

ALBUMS, FACSIMILES, COLLECTIONS OF ESSAYS

Works Published by the NSZL

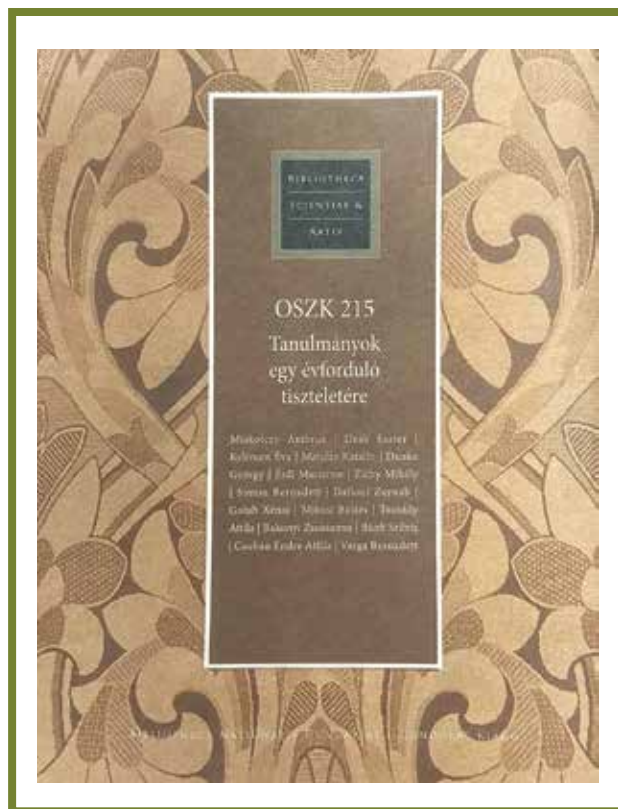


Nemzeti Téka [National Collection], *Bibliotheca Scientiae et Artis* (BScA), *Studia Theatralica*, *Mokka-R*, the *Kuncz Aladár Összeüjtött Munkái* [Collected Works of Aladár Kuncz], *Magyar Könyvszemle* [Journal for the History of Book and Periodicals in Hungary] and *Irodalmi Magazin* [Literary Magazine] – to mention just a few titles of the (joint) publication of book series issued on a yearly basis and periodicals. Apart from these, we also serve with a wide variety of illustrated albums, collections of essays, monographies, facsimile editions, yearbooks, catalogues, collections of correspondence and reference books. This variety of content and genre meets with the high professional preparedness and of our colleagues involved in their production: authors, editors, proofreaders, graphic designers, typesetter, and occasionally translators, the high quality of these publications being guaranteed by their work. This is confirmed not only by the readers' interest, but also by the awards and recognitions obtained almost every year. This was not otherwise in the year 2018/2019 either, as the 10th volume of our BScA series, the volume of collected conference lectures entitled „*Volt a hazának egy-két énekem.*” *ARANY 200* [‘I Had One or Two Songs for My Nation.’ *ARANY 200*] published in association with the Gondolat Publishing House received the Special Award of the President of Hungary at the Beautiful Hungarian Book Competition 2018. (Each year, books published in the previous year are awarded at the Beautiful Hungarian Book Competition, so in 2018 the books published in 2017 entered the competition, among which our facsimile edition of Ernő Dohnányi's *Variations on a Nursery Tune. Variationen über ein Kinderlied* has also received the Special Award of the President of Hungary. Furthermore, many of the NSZL's books from 2019 have been sent in for this professional competition held in 2020, as well.)

As linked to our institution's basic tasks, the book publishing programme of the national library authentically mirrors the richness of the library's collection and the academic and scientific works of our researchers and experts. Therefore, apart from the traditional ways, we are trying to promote our books more efficiently to the wider public by engaging in various book launches, roundtable discussions and book

airs. As here it is not possible to present in detail all the books published in the past two years, some of them are still worthy of a brief review (on the website of the NSZL a separate tab can be found, where all the published books are individually uploaded, containing information and short descriptions and a picture of the cover, and these publications can be easily filtered by author, title, genre, series, year of publication: www.oszk.hu/kiadvanyok.hu).

Usually, the national library publishes several books often belonging to different genres in given topics that are usually linked to a memorial years, significant anniversaries and/or major exhibitions. Thus in 2018, linked to the János Arany Memorial Year held last year (and to other books already published), we published the colourful album entitled ‘*My Little Homeland in My Great Country*’ *The Documents at the Manuscript Collection of the János Arany Memorial Museum of Salonta/Nagyszalonta* edited by literary historian Zsuzsanna Rózsafalvi which includes the photographs of the documents



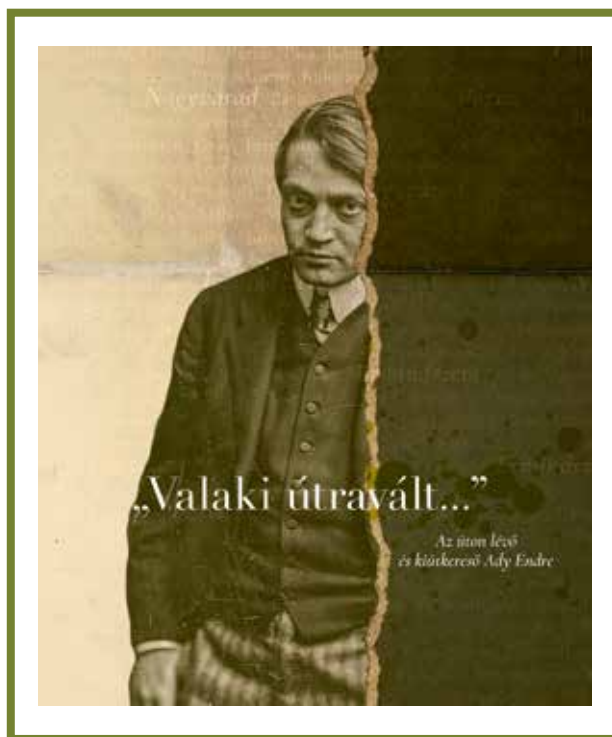
of the manuscript collection treasured in Nagyszalonta (Salonta) which was restored on the occasion of the memorial year. In regard to the same memorial year, we published – as part of the series *Bibliotheca Scientia et Artis* issued each year containing the selected and edited lectures of the annual Research Session – the edited material of the conference of 2017 organized around the topic of János Arany's oeuvre. This volume of essays published with the Gondolat Publishing House won at the Beautiful Hungarian Book Competition in 2018. The Research Session of 2017 was also related to another significant anniversary: the National Széchényi Library celebrated the 215th anniversary of its foundation, so the other section of the presentations held at the Research Session – complemented with further works – were also collected into a thematic volume of essays (so this time, the annual symposium exceptionally resulted in two books – the 10th and 11th volumes of the *BScA* series.) Also based on the results of scientific researches carried out in the previous year, the volume edited by Judit P. Vásárhelyi entitled *A reformáció könyvespolca. Reprezentatív kiadványok Magyarországon a reformáció korából* [The Bookshelf of the Reformation. Representative Editions of Books in Reformation Era Hungary], a joint publication of the *Magyar Könyvszemle* [Journal for the History of Book and Periodicals in Hungary] and the MOKKA-R Association's Booklets on the occasion of the Year of Reformation. Another significant event of the year was the major Corvina exhibition, to which an illustrated exhibition guide entitled *The Corvina Library and the Buda Workshop* was published, edited by Edina Zsupán, the curator of the exhibition, and Ferenc Földesi, philologist. In 2019, the library also commemorated the 100th death anniversary of Endre Ady and the various events regarding this were accompanied by a richly illustrated album. The volume entitled „Valaki útravált...” *ADY 100 – Az úton lévő és kiútkereső Ady Endre* [Someone Has Taken a Different Road... ADY 100 – Endre Ady on the Road and Seeking a Way Out] edited by László Boka and Zsuzsanna Rózsafalvi centred around the poet's inner travels and the most important locations and stations of his life.

A rather significant emphasis is given to facsimile editions next to various albums and exhibition catalogues. Years ago we launched the re-published series Almanac of the Budapest Journalists' Association accompanied by short studies by literary historians and in association with the Kossuth Publishing House we publish the reprints of volumes of poems of the most famous Hungarian poets of the 20th century. Within this framework, in 2019 we published reprint editions such as valuable copies of the volumes by Ady, Babits, Radnóti and Attila József that bear some remarkable features (for example Ady's *Longing for Love* raised our attention because of

a dedication in it addressed to Léda, his muse). Moreover, we have also issued two reprints of the works of Ernő Dohnányi and Karl Goldmark treasured by our Music Collection.

The book series have already been touched upon, but we have to add the next volume in the series MOKKA-R created in association with the Argument Publishing House, written in praise of Gedeon Bors's lifework, containing studies in the field of book history, the next issue of the series *Nemzeti Teka* [National Collection] on book history that presents through several studies and from multiple perspectives the situations of libraries of the more than a decade-long period between 1945 and 1956 (considering questions of library politics, specialized trainings, the supply of school and children's libraries among others), and a rather interesting diary from the point of view of theatre history (Gyula Miklósy's writings) belonging to the series *Studia Theatralica*. In 2019, within the framework of the series *De Bibliotheca Corviniana*, we made easily accessible the discussion by Xystus Schier about the Royal Library of Buda of King Matthias written in 1766. New volumes of the series presenting the lifework of Aladár Kuncz have been published regularly throughout the last years, but we have to highlight that a collection of studies was also published in 2019 which contains the printed versions of the studies presented at the Kuncz Conference organized at the national library, arranged into a companion edited by László Boka and Bernadett Brok entitled „A nekifeszült mentő-akarát” [The Strained Will of Rescue].

The library also publishes several yearbooks. The last two issues of *Mercurius* (and its English version, *Bulletin*) cover/



covered multiple years (in 2018 a triple issue was published about the years 2015–2016–2017, while the one from 2020 is going to be a double issue of the years 2018–2019). For three years now, the *Map History Bulletin* has been available in printed format as well, a yearly publication that includes the studies of the Map Collection in a richly illustrated form. In 2018, when the 1956 Institute had been part of the national library, their yearbook was published by us under the title *Újratervezések. Magyarország a jelenkorban* [Reconfigurations. Hungary in the Present] (edited by Márkus Keller and Gábor Tabajdi). In the summer of 2019, this department operating in the national library was transferred the Veritas Institution, therefore no yearbook was published by the NSZL this year. Of course, apart from the yearbook, we had been issuing several other books written by the colleagues of the institute, like the works of László Eörsi and Márkus Keller (*A „budai srácok” 1956* [The ‘Lads of Buda’ 1956], *Szocialista lakhatás? A lakáskérdés az 1950-es években Magyarországon* [Socialist Housing? Housing in the Hungary of the 1950s]). Among the journals published by the library, we have to mention the library science periodical (*Könyv, könyvtár, könyvtáros* [Book, Library, Librarian] and *Könyvtári Figyelő* [Library Observer], the *Lymbus*, reference work on Hungarian studies and the thematic issues of the quarterly *Irodalmi Magazin* [Literary Magazine] (during the past two years, issues have been dedicated to Tamás Cseh, Sándor Kányádi, Jókai, Ady, Kazinczy and topics like schools, soldier poets and sorcery).

Handbooks and reference works are also an important segment of the strategy of the national library, and according to this, in 2018 we published the *Magyarország bibliográfiája 1712–1860 X. Nyomda- és kiadástörténeti mutató* [Bibliography of Hungary 1712–1860 X. Index of Printing Press and Publication History] edited by Judit V. Ecsedy and Eszter Kovács. Various correspondence are important records for the researchers, this is why the compilation of letters from the legacy of Lajos Thallóczy edited by Mihály Zichy will be appreciated by the experts, just like the editorial correspondence of Ernő Osvát edited by Tibor Kosztolánczy and Erika Nemeskéri.

The occasional publications and collections of studies offer an especially wide range of topics for those interested. Books about the polemic of the 17th century in Upper Hungary by Erika Garadnai and the history of the Unitarian Church in Transylvania edited by Gizella Hoffmann also make part of this collection. Balázs Mikusi elaborated on the newest researches about Haydn and Mozart, while the work of Kornélia Vasné Tóth and Melinda Simon let us gain an insight into the small graphics of László Lázár Nagy’s oeuvre and into the word of the Hungarian printers’ marks from the beginning of the 20th century. Moreover, we could continue

the list of these publications further with topics like dance, reader of the journals of the 20th century, or the historical documentaries and the role they play in recollection, and the publication elaborating on the oeuvre of Zoltán Szabó.

Finally – partly alluding back to the publications regarding different memorial years and exhibitions –, it is worth noting that the national library publishes several exhibition guides and catalogues, apart from the already mentioned, richly illustrated albums, a catalogue about the so-called ninth art, comics, has been also published.

A significant percent of the works issued by the NSZL’s Publishing House can be found not only in the national library’s own bookshop, and several shops of the distributional channels, but also at book fairs organized yearly, where readers can flip through these books at the stall of the National Széchényi Library and purchase them for a reduced price. Furthermore, book launches also serve as an opportunity to get to know more about the given publications, the writers and editors (and purchasing them is made possible at these events, as well). The majority of these book launches is organized in the library, but these were also organized in other venues in the capital city, in other cities and abroad, with the attendance of the authors and editors. Roundtable talks also take place regularly within the frames of book fairs regarding newly published books, and these book launches are usually connected to different occasions, for example the National Day of Hungarian Culture.

Among the yearly organized book fairs and festivals, the National Széchényi Library has been attending for years now the Budapest International Book Festival in April, the Museum Festival in May (primarily organized to introduce the collections of the museums, but the national library represents itself not only as exhibition space but also through its publications), the Festive Book Week in June and the Hungarian Language and Book Festival in Buda Castle at the beginning of autumn (the last days of August and the firsts of September) and finally the autumn edition of Margó Festival of Literature and Book Fair taking place in the Várkert Bazar.

The national library contributes to the promotion of the cultural heritage treasured here not only through library services, but also with its published works that make several sources and rare publications easily available, on the other hand, thanks to the research results carried out by the colleagues and academics, it places into context and interprets the materials kept in its collections.

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