this field, as there are already much more documents in the Hungarian web space than those that have been published earlier on traditional storage mediums and only a fraction of this has been received as legal deposit. In order to preserve a representative part of our culture taking shape digitally for the future generations, professionals will be necessary in our public collections, who are familiar with online contents, and with its most important medium, the web and its archiving. In addition to informative lectures, articles published in specialized journals, the wikis dealing with the topic and the trainings organized by the Library Institute, the workshop entitled *404 Not Found – Who Keeps the Internet?* organized on a yearly basis serves the same purpose. Around 70-90 people attend the half-day-long event, where following the formal programme, they can carry out a debate with the lecturers. The recordings of these lectures are uploaded to the Videotorium, where anyone can access them. Given by the novelty of this topic, many traditional and online media reported on these events.

The first professional forum of this kind took place on 13 October 2017. The opening presentation was held by Miklós Lendvai, the Director of Information Technology at the NSZL, entitled *The Web as Part of the Cultural Scope of Collection*. Next, the Hungarian-born Kees Tszelszky introduced to us the Dutch web archive lead by him. Further, two presentations introduced earlier projects: Miklós Peternák, director of C3 Cultural and

Communications Centre, talked about the preservation of digital artworks, while György Kampis, professor of Eötvös Loránd University, Department of Social History and Social Philosophy presented the first serious attempt of founding the Hungarian Internet Archive: he presented the results of the web harvesting carried out between 2013–2016 on the webpages of the academic relevance and some news portals. Finally, an expert of this topic, our colleague László Drótos, and web librarian Márton Németh summarised the first few months of the research and development project launched in the national library: the experiences regarding software tests, errors occurring during saving processes, the intentions regarding knowledge sharing and networking. The already planned tasks for the future were also outlined, including the formation of a public collection illustrating the opportunities and limits of web archiving.

On 15 November 2018, those interested in the topic gathered for the second time in the Ceremonial Hall of the NSZL, where Director-General László Tüske greeted the attendants, then Csaba Latorcai, State Secretary of the Ministry of Human Capacities delivered a speech about the internet as the future of cultural heritage. László Drótos reported on the achievements of last year, the thematical and webspace harvests; he further presented the user interface of the public collection and the metadata records, then he announced that starting from 2018, the Hungarian national library had become member of the organization dealing with preserving online contents called IIPC (International Internet Preservation Consortium). István Moldován, head of the Department of Electronic Library Services continued the retrospective presentation by outlining a large-scale Hungarian web archive, enlisting its legal, technical, systematic and other conditions. Annamária Halász, the NSZL's legal expert, first presented the EU's references and brought examples from abroad, then she talked about the Hungarian regulation that was being prepared. Károly Kokas, deputy director general of the University of Szeged, Klebelsberg Library raised attention towards a new professional field that is taking shape. Web



historiography, i.e. the research of archived web contents started to become an independent auxiliary science of history just like archaeology, diplomatic or heraldry, as both great global processes and the proofs of everyday life can be found on the web. Finally Ádám Parti, team leader of the Library of the Hungarian Parliament presented the foreign practices of preserving the state and governmental online contents and highlighted that the Australian PANDORA archive, apart from the webpages, preserves the public Twitter posts of the members of the government and also collects the videos recorded at the sessions of the local councils. The event was closed by a roundtable discussion, where professionals from museums and archives carried out a discussion with librarians and the audience about the opportunities of preserving the digitally-born contents.

The third workshop was held on 14 November 2019, the audience was welcomed by Judit Hammerstein, Acting General-Director of the NSZL, then in his opening speech State Secretary Csaba Latorcai talked about the history of the web, its role in culture and about the aspirations of the national library in web archiving. The first presentation was again held by László Drótos regarding the novelties of the NSZL's web archiving. In the introduction he expressed that the web is not only a hypermedia file anymore, but instead it already contains more and more software elements that complicates its saving and long-term preservation. Then he talked about the most important subtask, that of the archiving of online periodicals and presented graphic charts and screenshots about it, then he touched upon the collection made for the Memorial Year of Francis II Rákóczi prepared within the

tender entitled KDS (Digitizing Strategy for Public Collections), in which saved webpages and other digital or digitized documents can be browsed simultaneously. Károly Kokas talked about web archiving of local concern, about the plan of a regional 'Szegedicum' collection. Deputy Director-General of informatics and technology of Library and Information Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, András Holl mentioned examples in his presentation entitled *no-Webarchive*, regarding primarily scientific material, in the case of which web harvesting is not the

most appropriate method. Two more presentations took place after the break: Balázs Indig computational linguist gave a presentation about his work at the Digital Humanities Center of Eötvös Loránd University, in the framework of which they generate text corpuses dedicated for research by harvesting Hungarian news portals. Szabina Ilácsi, librarian of the NSZL, talked about the problems regarding generating metadata of active and archived websites, and how could these be described based on RDA (Resource Description and Access) and LRM (IFLA Library Reference Model). The event ended with a discussion between the lecturers and the audience this time as well, considering primarily the cooperation within the framework of KDS.

According to the current plans, presenters from neighbouring countries will be invited to the session of 2020, and the main topic will be building network between the Central European web archives. The presentations, videos and media articles about the previous 404 workshops are available on the new webpage of the web archive: webarchivum.oszk.hu/404_workshop.

László Drótos
drotos.laszlo.at.oszk.hu

‘European Culture – National Heritage’ An Account of the 8th World Day of Hungarian Librarians



Two days, 487 participants, more than 100 institutions represented, 15 countries, 22 speakers and 21 lectures. Additionally, conversations, consultations, get-together and cultural charging! This is the best possible way to describe the 8th World Day of Hungarian Librarians organized on 6–7 November 2018. Its success lied in the help received from AHL (Association of Hungarian Librarians) and ALII (Alliance of Libraries and Information Institutes), the professional support of LIC HAS (Library and Information Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences) and FSZEK (Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library); it was organized by the Library of the Hungarian Parliament and the Library Institute of the National Széchényi Library, sponsored by EMMI (Ministry of Human Capacities), the National Assembly and the NKA (National Cultural Fund of Hungary). The organizers and the participants had the chance to celebrate together within the frame of this prestigious event the 150th anniversary of the Library of the Hungarian Parliament and the Corvina exhibition that opened the previous day, on 5 November at the National Széchényi Library, a prestigious exhibition on national book culture and the national library it displayed.

Even the venues were selected with eye on the double celebration. The events of the first day took place in the former chamber of peers of the Parliament, and they were hosted by OGYK (Library of the Hungarian Parliament). The second day was housed by the National Széchényi Library, its host being the Library Institute.

The librarians gathering in the Parliament were greeted by a marvellous concert of Pro Kultúra Male Choir from Fülek (Filakovo), Central Slovakia. This musical collection representing the European and national culture helped the participants to immerse into the dignified mood of the events that followed. The guests were welcomed by István Bellavics, Director of the Public Collection and Education of the National Assembly, then József Horváth, Secretary General of the National University of Public Service was awarded for the first time this year with the Nagy Miklós Award, given to people who contribute to the operation of the Library of the Hungarian Parliament with their excellent work. Further on, István Hiller, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, summarized the history of the Library of

the Hungarian Parliament in an informal speech and he also appraised the indefeasible role of libraries in the preservation and mediation of knowledge and culture. Péter Fülöp, spoke on the behalf of the Ministry of Human Capacities, State Secretariat of Culture, highlighting the importance of the role of libraries in their endeavors to unify the nation on the fields of culture. The series of greetings was ended by Károly Redl, Deputy Director of Library of the Hungarian Parliament, who discussed the library’s 150 years long history, the conditions of its establishment and its current aspirations.

The title lecture of the conference was held by István Monok, Director-General of the LIC HAS, in which he analysed the nature of European culture, the role of human literacy in past and present, and the place of libraries responsible for its transmission. By continuing these ideas, László Tüske, Director-General of the NSZL, discussed those phenomena which reveal the transformation of European culture and the presentation of the Hungarian legacy as the history of a different nation. This is why it is necessary to promote the value, achievements and existence of our national culture on the platforms of European culture as soon as possible. Afterwards, the guests could hear eighteen more lectures and presentations, ten of which were held by colleagues of workshops and libraries from abroad, in which they analysed and evaluated their activities regarding the preservation and transmission of national culture. Besides theoretical approaches, a high number of exemplary presentations were given on applied practices. In this sense, the conference has accomplished its triple mission: it established a forum for the cause of the national library by strengthening and advancing respect towards the librarian profession; it provided opportunity for establishing and strengthening relations; and last but not least, by the handover of practical knowledge and activities, it inspired and encouraged the innovation of given institutions in the enrichment of their activities, in widening their cooperation, in the establishment of integration between libraries.

According to the participants’ feedback, this conference has accomplished its mission, it had an encouraging effect on the work achieved by the cooperation among the librarians handling the European cultural heritage and presenting the Hungarian cultural memory through it.



8th World Day of Hungarian Librarians, 6–7 November 2018. The participants could visit the NSZL's Corvina exhibition opened on 5 November 2018



Sándor Darányi delivering his lecture *Information Technology in Libraries and the Trends of the World Wide Web* on the second day. In the background (from left) the two chairmen Szilárd Markója, Director of the Library of the Hungarian Parliament and László Tüske, Director-General of the NSZL



Dóra Hicsik's presentation *The Services of Szabadka (Subotica) Municipal Library* on the second day, 7 November 2018



Miklós Fehér, Director of Library Institute, is sharing some technical information



Péter Fodor presents on *Library Supply Model in Large Cities*

Miklós Fehér
mfeher.at.oszk.hu

NSZL'S ANNUAL RESEARCH SESSION



Memory – Memorial – Monument (2018)

When arranging the NSZL's traditional November Research Session (which took place on 22–23 November 2018) the organizers always face the serious task of selecting a theme as central subject, which reflects on the current concerns of the academic public life, simultaneously being suitable for integrating the library's various researches that would diverge due to the nature of the collection. In 2018, the organizers (László Boka, Anna Boreczky, Franciska Dede, Iván Szegő) chose the exploration of the recurring construction and reconstruction of the past. The simple statement that served as a starting point was that the picture constructed about the past, the memories and objects regarded as worthy of being preserved, the patterns to be followed or the ideas to be repudiated and the events and people had faded into oblivion testify the nature of a smaller or larger society, socio-

political entity and ideological trend of a given period. We wanted to gain a deep understanding of the operations of collective memory, history writing and the occurrence of historical narrative not only in writing but in other genres like documentaries and feature film or of the modifying factors that can be traced in the practice of erecting a *memorial*. Moreover, we wanted to present the process through which (either by conscious or by random selection) the surviving written, visual, audio or tangible *memory* becomes *monument*, a symbol gaining the power of identity formation and condensing the history of a society in itself.

It seems that the topic was relevant and of current importance for many. Much more people had responded to our invitation than the time at our disposal would allow for the audition and discussion of the lectures, so we had

Országos Széchényi Könyvtár – Tudományos Ülésszak
Emlék – Emlékmű – Műemlék
 2018. november 22., csütörtök – november 23., péntek

I. szekció: Múlt a múltban. Szekcióelnök: Boreczky Anna

2018. november 22., csütörtök
 9.00–9.30 Előzárás

9.30–9.40 **PLENÁRIS ELŐADÁS**
 Vokonyi András: Újkorlatok, népszerűség, személyiség a könyvtárban

9.40–10.00 Kiróndi Agnes: Szent János, az auctor a kódok alapján magyar nyelvű kódexekben

10.00–10.20 Farkas Gábor Farkas: Az ephémérisz Thucydész nyomában

10.20–10.40 Kiváló Estén: Václav Hájek a Libodan emlékezve a 18. századi magyarországi jezsuita iskolákban

11.40–11.50 Vita és kávézárás

11.50–12.10 Antalfi Péter: Műemlék, jelölés, hegycsúcsok – az éka kódolási emlékezet struktúrája

12.10–12.40 Jászai Miklós: Arék filozófia reneszánsz köntösben. A Talala Dehrets humanista kommentárja

12.40–12.50 Szabóné Kozma Katalin: A Riantopusus megjelenéséből egy 20. századi képregény írójának könyvtárosi olvasókörnyezet (Sztankó Csopcsy Lilla: Értéktelenesítő becsület)

12.50–12.58 Venczky Zoltán: Egy hanyatló kor? (Egy „áthétközött” az 1880-as években Magyarországon 18. századi költészetéről)

12.58–13.08 Szász István: Lufium – a múlt újra vagy a jelen? Szegedi István: Václav Hájek (1791) és a Sztáler Csoport világhírűsége (2009)

13.40–13.50 Vita

13.50–14.00 Előzárás

II. szekció: Múlt a jelenben. Szekcióelnök: Szegő Iván

14.00–14.30 **PLENÁRIS ELŐADÁS**
 Erdős Péter: Történelmi nézőpontok a kulturális örökség területén

14.30–14.50 Kőrös Zsuzsanna: Személyes emlékek narratív identitásokról

14.50–15.10 Somlai Katalin: A Századoktól Rugarfalváig: Mester Miklós emlékezete

15.10–15.30 Lőrincz András: Sztájer

15.30–15.50 Vita és kávézárás

15.50–16.10 Takács Gábor: Az állambiztonsági alkotmánykérdés változása (1990–2011): Historiográfia áttekintés és problématiszták

16.10–16.30 Eörsi László: 1956-meghívás a rendszerváltás idejére

16.30–16.50 Keller Miklós: A hatvanas évek mentemlékezési helye

16.50–17.10 Ráner M. János: Válságból emlék, avagy mi marad (a esztétikáról a „socializmusból”?)

17.10–17.30 Vita

III. szekció: A múlt mint forrás. Szekcióelnök: Dede Franciska

2018. november 23., péntek

9.00–9.30 **PLENÁRIS ELŐADÁS**
 Rika Enikő: A múlt újraforrása: Tárgyak és jelenségek a múzeum térben

9.30–9.50 Nagy Blanka: A frisskép mint a megemlékezés eszköze

9.50–10.30 Sulics Zoltán: A második világháborús magyar jómóki múlt és jelen reflexiói

10.30–10.50 Sárközi Rika: Negyvenöt és negyvenhat – dialógus emlékeztetőülés két magyar dokumentumfilmből

10.50–11.10 Tóth Péter: A létező létezik, vagy létezik lét a II. világháborús sarkított? Oral history Csepelről

11.40–11.50 Vita és kávézárás

11.50–12.30 Somogyi Szabolcs: Fővármegyék és városok. Quart Hung. 2000–j: Hermin Ottó naplója 1897–1907 és 1888–1898

12.30–12.50 Ifjúsági Rózsika: Egy zenei levél analízise. Szent-Salva magyarországi turizmus, előzmény és jelen

12.50–13.10 Liptay Endre: Emlékeztető könyvek, emlékeztető albumok

13.10–13.30 Fekete Eszter: A Széchényi család története könyvekben

13.30–13.50 Sánta-Sára: Széchényi Ferenc éremgyűjteménye

13.50–13.58 Vita

13.58–14.30 Elzárás

to compile a selection. During the composition of the programme we kept in mind that the lectures should be able to connect through multiple points to generate a foundation for discussion. Finally, the session was divided into three sections, led by Anna Boreczky, Iván Szegő and Franciska Dede respectively, entitled: *Past in the Past*, *Past in the Present* and *Past as Source*. As it used to be in the previous years, each section was introduced by plenary speakers, renowned researchers from outside the NSZL, namely: András Vizkelety (member of HAS, professor emeritus of Pázmány Péter Catholic University, former staff member of the NSZL's Manuscript Collection), Péter Erdősi (professor of Eötvös Loránd Science University) and Enikő Róka (Director of Municipal Gallery). Their lectures were: *Salvation History, Folk History, Individual History in the Middle Ages* by András Vizkelety, *Historical Viewpoints in the Research of Cultural*

Heritage by Péter Erdősi and *The Recreation of the Past: Objects and Meanings in Museum Space* by Enikő Róka. Twenty-four NSZL staff members gave lectures, many of whom were younger colleagues who had the chance to give account on their research for the first time in front of the NSZL's academic plenum. The selected and edited material of the lectures is made available in the next volume of the series *Bibliotheca Scientiae et Artis*, published by the NSZL in association with Gondolat Publishing House.

Anna Boreczky
boreczky.anna.at.oszk.hu

Fragment by Fragment (2019)

The annual scientific conference of NSZL focused on the expression 'fragment' and tried to explore its various meanings and fields. This effort was successfully accomplished. Twenty-seven of the library's researchers and colleagues presented at the annually organized event.

The Research Session traditionally linked to the founding anniversary of the library explored the keywords – fragment, diaspora, montage – mainly in the sense what the fragment would show of the whole, be that a codex, a manuscript, a scanty piece of a publication, a photography, a footage, or a piece of music or art object. The unfinished, lost, or only partially surviving objects indeed inspired the lecturers to investigate and explore the correlations, to unravel certain facts.

The keynote of the first day was held by Ida Fröhlich, professor emerita of Pázmány Péter Catholic University. In her lecture she presented two fragments from the Qumran Caves Scrolls related to magical incantation against trouble. Scientific research has categorized these texts as foreign from the given society's ideology and practice and considered it a curiosity, but the historian explored it convincingly how these are linked to the traditions acknowledged and known by the society and to the books of the Bible, primarily to the texts of the Psalms.

In his comprehensive plenary lecture entitled *Does a Poetics of the Fragment Exist?* Zoltán Z. Varga, researcher of the Literary



History Institute, offered an examination of the topic from the perspective of literary history and aesthetics on the second day of the research session. In the art philosophy of romanticism, the fragment gained a significant role in aesthetics and epistemology as a mode of cognition and form of knowledge offered by arts and the artistic implementations of these. The conceptualization of existence and arts had a great impact on modern understanding of arts, so in the 20th century the concept of fragment became important in new theoretical frameworks as the criticism of artwork being interpreted as a closed phenomenon. The lecture about Ottó Tolnai's volume of poems entitled *Világpor* [World dust] reflected on these theoretical ideas from lyrical and poetical approaches.

One pillar of the two days long research session consisted of the lectures of the members of the Fragmenta Codicum Research Group. Gábor Sarbak's theoretical approach addressed the question of the limits of a fragment and a complete codex, as the researcher has to make a decision about this when working. Edina Zsupán examined a fragment crossed over from Johannes Vitéz's *Leveleskönyv* [Book of Letters] from the perspective of writing development, reflecting on the role that Vitéz had in adapting Italian humanism in Hungary. Anna Boreczky aimed at investigating the circumstances of how a so far unidentified fragment of *Speculum Humanae Salvationis* came to existence, by examining its illustrations with the help of iconographic examination, the original place of the page in the codex, the typological correlations with other works from the same period. By 'piecing together' the fragments of a missal kept in two different institutions (the National Széchényi Library and the National Archives of Hungary), Fanni Hende's lecture successfully discovered the history of the one kept in the NSZL by comparing the two pieces and interpreting them in the light of each other. Ágnes Korondi chose to elaborate on the old Hungarian texts preserved in codices of only a few folios and codex fragments, which were not predominantly part of the main content but appeared in the form of short inscriptions, recipes, spells and prayers on flyleaves or empty pages. Klára Kisdi started to study the supralibros 'PAZL 1671' found on a codex fragment, and arrived as far as the library of the Benedictian Monastery in Lambach, Austria.

Eszter Konrád's lecture was closely related to this research field and period of time, in which she examined the codex that contains the revised Italian version of the Latin tract written in 1460 by Georgius Peuerbach to Johannes Vitéz. The lecturer undertook the task of answering multiple questions regarding this illustrated manuscript probably originating from the 16th century. Márton Szovák, colleague of the Collection of Early Printed Books Department, examined the source documents of Venetian patrician Marin Sanudo's diary entitled *Világkrónika* [World Chronicle]. This collection of various texts, such as diary fragments, letters of credence and their summaries, minutes of council seats serve as a unique source document to the history of the turn of the 15th and 16th centuries. Zsuzsanna Tóth introduced us step-by-step to the results of the research regarding the bounding techniques of the corvinas kept in the NSZL's collection and presented this with an especially rich and vividly descriptive set of photographs.

Bernadett Varga, specialist of the researches of the early modern period carried out in our institution, presented a

so far unknown and fragmented text of a sermon by Pál Kereszturi and its location. The text is the edited version of the sermon uttered at the christening of Francis I Rákóczi, and despite its fragmentedness, it still serves as a significant source document.

The lecture of both afternoons approached towards present times. Ildikó Sirató presented us with various Hungarian drama fragments from the era of Romanticism, keeping in mind the dramatic texts and the contemporaneous acting style. Moreover, other colleagues undertook the examination of fragmented works from the given period as well. Zsófia Rétfalvi P. convincingly pointed out the impact of Petöfi's poem *Tündérlalom* [Fairy Dream] on Madách, the traces of which can be seen in Madách's other works, not only in the form of textual allusions. Nonetheless, Madách used as a source of inspiration Petöfi's *Tündérlalom* [Fairy Dream] from structural point of view in his drama fragment of the same title. Zsuzsanna Rózsafalvi talked about the subtle fragments and manuscript variants of János Arany's Hun trilogy, and she touched upon the philological twists and turns of the editing process of this text corpus.

Edit Rajna examined from the perspective of theatre theory the two endings of Sándor Bródy's play *A tanítónő* [The Female Teacher]. Apart from the happy ending the play premiered with in 1908, there is a less optimistic conclusion the play being performed with since 1954. As a result of the examination from the perspective of theatre history, there are at least five different endings, and the lecturer studied the correlation between these texts and the reason why all of them were written.

Another direction that proposes a great material for examining information fragments as a research field are the subjective documents of biographical relevance. Memories are also fragments, the pieces of our past and history vanish in the fragmentedness of remembrance and oblivion, while new methods of science of history show how the individual recollections and fragments of memories (flashbacks, interviews, diaries, letter) can help building up larger narratives. This theoretical idea was corroborated by the demonstrative lectures of Rita Szűts-Novák about Sándor Imre, educator and minister of education, Bernadett Simon of the overall picture of the World Exhibition of 1896 reconstructed from diary fragments or Pirooska Szabó on the tragic diary of 1940–46 of Erzsébet Bicskey interpreted as the proof of personal historical trauma.

Slightly diverging from texts, the fragmentedness of visual depiction and footage has also become an object of research. Judit Sebő presented the origins and significance



of photographic facsimiles of the Photo Collection, keeping in mind throughout the whole lecture the context of reproduction and fragment. Franciska Dede presented the photographs published in the weekly journal *Új Idők* [Modern Times] between 1903–1914 and through them she explained the tools and methods used for representing Hungarian writers. The photographs taken in the writers' homes, in saloons or in their workrooms were meant to depict the characteristics and creative methods of these artists by involving parts of these interiors, and in this respect the missing and hidden elements are as much revealing as the interiors displayed in the weekly journal. Fruzsina Sulics' lecture took place on the second day, in which she tried to draw a conclusion about the circumstances and operation of the propaganda and media in the Second World War based on the surviving descriptive texts of lost newsreels and documentaries. What can a researcher do in case of studying the film as a visual source without the picture being available? On the contrary, Réka Sárközy's lecture revolved around available photographs. By joining the international research studying the everyday life of the 50s, its architecture and consumerist society, the photographs representing the Eastern European perspective of this era can be contrasted on several levels with the 'profile picture' of the western part

of Europe. Apart from those differences that are obvious for the first sight, primarily stemming from the economic and political situation, they showed many similarities and parallels after all, moreover, they showed how the two parties on different sides of the Iron Curtain reflected on each other.

I think that our general thoughts and ideas from the calling were reflected in the concrete examples and parts of the lectures. During the Research Session of 2019 we found the way from one fragment to the other, arriving from the ancient Qumran through medieval codices, findings from the closer era, faded dreams of Romanticism, the montages of technical picture to the personal impressions of the breaking points of the 20th century or to 20th century poetry in which traditional poetics vanished.

Beatrix Visy
visy.beatrix.at.oszk.hu